

community. It is very doubtful that volunteers would continue this association under reorganization. Such a loss of community volunteer service which totaled more than 41,000¹ hours last year would be crippling to all recreation service now offered to our citizenry and to visitors.

I think that if you were to make known throughout the community (as the Recreation Board does annually for its public meetings and monthly board meetings) that you will find substantial opposition to the abolition of this agency.

Mr. Chairman, I would hope that the Congress would see fit to strengthen the Recreation Board, not abolish it.

Thank you, sir.

Mr. BLATNIK. Thank you, Mr. Waters.

Mr. Erlernborn.

Mr. ERLERNBORN. I just have one or two questions. First of all with reference to the funding, I think there was a figure given to us earlier of \$7.6 million annually. Would that be the budget of the Recreation Board?

Mr. WATERS. This is the administrative budget. The \$7 million plus does not include the capital funding. It does not include various other funding that come through such sources as BOR, HEW, and others—

Mr. ERLERNBORN. So the total funding would be greater than the \$7.6?

Mr. WATERS. Yes; it would be.

Mr. ERLERNBORN. You mentioned a "Summer in the Parks" program. Now, this is not through the Recreation Board but through— is this the National—

Mr. WATERS. "Summer in the Parks" is an initiative taken on the part of Mr. George B. Hartzog, who is Director of the National Park Service. I am aware, as a member of the Recreation Board, that there was no advance consultation with our agency. I can recall that a representative of the National Park Service made a presentation before our Board several months ago, and the Recreation Board, on the wheel of community groups, was put in the same bracket as citizens associations and all others. This kind and type of classification does not compliment the work of a public agency.

Mr. ERLERNBORN. I am advised the Superintendent of the Park Service is ex officio member of your Board. Has he participated in our—

Mr. WATERS. The Superintendent of the National Capital Parks is a member of the Board, although often represented by a staff associate.

Mr. ERLERNBORN. Do you know what the funding is for that program?

Mr. WATERS. No, I am sorry; I do not know what the funding is for that aspect of the parks program. The program is an effort to get children and others from the inner city into the public parks. This is a program activity, and program is really the heart of the responsibility of the Recreation Board. This, again, is what I mean by the fragmentation of recreation responsibility. And this is what the Congress wanted to overcome back in 1942 when it brought forth the public law that drew together these several functions into a single agency.

¹ 41,000 hours/716 volunteers equal 19 staff personnel.