

Mayor and City Council Agenda Item Request

Meeting Date: 3/21/2016

Type: Presentation

Call to Podium:

Michele Potter, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
David Ludington, Senior Recreation Supervisor
Miguel Avila, MARPSA Good Sports Award Recipient
Danny Murray, MARPSA Good Sports Award Recipient
Jason Woodward, MARPSA Good Sports Award Recipient

Agenda Item Title:

Mid-Atlantic Recreation and Parks Sports Alliance Good Sports Award

Responsible Staff and Department:

Siobhan Halmos, Department of Parks, Recreation & Culture
David Ludington, Department of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Michele Potter, Department of Parks, Recreation & Culture

Desired Outcome from Council:

Recognize Award Recipients and Present Awards

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Supporting Background Information:

The City of Gaithersburg is a charter member of the Mid-Atlantic Recreation & Parks Sports Alliance (MARPSA), a consortium of recreation and parks departments, sports official's organizations and youth sports associations. The Alliance promotes a code of conduct that emphasizes sportsmanship for players, spectators, and sports officials. The MARPSA Dennis Callahan "Good Sports Award", named after the Co-Founder of the Alliance and former Director of Anne Arundel County Parks and Recreation, was created to highlight the positive actions and behaviors in local athletics.

Miguel Avila, a long time participant in the City Youth Sports Program, is a positive influence on his teammates, always doing the little extras to assist his team. Miguel constantly demonstrates good sportsmanship to his teammates and opponents. His coach commented that Miguel is a pleasure to coach, a great listener, and a true ambassador of what is good about youth sports.

Danny Murray began his coaching tenure in the City in 2008 as a Grade 1 basketball coach. Currently, Coach Murray is coaching five teams in the City Basketball Program and is aided in his coaching duties by his family. His commitment to the principles of Character Counts!, good sportsmanship, and volunteerism to his community serve as basis for Coach Murray receiving this award.

Jason Woodward, the Athletic Director at Gaithersburg High School is recognized for his contributions to baseball in the Gaithersburg area. A former player and Coach at Gaithersburg High School Jason worked tirelessly to promote baseball and its values. Most recently he was elected Commissioner of the Cal Ripken Baseball Summer College League, of whom the Gaithersburg Giants is a member, playing on Criswell Field at Kelley Park. Through his coaching experience and involvement Jason exemplifies the values associated with hard work and his commitment to the youth of Gaithersburg.