



COMMISSION FOR ACCREDITATION OF PARK AND RECREATION AGENCIES

**To:** Accredited agencies, applicant agencies, and accreditation visitors

**From:** Sara L. Hensley, CPRP, CAPRA Chair

**Subject:** Fall 2014 CAPRA Update

**Date:** December 12, 2014

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The Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) held the Fall meeting and hearings in conjunction with the 2014 NRPA Congress in Charlotte, North Carolina on October 13, 2014. We are pleased to provide information on the status of the Commission; accredited programs; revisions of the Handbook, visitation schedule; and other information of interest to accredited agencies and visitors.

**Handbook Revisions:**

In an effort to make the continuing accreditation process more workable, the Commission decided to allow agencies to host their visit any time of the year, using the same 10 week deadline for submittal of the Self-Assessment. Agencies may appear before the Commission via teleconference or by consent agenda at the next scheduled meeting. However, it can only be after the Visit Report is approved.

In addition, agencies with a 20-year review may schedule their visit early enough in the year for their hearing to occur in-person before the Commission at the Fall Meeting. The Agency would not be required to cover the travel costs for the visit chair to attend the hearing and, the visit chair would not be required to appear at the hearing.

**Commission Reorganization:**

The Commission Officers for 2014-2015 are:

Sara L. Hensley, Chair  
Jim Garges, Past Chair  
Dirk Richwine, Vice Chair

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Board of Directors approved two additional positions on the Commission with representation from NRPA and the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration (AAPRA). One position from NRPA is waiting final approval. New members of the Commission are:

Carolyn McKnight, Baton Rouge, LA, representing AAPRA  
Marc S. Heirshberg, Mesa, AZ, representing AAPRA  
Marta Moorman, Kearney, NE, representing Academy for Leisure Sciences (ALS);  
Patricia Harrison, Fairfax, VA, representing International City/County Management Association (ICMA).

Commission members retiring are:

Judy Weiss, Coconino County, AZ, (representing AAPRA)

Lisa Pesavento, Palos Heights, IL, (representing AAPRA)

Art Anselene, Herndon, VA, (representing ICMA)

The Commission is very grateful for their service and commitment to the accreditation process.

### **Other News**

- CAPRA continues as a participant in NRPA's Best of the Best Ceremony. Accredited/Reaccredited agencies were presented with their certificate while being recognized at the ceremony. The CAPRA crystal was shipped to agencies post Congress.
- CAPRA produced one visitor training webinar which is available in our Online Learning Center. A live chat was held for agencies to discuss the 2014 Standards and resulted with over 200 participants. Another 2014 Standards live chat was held for visitors and resulted with over 40 participants. Additional webinars/live chats are in development to discuss the 2014 Standards.

As always, please contact us [CAPRA@nrpa.org](mailto:CAPRA@nrpa.org) should you have questions or concerns. Brenda Beales is our new NRPA staff member and she will certainly work with you and the Commission to address any issues. Thank you.