

(2) Citizen board members would be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council. Agency members would be named by their respective agencies.

(3) Board members would be appointed for staggered terms. Youth representatives would serve not more than two 3-year consecutive terms.

(4) The Board should meet at least once a month with the majority of the meetings scheduled in the community.

(5) The Board would have responsibility for recreation policy matters subject to review and veto by the Mayor.

(6) The Board would have the responsibility to review and make changes in the Department's budget before it is sent to the Mayor.

(7) The Board would be responsive to and representative of the community.

(8) The Board would render judgment on program priorities for the Recreation Department subject to review by the Mayor.

We believe that a board along these lines, operating under the aegis of the Mayor's office, would be properly transitional from the present autonomous Board to a posture consonant with the reorganization plan.

Finally, we believe that our support of the President's Reorganization Plan No. 3 is not inconsistent with our sworn duty to provide recreation for all of the people of the District of Columbia.

Thank you, members of the committee.

Mr. BLATNIK. These are your recommendations to the committee and the present Commissioner?

Mr. THOMAS. Yes.

Mr. BLATNIK. We will come back to you in just a few minutes.

Mr. Segal, Chairman of the Citizens Task Force on Recreation in the District of Columbia. We welcome you and thank you for your appearance. Will you please read your statement?

STATEMENT OF BENJAMIN D. SEGAL, CHAIRMAN, CITIZENS TASK FORCE ON RECREATION IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. SEGAL. Thank you, Mr. Blatnik. It is a pleasure to be here. The Citizens Task Force on Recreation wishes to give its wholehearted endorsement to the President's Reorganization Plan No. 3 which would place the Recreation Department under the direct jurisdiction of the District government.

Our task force, which was appointed by the Recreation Board, recently completed a 3-month investigatory survey of the programs, personnel policies, and practices of the Recreation Department. We visited numerous recreation facilities, met with all of the field and supervisory employees of the Recreation Department as well as with representatives of the private and governmental agencies involved in recreation programs. In essence, we prepared one of the most comprehensive reports prepared on District of Columbia recreation programs and needs.

We found that the recreation program in the District is ill equipped to meet the urgent needs existing in the Nation's Capital. As our report indicates, for years the Congress and the community have appeared to consider recreation as a sort of stepchild—underbudgeted,