

Board Agenda Item  
January 14, 2015

**ADMINISTRATIVE– 1 (with presentation)**

Resolution Honoring Ronald Pearson upon His Retirement from the Park Authority

ISSUE:

Seeking approval of the resolution to honor Ronald Pearson, Branch Manager of Facilities and Equipment Support in the Park Operations Division upon his retirement from the agency.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the resolution honoring Mr. Pearson.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on January 14, 2015.

BACKGROUND:

After 34 years with the Park Authority, Ron Pearson, Branch Manager, Facilities Support for the Park Operations Division is retiring. His tenure with this agency began in July 1973 when he started at Burke Lake Park as a seasonal laborer and was earning \$2.08 per hour. Pearson notes that he operated the carousel and later the train.

In March 1977 he moved to his first merit position as a Laborer I at Burke Lake Park. It was at this time that Ron, who was putting himself through school with ambitions of becoming a doctor, decided that he was really good at problem solving. Instead of heading to medical school and the emergency room, he decided to stay with the Park Authority.

As a laborer he spent lots of time doing maintenance in the park and later, under the direction of Mike Kane, moved to the snack bar as manager. He moved to management and served as the manager at Lake Fairfax Park from 1986 until 1995. During his tenure at Lake Fairfax, the site tried their hand at major music festivals, an effort that earned lots of money, but angered neighbors and local officials who had to deal with the noise and the crowds, the traffic and cars parked along every highway. While the festivals – Lollapalooza and WHFestival – earned more than \$100,000 in a weekend, clearly they could no longer be held at the lakefront park venue.

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From Lake Fairfax, Ron moved to Park Operations. He was promoted to his current position in October 1995. Pearson recalls he was hesitant to take the job when Tim White offered it, unsure that he could perform at that level; but he did take the job and has excelled ever since. In fact, over the years he has gathered a portfolio of recognitions including a Letter of Commendation in November 2001 from Jean White, Director of the Park Foundation for his design and construction of displays in support of the "Special Evening for the Parks."

Other recognition included another Letter of Commendation for repairs and maintenance of the Park boardroom. He was nominated for an RMD Stewardship Award in January 2005, received a letter of recognition for his work on the Trailfest Committee, received the Helping Hand Award in 2007 for going the extra mile to get the Laurel Hill Clubhouse completed, and received the 2007 Trailblazer Team Award, again for his work at Laurel Hill.

Key descriptive words found in his many performance evaluations include: dependable, quality service, motivated, team player and diligent. Former Director Mike Kane said of Pearson in a recent interview, "Over all the years that I worked with Ron, he was constant, reliable, and thorough." Kane described him as a model for others, "loyal and dedicated and possessing a work ethic that truly defines what makes the Park Authority such a great organization."

Pearson always felt this was much more than a job. He met and married his wife, Anne Rust, former manager at Nottoway Park through the system. He made lasting friendships over the years, now at the end of his career he notes, "I still love figuring it out, solving the problem and getting it done."

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Todd Johnson, Director, Park Operations Division

***WHEREAS**, Ronald Pearson, Branch Manager of Facilities and Equipment Support in the Park Operations Division is retiring after a career spanning 34 years with the Park Authority, during which time he began as a seasonal worker at Burke Lake in 1973, became a merit laborer I, was later promoted to Manager of Lake Fairfax, a post he held from 1986 until 1995 until he assumed his current position; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Ron is well-known and recognized for his can-do attitude and ability to get the job done, a trait in evidence in the many projects he completed including the Sully entrance gate, Kidwell Farmhouse, Elmore Farmhouse and the Meeting House at Frying Pan Farm Park, the Sears Spindle House, as well as the completion of the clubhouse at Laurel Hill; and,*

***WHEREAS**, his rock solid work ethic and positive attitude is a model for other employees and has been recognized throughout his career with letters of commendation, an Outstanding Performance Team Award for the Mason District Amphitheatre Reconstruction, the Helping Hand Award for work at Laurel Hill, Resource Stewardship awards, and a Trailblazer Team Award also for Laurel Hill; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Ron made a life rather than just a career at the Park Authority, finding a wife, making great friends, initiating invaluable processes with ADA compliance and a host of other tasks all done well over the many, many years of service; and,*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Fairfax County Park Authority that it expresses appreciation and thanks to*

***Ronald Pearson***

*for dedicated and outstanding contributions to the parks and residents of Fairfax County.*

*Adopted by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board on January 14, 2015*

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*Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary*

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*William G. Bouie, Chairman*

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## **ADMINISTRATIVE – 2**

### Resolution Honoring Mark Pearson upon His Retirement from the Park Authority

#### ISSUE:

Seeking approval of the resolution to honor Mark Pearson, Irrigation Specialist for Golf Enterprises, upon his retirement after 38 years of service to the citizens of Fairfax County.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the resolution honoring Mr. Pearson.

#### TIMING:

Board action is requested on January 14, 2015.

#### BACKGROUND:

After 38 years with the Park Authority, Mark Pearson, Irrigation Specialist for Golf Enterprises is retiring. His tenure with this agency began in 1976 when he worked as a seasonal at Burke Lake Park helping with the amusements, the marina operations as well as at the golf course.

Later his career took him as a Laborer 1 at Twin Lakes Golf Course where he became a merit employee in the summer of 1978. Mr. Pearson was an outstanding employee with a great work ethic and skills that made him invaluable to the operations he touched. In fact, his change in status was due to his demonstration of the skills and abilities necessary to master every maintenance assignment at the Park Authority's first golf course. Ultimately, his great attitude and capabilities resulted in a steady climb up the career ladder to the leadership position of Twin Lakes Golf Course Superintendent in 1984. He was reassigned in 1996 as the Irrigation Specialist for Golf Enterprises.

Mr. Pearson accomplished much during his tenure with the Park Authority. He demonstrated innovation in turf care and irrigation design as well as integrated pest management. He managed complex and fiscally responsible equipment repair needs and excelled at events management. Every chance he had he worked to enhance customer service and to improve the overall turf conditions at Twin Lakes Golf Course.

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In his role as the Irrigation Specialist he served as the principle reviewer and on-site inspector of bond-funded irrigation system projects within Golf Enterprises. These projects included total replacement or new construction at Burke Lake, Greendale, Jefferson, Laurel Hill, Pinecrest, Oak Marr, and Twin Lakes golf courses totaling more than \$6 million (since 1996). He also championed the integration of resource saving weather stations which have recently been funded.

Mr. Pearson has been an invaluable team member, assisting Planning and Development project managers at irrigation project sites and ultimately ensuring the successful completion of numerous athletic field irrigation projects. He brought to the work a level of expertise that was unmatched and familiarity with each park, and the complexities of their operation. He shared his expertise in irrigation design and operations at over 100 athletic fields and was instrumental in the successful completion of these irrigation projects located throughout Fairfax County.

He exemplifies the best qualities of public service and will be remembered by his co-workers for his dedication and professionalism, his leadership in turf management, his responsive support of field staff, relentless cost containment on all the projects he was entrusted with and his tireless efforts to gain funding for projects and programs that enhance the park visitor experience.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Peter Furey, Director, Golf Enterprises

***WHEREAS**, Mark Pearson has worked for the Fairfax County Park Authority for the last 38 years in a variety of positions beginning in 1976 as a seasonal worker at Burke Lake Park where he worked at the amusements and marina area, as well as the golf course, and as a Laborer 1 at Twin Lakes Golf Course where he became a merit employee in the summer of 1978 after demonstrating the skills and abilities necessary to master every maintenance assignment at the Park Authority's first golf course which ultimately resulted in a steady climb up the career ladder to the leadership position of Twin Lakes Golf Course Superintendent in 1984, and finally as the Irrigation Specialist for Golf Enterprises in 1996; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Mr. Pearson accomplished much during his tenure with the Park Authority such as demonstrating innovation in turf care and irrigation design, integrated pest management, complex and fiscally responsible equipment repair, event management, customer service enhancement, and improving the overall turf conditions at Twin Lakes Golf Course; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Mr. Pearson in his role as the Irrigation Specialist served as the principle reviewer and on-site inspector of bond-funded irrigation system projects within golf enterprises that included total replacement or new construction at Burke Lake, Greendale, Jefferson, Laurel Hill, Pinecrest, Oak Marr, and Twin Lakes golf courses totaling more than \$6 million (since 1996), and also championed the integration of resource saving weather stations; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Mr. Pearson has been an invaluable team member, assisting Planning and Development project managers at irrigation project sites and ensuring the successful completion of numerous athletic field irrigation projects; due in large measure to Mark's familiarity with each park, the complexities of their operation, and his expertise in irrigation design and operations at over 100 athletic fields have greatly benefited the completion of these irrigation projects at over 100 athletic fields throughout the county; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Mark exemplifies the best qualities of public service and will be remembered for his dedication and professionalism, leadership in turf management, responsive support of field staff, his relentless cost containment of all the projects he was entrusted with, and his tireless work seeking funding for projects and programs that enhance the park visitor experience, and;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board that it expresses appreciation and thanks to*

## ***Mark Pearson***

*For dedicated and outstanding contributions to the Park Authority and the citizens of Fairfax County.*

*Adopted by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board on January 14, 2015*

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*Kala Leggett Quintana*  
*Secretary*

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*William G. Bouie*  
*Chairman*

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**ADMINISTRATIVE – 3 (with presentation)**

Resolution Honoring Mary Dettra for Two Decades of Dedicated Service

ISSUE:

Seeking approval of the resolution to honor Mary Dettra, a longtime volunteer at Colvin Run Mill Historic Site who recently passed away.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the resolution honoring Ms. Dettra.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on January 14, 2015.

BACKGROUND:

Ms. Mary Dettra, long-time volunteer at Colvin Run Mill Historic Site, passed away on November 3, 2014. For the preceding 20 years, she helped make Colvin Run Mill a very special place for visitors.

Ms. Dettra was a regular fixture at the mill during the school field trip season. She taught the simple machines curriculum to third graders. She was a hands-on interpreter and often donned hand puppets to introduce preschoolers visiting the mill to the characters known as Fred the Farmer, Matilda his wife and Charlie their hard-working horse.

She was born on a farm in West Virginia where she had first-hand knowledge of everyday chores and attended a one-room schoolhouse. Her real life experience was invaluable as she talked to school children about life in a farming community of the past.

This was no ordinary volunteer. She was Colvin Run Mill's Distinguished Volunteer in 2007 and in 2008 she was recognized as an Outstanding Volunteer at the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards. Her love of history, enthusiastic work ethic and friendship will be missed by all.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

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STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Cindy Walsh, Director, Resource Management Division

Mike Henry, Manager, Colvin Run Mill Historic Site

***WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Park Authority and all of its sites and facilities depend on the largess and expertise of volunteers such as Mary Dettra who served the public at Colvin Run Mill Historic Site for over two decades, making this a very special place for visitors, and sadly, passed away in November 2014; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Ms. Dettra was a regular fixture at the mill during the school field trip season, teaching the simple machines curriculum to third graders and introducing pre-school students to the subject via hand-puppets of Fred the Farmer, Matilda his wife, and Charlie their hard working horse; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Mary could charm the children with a special understanding, having grown up on a farm in West Virginia where she had first-hand knowledge of everyday chores and attended a one-room schoolhouse herself, and was really able to convey that unique experience found in life in a farming community of the past; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Mary was a wonderful volunteer, selected as Colvin Run Mill's Distinguished Volunteer in 2007 and in 2008; was recognized as an Outstanding Volunteer at the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards; and her love of history, enthusiastic work ethic, and friendship will be sorely missed, and,*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Fairfax County Park Authority that it expresses appreciation and thanks posthumously to*

***Ms. Mary Dettra***

*for dedicated and outstanding contributions to the parks and residents of Fairfax County.*

*Adopted by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board on January 14, 2015*

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*Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary*

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*William G. Bouie, Chairman*

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Board Agenda Item  
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**ADMINISTRATIVE – 4**

Adoption of Minutes – December 10, 2014, Park Authority Board Meeting

ISSUE:

Approval of the minutes of the December 10, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the minutes of the December 10, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on January 14, 2015.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Minutes of the December 10, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

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**Fairfax County Park Authority  
Board Meeting  
December 10, 2014**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax, Virginia.

**Board Members:**

William G. Bouie, Chairman  
Ken Quincy, Vice Chair  
Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary  
Frank Vajda, Treasurer  
Edward S. Batten, Sr.  
Mary Cortina  
Linwood Gorham  
Faisal Khan  
Harold L. Strickland  
Richard C. Sullivan, Jr.  
Michael Thompson, Jr.  
Anthony J. Vellucci

**Staff:**

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO  
Judy Pedersen  
Barbara Gorski  
David Bowden  
Todd Johnson  
Barbara Nugent  
Cindy Walsh  
Deborah Babcock-Daley  
Brian Williams  
John Zeigler  
John Berlin  
Don Sweeney

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Two speakers were present.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS/PRESENTATIONS**

ADMIN/P-1 Resolution Honoring Richard C. “Rip” Sullivan Jr.’s Service on the Park Authority Board

Ms. Quintana made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Mr. Sullivan’s service on the Park Authority Board; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried, Mr. Sullivan abstained.

ADMIN/P-2 Resolution Honoring Leonadus Plenty upon His Retirement

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Mr. Plenty upon his retirement from the Park Authority; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

As a longtime friend of the RECenters and Lee District, Mr. Bouie asked Mr. Batten to read and present Mr. Plenty with the resolution. Mr. Batten noted that on this day at Laurel Hill Golf Club between 11a.m. and 1:45 p.m. about 150 or more people came together to let Leon know not only how much they enjoyed working with him, but that they love him. Many of these people were with him in

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1982. People like Carl Sell and Paul Baldino, and of course, Kirk Kincannon, who knows Mr. Plenty better than Mr. Batten himself. It was a wonderful time and all those people came and stayed. It was also a very emotional time for many of them, especially those that have known him from the beginning and have gone through some of the trials and tribulations that they went through in those early years. It was truly a magnificent opportunity and Mr. Plenty was more than deserving of it.

Mr. Plenty's whole family was there and like the man he is, he also brought his minister, who spoke and let everyone know from his vantage point the quality and character of the man we were honoring.

- ADMIN-3 Adoption of Minutes, November 12, 2014, Park Authority Board Meeting  
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- A-1 Approval – Fairfax County Park Authority Bylaws  
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the bylaw revisions; Mr. Thompson seconded the motion.

Mr. Vellucci asked that his comments be entered into the record as follows:

“Mr. Chairman, my fellow board members, I cannot support acceptance of this motion for our revised bylaws for several reasons some of which were contained in my remarks to this board on October 13 2013.

“First, they fail to define magisterial district and member-at-large members, and their accompanying roles and responsibilities. Second, they fail to define our standing committee structure, committee scope, and accompanying roles and responsibilities. Lastly, I do not believe this board should relinquish committee scope definitions to the chairman without board review and approval.

“With respect to roles and responsibilities, I note the following excerpts from Roberts Rules of Order, Chapter 20, regarding the development of bylaws, for your consideration:

“Quote  
Section III – This article usually has several sections that define who the members are, dues, and responsibilities.



UnQuote

“Later in the document .....

“Quote

Article VII – Committees. The bylaws identify all standing committees. This article states the number of members on each committee and describes the duties and responsibilities.

Unquote

“I understand there is an intent to have a follow on document, or documents, which may include the definitions and roles and responsibilities I referred to above, but that begs the question of why would we want to develop and maintain two documents when we can include that information in a single more comprehensive document, especially since we cite Roberts Rules of Order in our bylaws.

“I also understand that the bylaws have passed legal review, but as counsel related to the Administration Management and Budget Committee, those sections could be included, it is a business decision. I have heard that we may want to legally protect ourselves, but I have never heard of an organization that was sued because of its structure. Organizations are usually sued for what they have done, or what they have failed to do.

“Another position noted the need to be flexible to changes, but our bylaws already have a change mechanism in place, and whatever document or documents that follow will also involve some sort of change mechanism, requiring board approval, so I do not believe that argument holds any water.

“Lastly, I do not agree with the bylaw statement in Article VIII Committees: The duties of all such committees shall be defined by the Authority Chairman and actions of such committees shall be reported to the Authority Board.

“I believe the duties of all such committees should be defined through our bylaws, subject to the agreement of this entire board, and not the unilateral decision of the chairman, whoever that individual may be. If there is a need for a mid-year change in committee scope, it should be addressed in the AMB Committee and approved by this board.

“I believe that changes to our bylaws reflect an organization that is healthy. We ought to be reviewing our bylaws at least annually, rather than our current practice of reviewing them every five years incidental to a CAPRA accreditation or when requested by a member, and then putting them on the shelf until the next review.

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“One of my former employers, a Fortune 50 firm that had deep pockets often got sued, so executive management made a strategic business decision to place lawyers in senior management roles to structure more legally sound business offers. The move was somewhat successful; the number of lawsuits decreased, but while these senior managers made excellent legal decisions, they also made poor business decisions.

“I believe the proposed bylaws in front of us, which do not include member and committee definitions and roles and responsibilities, reflect a poor business decision on our part, so I ask that we send this document back to the AMB Committee with the direction to include member definitions and accompanying roles and responsibilities, standing committee scope and accompanying roles and responsibilities, and that this board collectively shall be responsible for determining the definition of committee scope.

“If not, then I cannot cast a supporting vote for the motion.

“Thank you.”

Mr. Gorham gave his reasons for supporting the motion.

The motion carried. Ms. Quintana, Ms. Cortina, Messrs. Bouie, Quincy, Vajda, Thompson, Sullivan, Strickland, Khan, Gorham, and Batten voted AYE; Mr. Vellucci voted NAY.

A-2 Approval to Advertise Proposed Fee Adjustments and Date of Public Comment Meeting

Mr. Quincy made a motion to advertise the Proposed Fee Adjustments and Date of the Public Comment meeting with changes made during the Administration, Management and Budget Committee meeting; seconded by Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Strickland made a motion to amend the motion by deleting the words “account for” in the first paragraph on page six and replace with the words “fully address”. The sentence then reading: “The out-year projection in the Park Authority’s FY 2015-FY 2017 Park Revenue Funds Financial Management Plan does not yet fully address several possible costs impacts including those associated with the pending school initiatives, possible compensation increases and potential General Fund Salary transfers.”

Mr. Strickland additionally proposed remove the second sentence in the first paragraph on page six. “Combined, these represent a potential of \$1.28 million in added uncontrolled costs.”

The motion to amend was seconded by Mr. Thompson.

After discussion, Mr. Strickland moved to divide the question; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried.

Mr. Strickland withdrew the second part of his motion to strike the second sentence in the first paragraph on page six.

Mr. Quincy made a motion to amend the amendment to the motion by removing the word “uncontrolled” from the second sentence in the first paragraph on page six; seconded by Mr. Batten. By a show of hands the motion carried 10 to 2, Messrs. Vellucci and Thompson voted NAY.

Mr. Batten made a motion to advertise both the proposed fee changes and notification of the January 21, 2015, public comment meeting concerning the proposed fee changes with amendments to the first paragraph of page six replacing the words “account for” with “fully addressed” and striking the word “uncontrolled” in the second sentence on page six; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried unanimously by a show of hands.

A-3 Scope Approval – Lake Fairfax Park Chestnut Grove Trail (Hunter Mill District)

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the scope approval to install a new 40’ fiberglass bridge, three interpretive signs, and completion of a natural surface trail connection to the new bridge in Lake Fairfax Park; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

A-4 Approval – The Highland District Land Dedication Request – RZ 2014-PR-021 (Providence District)

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the dedication of approximately 0.79 acres of land in two separate parcels as part of the rezoning application for RZ 2014-PR-021 (The Highland District); seconded by Ms. Quintana. The motion carried unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- I-1 Needs Assessment Update  
No action was necessary.

## **CHAIRMAN’S MATTERS:**

- Mr. Bouie wished everyone a very happy holiday and stated that he hoped to see everyone on Friday night at the Holiday Reception from 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Oaks Room at Twin Lakes Golf Course. He asked everyone to RSVP to Judy Pedersen by the end of the evening if they have not already done so.

He thanked staff for the tremendous work that was done in bringing Clemyjontri Park in on time and on budget in time for the ceremony on December 6. It was Grace Wolf's introduction to the community as the new Dranesville District representative. Mr. Sullivan did a superb job as the MC of the program. McLean High School choir sang Christmas carols. The Friends of Clemyjontri were out soliciting and signed up a number of new members. Ms. Longworth had a few words to say not only about Clemy, but also to let everyone know about the work and expansion at Chessie's Big Backyard. Ms. Longworth, as always, was also polling for new board members to the Foundation Board.

It was a great event and Clemy looks like it is almost brand new.

Mr. Bowden and staff did a tremendous job to replace the surfacing and the Park Operations – Area 1 staff did an excellent job replacing and fixing the equipment.

- The resident curator program ordinance was passed by the Board of Supervisors and there will be discussions with County Executive Ed Long and Kirk Kincannon about budget and where the program will reside. As more information becomes available it will come to committee first as information before it comes before the full Board for discussion about what it means and how it would be implemented.
- Mr. Bouie thanked everyone for a great year. He encouraged everyone to look at the annual report posted online. It suggested that everyone refer to it often and also to refer the public to it as well. <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/annualreport/>

#### **DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:**

- Mr. Kincannon reported that the Fairfax County Park Authority is working on defining the operations at our equestrian facilities. FCPA has created a multi-division team of employees to create the framework for consistent, proper, and functional guidelines for equestrian operations, services and programs in Fairfax County. Areas being discussed are finance, operations, programming, and communication. Meeting with our stakeholders is a big part of project. Some groups have already been involved and others will meet on December 11 @ 7 p.m. at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter to discuss SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) of the FCPA's equestrian operations. The timeline for the project includes a written draft to be created in the spring of 2015.
- Public Information Officer Judy Pedersen is featured as the National Association of Government Communicators member of the month in December. This designation is part of an association membership drive in which long time professionals are highlighted. Pedersen has been a member of NAGC for the past decade and is the author of numerous agency awards presented by this association over the years, as well as a past presenter at their national conference.

The designation includes the posting of her bio, a couple of selfies and a headshot as well as the opportunity to publish a blog on why work in this field is so satisfying to her. A copy of the materials can be found in your clip packet or online at the NAGC website.

- The Virginia Recreation and Park Society presented its annual awards to individuals, agencies, and organizations throughout Virginia who have demonstrated excellence in any of several areas during the previous calendar year at its conference this past week. Over 90 applications were received vying for awards in 13 different categories.

VRPS recognized the Fairfax County Park Authority with two awards. Longtime Huntley Meadows Park volunteer Norma Hoffman who received the Distinguished Volunteer Service Award and the Huntley Meadows Park Wetlands Restoration project was selected for the Best New Renovation/Addition – Parks, Playgrounds, Blueways, Greenways, and Trails in the population category of greater than 100,000. We did very well at these annual awards.

- Kirk shared a cautionary note that the budget remains highly restrictive and conservative over the next several years. He attended a meeting with the County Executive earlier in the day where they looked at the upcoming two years and scenarios related to what was discussed with the Board of Supervisors and with state legislators. All county agencies will be going through a Line of Business (LOBs) exercise over the next 15 months. This will give Parks an opportunity to look at its mission and delivery and how it provides its services to the community. The county is asking us to take a deeper look relative to how we define our lines of business, breaking it out deeper with regard to the services we provide to the community. This is a request to all agencies. The county is looking at this as a tool to look at efficiencies and operations and to look at opportunities to improve our services, but also make some tough decisions because the economy is not picking up nearly as fast as we would like it to. There is a huge glut of available office space in Fairfax County. Arlington County is in worse shape. It is really taking its toll on the budget. Needless to say the state budget cuts will affect the county. We are using this as an opportunity in our team in the Park Authority over the next year to look at metrics which ties into our scorecard, which ties into our Strategic Plan, and to look at the services we provide related to our mission and vision and work amongst our agency team to better define where we should focus our resources for the public and use this as an opportunity to align with our Strategic Plan as well as the county's.

There will be a public process related to the lines of business discussion. The Board of Supervisors has communicated a level of public process related to what the community sees as important things related to county services.

Mr. Kincannon stated that he would bring more information back beginning in January as the agencies receive more instruction from the County Executive's team. He is part of the 16 member team.

**BOARD MATTERS:**

- Mr. Khan welcomed Ms. Wolf to the Board, adding that he is looking forward to working with her. At the same time, he will miss Mr. Sullivan.

He thanked Mr. Bowden and Mr. Thompson for coming to the year-end ceremony for cricket. It was a very nice ceremony which included a special award this year for grounds keeper of the year, which was given to Michael Harris.

The grounds keepers are the unsung heroes that make the cricket team look good. They do a magnificent job.

Mr. Khan looks forward to seeing more of the Board members at future matches and events.

- Mr. Gorham welcomed Ms. Wolf and congratulated Messrs. Vellucci, Thompson, and Vajda on their reappointments to the Board.

Mr. Gorham pledged to the Board to do his best as a Park Authority Board member and to vote his conscience with no regard to personal relationships with any other Board members.

- Mr. Batten expressed appreciation to Ms. Wolf for staying for the entire meeting, adding that the Board is happy that she is here.

To Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Batten said that he was sorry to see him leave, but he is happy that he is being replaced by someone that has the passion that Ms. Wolf apparently has. Mr. Batten understands that she has tremendous experience and expertise that will help them to be a better Board.

Mr. Batten asked that his comments about the lunch reception for Mr. Plenty's retirement at Laurel Hill Golf Club on December 10 be entered into the record. About 150 people attended.

As a result of the comments made by one of his esteemed colleagues made about our cultural resources and its challenges and achievements he will make certain that he speaks with Ms. Longworth to get Ms. Cortina, Ms. Crowell, and anyone Ms. Cortina would like to bring with her, to attend the next Park Foundation meeting and place them on the agenda for whatever presentation they wish to make for the Foundation to appreciate the challenges as well.

Mr. Batten once again asked all Board members to identify new potential candidates to take a seat on the Park Foundation Board. The Foundation Board is doing the same.

Mr. Batten expressed his hope that everyone experienced a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving. He also hopes that everyone will enjoy the Holiday reception on Friday evening.

He extended wishes to everyone and their families a blessed and happy holiday season.

- Ms. Cortina welcomed Ms. Wolf and is looking forward to her serving on the Board.

Ms. Cortina told Mr. Sullivan that he will be missed and thanked him for his service.

Ms. Cortina recognized Ms. Pedersen and her team for everything they did for the Park Elly Doyle Awards Ceremony. The presentation was really great; the videos were wonderful. It is so inspirational and rejuvenating that it makes her want to work even harder. The volunteers are invaluable and it's a wonderful thing Parks does to honor them and to make it a premier celebration.

Ms. Pedersen did a wonderful job and Mr. Vellucci did a wonderful job as MC.

On December 3, Ms. Cortina attended a History Commission meeting and thanked them for working on the resident curator program and encouraged them to continue to work on the program as we continue to figure it out in the future. She had been invited to the meeting by the Chair, Gretchen Bulova.

Ms. Cortina noted that she had heard that Chairman Sharon Bulova is planning a history fair in 2016, and Parks will be invited to participate.

- Mr. Strickland welcomed Ms. Wolf.

He congratulated the four Board members who were recently reappointed.

He told Mr. Sullivan the Board would miss him but would look to him for constituency services.

Mr. Strickland wished the Board and staff a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!

He stated that Mr. Bouie had pointed out what a great staff Parks has and how much the great Annual Report points that out. He wanted to especially thank the staff on the last meeting of the year for a job well done this year and let them know how important they are to the Board and to express his appreciation.

They have worked for the past four or five years under tough circumstances – reduced budgets, reduced personnel, a change in leadership while responding to additional demands on Park facilities and services.

He is also very proud that our staff is admired and respected throughout the county and nationwide. Everyone recognizes that our staff is outstanding both within the county and in

other counties. Staff continues to be tested, time and time again, and have shown grace under pressure and uncommonly good judgment. If you listen to them they will tell you the right thing.

He shared two recent examples in Sully. Citizens were very concerned about deer management in their community with bow hunts--kind of a safety issue. Supervisor Frey was getting a lot of negative and misinformation feedback from the citizens. He asked that our staff help host a meeting with the citizens. The meeting was attended by 50-100 folks. Cindy Walsh and her staff provided factual and current information and answered all their questions. The citizens went home satisfied. He and Supervisor Frey were very pleased.

The second example is some of the citizens in Centreville were concerned about their dog park management and condition. They were very unhappy about certain events at the dog park. Supervisor Frey was asked by the group what could be done to correct the problems. Todd Johnson attended the next meeting Supervisor Frey had with the group (attended by 10-15 folks) and answered all questions and provided guidance for correcting the situation. The group went home satisfied. Again, he and Supervisor Frey were very pleased. You probably didn't hear about this – it didn't go viral. That's what happens because our staff does their job well.

He has been honored to have had the opportunity to work with them over the past 24 years. He has valued and respected their calm demeanor, inclusive approach, keen intellect, and excellent judgment they bring to the Board and the citizens. They have the kind of spirit of service that built our great park system and the commitment that will keep it strong.

So on the last meeting of the year with all the things that have happened in the past year and past 24 years he wanted to thank staff for a great job and let them know what a great staff Parks has. Thank you, again.

- Mr. Sullivan stated that Ms. Wolf is the new news in the Dranesville District; he's going to be old news.

He thanked Mr. Bouie and Ms. Quintana for being at Clemy on Saturday. The weather was lousy but the rest of the program was terrific and it was great to be there.

The numbers at Chessie's are daunting. They are Clemy type numbers. During the time he has been on the Board there has been a renewed focus on the long-term maintenance issues. With Clemy Parks had to scramble a little, but Parks needs to do a better job of seeing that coming.

Mr. Sullivan thanked Mr. Bowden and his staff for getting the Clemy surfacing done on time and on budget. A special shout out to Ms. Pedersen. Everyone on the Board has had to MC events or attend other public events and Judy always produces a terrific work product in



terms of public remarks. There is always a fabulous quote or two, which always makes him look good.

He wished everyone very happy holidays and a healthy and prosperous 2015. He added that he will be back and they are friends for life.

- Mr. Vellucci thanked Ms. Pedersen for the Award ceremony. It is very inspiring to see the contributions some of these people make. And, there are some very significant contributions and they need to be acknowledged. Ms. Pedersen does an outstanding job and made his job look very easy; and it was because of the work she and her staff put in beforehand. Mr. Vellucci thanked Messrs. Bowden, Scott, and Boston, and Ms. Cronauer, for attending a Danbury Forest Board meeting in terms of an easement so Parks can make some repairs to a trail that should have done a couple of years ago. It looks like this will move forward. This is a good thing for anybody that uses Lake Accotink Park trails.

Mr. Vellucci welcomed Ms. Wolf and offered Mr. Sullivan a fair wind and following seas.

He wished his fellow Board members and staff the very best this holiday season, a prosperous new year, and a very safe holiday.

In January, Mr. Vellucci anticipates identifying to the Board his hot buttons for 2015. He thinks it would be a good thing for all Board members to share with each other what's important to us for 2015. He would be interested in knowing what's going on in other districts and with the members at-large.

- Mr. Thompson thanked Mr. Sullivan for his service and insights and helped him understand things better. He wished Mr. Sullivan good luck in Richmond and in everything else he is doing.

Mr. Thompson welcomed Ms. Wolf and looks forward to working with her.

Mr. Thompson had heard from a number of people about what a wonder Awards ceremony was held. Unfortunately, he had a family commitment.

He thanked Mr. Bowden for helping with issues that have popped up around Burke Lake and the driving range, and the misconception by some that the expansion project was going to begin very quickly and being improved.

Mr. Thompson thanked Mr. Khan for inviting him to the year-end cricket ceremony.

He encouraged everyone to please consider giving something to the Park Foundation. It sends a good message to the Foundation that our Board supports them and all members should at least give something.

It has been a good year and he not only appreciates staff, but the work the Board has done.

Mr. Thompson concluded by saying that he would see everyone in Springfield at Twin Lakes for the Holiday Reception.

- Mr. Vajda welcomed Ms. Wolf.

He wished Mr. Sullivan good luck in Richmond and asked him to remember Parks. Mr. Vajda seconded Mr. Strickland's comments about staff. It is an outstanding superlative staff that is at the heart of this Park Authority.

He and his wife wish each and every one, you and yours, a very happy and merriest of holidays.

- Ms. Quintana echoed the comments about Clemy. The event was well-organized and beautiful despite the weather. It was a wonderful day.

She pledged to the Friends of Clemyjontri to write a testimonial about the role Clemy played her in son's life and his developmental delays. It's because of places like Clemy that she can bring him to so he can play safely and challenge himself. She will share that with them and hopefully it can be used to raise more funds for Clemy because we need more places like it.

She thanked Mr. Sullivan and added that she said some nice things about him when he won the election and she hopes that he remembers those. She hopes he remember good friends both on and off the Board. It was a pleasure getting to know him and work with him.

Ms. Quintana indicated that she wanted to recognize staff and talk about one of the pleasures of the year—the Saturday morning tours and introduction to the Park Foundation. It has played the role that staff had envisioned, which was bringing both Boards together to talk about and come up with ideas and collaborate to help her learn more about Parks' system and all that Parks has to offer so that she can be an outstanding ambassador with her friends and family and neighbors. She believes that they are all ambassadors. That kind of in-depth knowledge and hands on experience focus on those mornings with staff and the experts we rely on really help them to grow in those roles.

She was inspired, again, by the retirement of one of Parks' long time employees. It continues to delight her to see the living embodiment of people living their dream, doing what they love. It is such a great reminder especially this time of year that life is so short. It's great to

see the dedication and the passion that our staff and our leadership have for this organization.

She stated that it has been a pleasure working with everyone this year. She appreciates staff that humor her on things like canopies outside Our Special Harbor. She learns from working with all of them. She thanked staff for a wonderful time.

She wished everyone a very happy holiday.

- Mr. Quincy welcomed Ms. Wolf and stated that he looks forward to working with her. He stated that she would have to look long and hard to find a more dedicated and professional staff, as well as Board. He added that she will find her time on the Board a great experience.

He also congratulated the reappointed Board members and looks forward to working with them in the coming years.

He wished Mr. Sullivan the best in Richmond where the decisions are made.

An example of how well the staff works, last week Parks held a public meeting on the re-master planning of Eakin Park. Eakin Park is the first and second property, derived from property donated by the Eakin family and who has set up a trust to help maintain the park. The park is in need of some tender loving care. The master planning meeting was very well attended. A number of positive comments were received from the community and many volunteered to help. The meeting was most ably conducted by Sandy Stallman and Gayle Hooper.

Mr. Quincy concluded by wishing everyone the very best of holidays, and he looks forward to working with everyone next year.

(Mr. Khan left the meeting following Board Matter.)

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 9:07 p.m. Ms. Quintana MOVED the Park Authority Board convene in closed session for:

- (a) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(3)

Seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried. Mr. Khan was absent.

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

**DRAFT**

Ms. Quintana MOVED the Park Authority Board certify that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Virginia Code 2.2-3712 and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried. Mr. Khan was absent

C-1 Approval of an Offer Range for Property Located in the Lee District  
Mr. Batten made a motion to approve the offer range as discussed in closed session for property located in the Lee District; seconded by Messrs. Quincy and Gorham. The motion carried. Mr. Khan was absent.

C-2 Addition of Property Located in the Dranesville District to the Work Plan  
Mr. Sullivan made a motion to add property discussed in closed session to the work plan; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried. Mr. Khan was absent.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Without objection, Mr. Bouie called the meeting to a close at 9:12 p.m.

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Kala Leggett Quintana  
Secretary

Minutes Approved at Meeting  
On January 14, 2014

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Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

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Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

Board Agenda Item  
January 14, 2015

**INFORMATION – 1**

Cultural Resource Management Plan – FY 2014 Accomplishments and FY 2014 Implementation Plan

As presented to and reviewed by the Resource Management Committee on December 10, 2014.

**INFORMATION – 2**

Natural Resource Management Plan – FY 2014 Accomplishments and FY 2015 Implementation Plan

As presented to and reviewed by the Resource Management Committee on December 10, 2014.

**INFORMATION – 3**

American Alliance of Museums (AAM) Reaccreditation Update

As presented to and reviewed by the Resource Management Committee on December 10, 2014.

**INFORMATION – 4**

FY 2014-FY 2015 Strategic Plan Implementation Plan

As presented to and reviewed by the Resource Management Committee on December 10, 2014.

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