



CommunityUpdate

friendsandresidents.org

Community Update is provided as a courtesy to DC community leaders and public housing administrators by Friends & Residents.

Apr 1 2003



Thank you Mr. Kelly!

We'd like to extend our thanks to Mr. Kelly, Executive Director of DCHA, for meeting with us as partners in deciding how to move to a new Rec. We appreciate his candor and willingness to work on reasonable solutions with us directly. While we know that we have a long way to go, we think that keeping the Rec open and finding a good spot to move it during Hope VI at Arthur Capper and Carrolsburg is a good first step.

And we accept the thanks from Mr. Kelly to Friends and Residents as well...

"In terms of the concerns of the children, I want to thank you [Friends and Residents] for organizing and bring it [the closure of the Rec] to the attention of the Commission. I want to publicly thank you for that organizing effort."

- Michael Kelly, at meeting between Mr. Kelly and Friends and Residents



Update on keeping the Rec open at Arthur Capper and Carrolsburg during Hope VI...

Following the youth protest of a surprise early closure of the Rec, and the resulting decision to postpone closure until May 2, Friends and Residents and Mr. Kelly (along with other DCHA employees) met in a face-to-face meeting on March 27 to discuss keeping a recreation center near the community throughout the Hope VI process. The meeting was audio taped so that residents who were working during the day could hear the meeting and stay updated as well.

As a new location is found, we'd like remind everyone involved of our four priorities:

- The new location needs to be safe, clean, organized, cool in the summer, within safe walking distance (no major roads) for young children, and large enough for our needs
- We don't want anyone kicked out to make room for the new Rec (don't pit residents against residents or others in need)
- We want services to go **uninterrupted**, with the new Rec open and ready for service the day the old center closes
- We want access to other unused facilities, such as the computer room and community meeting room



info@friendsandresidents.org • 202/483-1368