



History

After several years of discussion, City Council established a steering committee in August of 1998 to develop a foundation to support parks and recreation programs in the City. By the fall of 1999, the group had drafted by-laws and a mission statement for the proposed foundation. At its first meeting in May, 2000, an Interim Board targeted the following actions:

- establish non-profit status with the SC Sec. Of State and the IRS
- identify project/funding priorities based on the PRD's new master plan
- address financial support needs till foundation becomes self-sustaining

In December, 2000, the Board established a committee structure to address the Foundation's agenda, and at its September, 2001, the Board adopted a 3-Year Program of Work to make the Foundation self-sustaining by January, 2004:

- full-time staff and facilities to support the Foundation operations and activities
- public relations effort to foster fund raising and annual membership recruitment
- project priorities for fund raising goals
- by the end of 2003 - a new 3 (or 5) year plan

Over the next few years provided support for a number of projects (e.g. 1st Tee Golf Range, Cancer Survivors Garden in Maxcy Gregg Park). Fund-raising efforts, however, focused largely on providing fiscal agency services to community groups. During 2006-2007, the Board had to address significant concerns about the Foundation's finances. In the following years the Board experienced a steady loss in membership.

In response to concerns about the Foundation's independent, non-profit status, the Board negotiated a revision to the By-Laws which were approved by City Council in December, 2010. Efforts were then made to recruit new membership to the Board with 18 new members elected or appointed to the Board during 2012. During this same year, an independent financial audit was conducted which resulted in a "clean bill" finding for the Foundation's financial records. Steps have been taken to identify administrative support requirement for the Foundation and to improve record-keeping and documentation of the Foundation's activities.

Following this 2012 year of transition, 2013 offers the opportunity for CPRF to fulfill its potential in supporting programs that will benefit all the citizens of our Capital City.