

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
December 16, 2015**

The Vice Chairman convened the meeting at 7:32 p.m. at Park Authority Headquarters, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

Board Members:

William G. Bouie, Chairman
Ken Quincy, Vice Chair
Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary
Harold L. Strickland, Treasurer
Edward S. Batten, Sr.
Walter Alcorn
Mary Cortina
Linwood Gorham
Faisal Khan*
Frank S. Vajda
Anthony J. Vellucci
Grace Han Wolf*

Staff:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Barbara Gorski
Judy Pedersen
David Bowden
Todd Johnson
Barbara Nugent
Cindy Walsh
Janet Burns
Sandy Stallman
Brian Williams
John Lehman
Peter Furey

Absent*

Guests: Hughes Group Architects
Lori Bassford

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker: Andrew Roesell
Wylie Chambers

Topic: Marmota Farms and Open Space
Skate parks

PRESENTATION

P-1 Recognition of Hughes Group Architects for Its Award-Winning Design Work on the Renovation of Oak Marr RECenter

Mr. Vellucci made a motion to approve a resolution recognizing the Hughes Group Architects for its award-winning design work on the renovation of Oak Marr RECenter. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMIN-1 Resolution Honoring Lori Bassford upon Her Retirement from the Fairfax County Park Authority

MINUTES APPROVED AND SIGNED JANUARY 13, 2016

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Lori Bassford upon her retirement from the Fairfax County Park Authority. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes, November 10, 2015, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2015, Park Authority Board meeting. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

ACTION ITEMS

- A-1 Reappointment of John E. Osborn to the Fairfax County Park Foundation Board
Mr. Batten made a motion to approve the reappointment of John E. Osborn to the Foundation's Board of Directors. The motion carried. Ms. Wolf was absent.
- A-2 Approval to Advertise Proposed Fee Adjustments and Date of Public Comment Meeting
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the advertisement of the proposed fee adjustment and the date of the public comment meeting. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.
- A-3 Approval – Mount Vernon Woods Park Master Plan Revision (Lee District) Mr. Batten made a motion to approve the Mount Vernon Woods Park Master Plan revision.

Mr. Vellucci stated that he had issues with the terminology that was used in the master plan.

A skatepark is identified in the master plan and he wanted to know if it was on the same scale as Wakefield and Lake Fairfax, or if it was a skate spot. He would like to have a skatepark and a skate spot defined somewhere so the public would not be expecting to get a skatepark on the level of Wakefield or Lake Fairfax when it may only be getting a skate spot.

Mr. Bouie indicated that this was a master plan revision and until the plan is implemented the size and scope of the project would be unknown.

Mr. Kincannon read an excerpt from the Mount Vernon Master Plan Revision describing the skatepark and an excerpt from the Monticello Master Plan describing a skate spot.

As indicated in the master plan revision, Mount Vernon Woods Park is slated for a skatepark; however, its size and scope would not be determined until the plan is implemented.

The motion carried. Ms. Wolf was absent.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie thanked staff, the Foundation, and everybody and their significant others for attending the holiday reception on December 11. He was sorry for those that missed it. It was a great time and probably the longest time that everyone stayed and they actually closed the facility. It was good to see everyone that was there and he wished everyone the best of holidays.
- He noted that there are going to be a lot a meetings in the next couple of months. If anyone has any additional comments regarding the draft bond projects' list, please direct them to Sandy Stallman or Dave Bowden, or Kirk Kincannon, so the board can hit the ground running in January.

There are going to be a numbers of things to do between the Lines of Business, the Bond, and the Needs Assessment.

- Mr. Bouie announced that he is reconstituting the Nominating Committee. Mr. Batten will be the chairman. The nominations are for the officers and the elections will take place at the end of January. Mr. Batten will be in touch with anyone that is interested.
- Mr. Bouie reported that he has had conversations with a number of board members regarding the governance manual. He understands some of the concerns with the draft. There were a number of suggestions. At this point the board will pull back on the manual. It will be handled as part of the Committee of the Whole and he will work with some select board members – two or three of them – to try to get it nailed down into a short document, maybe 10 or 15 pages.

He thanked everyone for their input.

- Mr. Bouie extended holiday greetings and hoped that everyone would have a safe and happy holiday.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:

- As you are aware since January of this year, the Park Authority's Outdoor Fitness Study Team has been examining the concept of outdoor fitness as a way to promote increased park patronage and support healthy lifestyles: Preliminary study results include a preference for clustered "Outdoor Fitness Parks" over the outdated fitness trail concept. Clustering equipment in a highly visible and accessible location helps to promote fitness, social interaction, and safety in a local park setting. Recently the PA staff became aware of a matching grant available through Greenfields Outdoor Fitness equipment. Lincolnia Park was identified by staff as the preferred location for the grant application. Lincolnia was identified

MINUTES APPROVED AND SIGNED JANUARY 13, 2016

due to the data related to poor health outcomes in that area of the County, available funding via proffer funding, compatibility with the master plan, and the need to replace obsolete fitness equipment currently in the park. The grant application will request \$12,500 in funding from the Greenfields Outdoor Fitness corporation with the Park Authority providing matching funding in the amount of \$12,500 for the new equipment with additional funding coming from proffers. Additionally, the Park staff assisted NCS in the application for a grant for Outdoor Fitness at Gum Springs Community Center.

- Burke Lake Park played host to the first annual Winter Wonderland family event on December 5th and 6th. The event included many activities including: mini-golf; a visit with Santa; a s'mores station; hot chocolate/cider station; carousel rides; train rides; arts and crafts project; wagon rides; and a tour boat ride. The entire amusement area and train tunnel were festively decorated with garlands, wreaths, lights, and inflatable holiday-themed lawn decorations.

Customers were greeted by costumed characters such as a snowman, penguin, Christmas tree, or one of Santa's elves. The carousel sound system played classic holiday themed music.

The turnout for the event was solid with upwards of 20 volunteers assisting each day and an estimated 1,000 customers each day. Members of the Burke Lake Friends Group also helped out at the pre-registration table and the Fairfax County Park Foundation set up an information booth and informed the public about the ongoing Burke Lake Improvements Campaign.

Kirk thanked Bobbie Longworth, Burke Lake staff, Park Services' staff, headquarters' staff and everybody that was involved in helping out with this event.

- The Oak Marr RECenter Renovation & Addition Project and the Spring Hill RECenter Renovation Project have received multiple accolades and recognitions over the past year indicative of the standard of excellence and effort in which the multi-division project team staff executed the projects.

Oak Marr Awards and Recognition:

- 2015 Honor Award for Design Excellence as part of the Fairfax County Exceptional Design Awards Program
- Publication in Athletic Business Magazine's 28th Annual Architectural Showcase Issue, June 2015.
- US Senator, Mark R. Warner, congratulations to the Park Authority for exemplary leadership in the area of recreational facilities, July 1, 2015
- Virginia Recreation & Park Society 2015 Award for the Top New Building for municipalities over 100K in population

Judges comment: Fairfax County can be very proud of this beautifully done renovation of one of its mid-1980s recreational buildings. Located in Oakton, the architectural addition of the front facade and reception area creates a neighborhood statement by the use of unique shapes. The curved facade and triangular canopy placement allow natural light to flood the entrance and exercise areas. High marks have been given for a thorough LEED Silver sustainable design approach. An excellent renovation.

Spring Hill Award and Recognition:

- Most recently recognized by the Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) 2015 Award of Merit in the category of Build-to-Suit Institutional Facility Under \$20 Million. *(The prestigious NAIOP awards recognize excellence in design and construction for all types of Office, Industrial and Institutional projects throughout the Northern VA area.)*
- Publication in the October 2015 issue of Athletic Business Magazine

Oak Marr RECenter Renovation & Addition Team Members:

John Lehman, Deb Garris, Monica Szczepaniec, Eric Inman, Cecil Hardee, Davood Majidian, Dale Willingham, Ray Miller, Ron Pearson, Brian Laws, Monica Phillips, Kirt Chase, Jennifer Elgas, Gary Logue, Jim Leer, Mike Baird

Spring Hill RECenter Renovation & Addition Team Members:

John Lehman, Isabel Villarroel, Melissa Emory, Davood Majidian, Dale Willingham, Alan Crofford, Ron Pearson, Brian Laws, Monica Phillips, Marcellous Cooper, John Bartok, Gary Logue, Jim Leer, Mike Baird

Hughes Group Architects Oak Marr & Spring Hill:

Wayne L. Hughes, AIA, Principal, Amado Fernandez, AIA, Principal, Eliel Alfon, AIA, Principal

- Mr. Kincannon wished the board Happy Holidays. On behalf of the Park Authority staff he wished the board an awesome end to 2015 and an awesome 2016 going forward.

BOARD MATTERS

- Mr. Vajda reported that there was another public review of the proposed master plan revision for Green Spring Gardens. Sandy Stallman and Gayle Hooper did a fabulous job in turning around the comments from last review. It looks like there will be consensus and it will be coming to the board in the New Year.

He extended compliments to Bobbi Longworth who is helping him with a project. A lady who is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution came to him and asked that he exam whether Parks could have trees that would be dedicated to their membership and honor their forbearers. They already have a program for trees for \$1,000. That amount is too

dear for them, so with Bobbi's help and in conjunction with Cindy Walsh it looks like Parks may come up with a program whereby parks that have been worked on by the IMAs, Parks might repopulate and reforest those areas with trees and the DAR might be willing to that lesser amount. It looks like a new type of program may be in the works.

He wished Happy Holidays to all.

- Mr. Vellucci noted that it was interesting that one of the speakers during public comment spoke about skateboarding. As he was speaking Tony realized that the current bond package draft is missing a demographic. That is kids that are not involved in organized sports. The bond package has an incredible amount of money that's directed toward organized sports but once again we are not taking care of the kids that are not involved in organized sports. He believes that Parks needs to go back to the drawing board and need to put something in there that addresses those kids because the kids that are involved in organized sports have incredible advocates, but the kids that are not involved in organized sports do not. Tonight there was a single parent that did show up. While he knows the budget is tight, Parks ought to do something for those kids. Parks is starting to do something with skate parks and skate spots, but needs to do a lot more than what is currently being done.
- Mr. Alcorn participated in a Reston Runners fun run on Thanksgiving morning at Lake Fairfax through the trails. Afterwards one of his family members left something at the park so he returned only to realize the Park Authority has employees on Thanksgiving Day, at least until 1 p.m. at that particular facility. He thanked staff who go the extra mile and do work on those holidays. It's very much appreciated. While it's becoming more normal in our society, he certainly recognizes the sacrifice. He thanked staff.
- Mr. Strickland recently received an excellent briefing and had in-depth discussion concerning the updating of the master plan for the 629-acre E.C. Lawrence Park. There are always new impacts to consider, such as:
 - The I-66 impact is going to be fairly major, so that has to be taken into consideration.
 - ECL is being looked at as the potential site of the Conservation Education Facility.
 - Results of the Natural Capital/Forest Management Study and future needs at ECL.
 - Overview of Park Services Trends to the future

He thanked Aimee Vosper, Cindy Walsh, Dave Bowden, John Lehman, Sandy Stallman, Andy Galusha, Carol McDonnell, and Gayle Hooper for taking the time and he really appreciates the discussions they had. He feels more comfortable for the direction he is

MINUTES APPROVED AND SIGNED JANUARY 13, 2016

taking.

Supervisor Frey asked Mr. Strickland to thank the board and express his appreciation for the recognition he received at the Elly Doyle Award ceremony.

For some who may not have noticed, a local high school football team won the state championship – Westfield High School.

This team happens to be located in the Sully District. He understand they had an easy route to the state championship through South County which was an undefeated team. Since the districts were realigned it is the only high school in the Sully District.

Three or four of the players on that team were sons of people that Mr. Strickland coached back when.

Coach Simmons has consistently spoke to how great the programs are out there and he always adds that it's the park facilities that has really made their ability to bring kids up through other programs that makes the high schools stronger.

The outside the classroom experience the kids get that Parks supports to get them out there and involved in all the sports, including cricket.

- Mr. Thompson thanked everyone for coming out to the Springfield District for the holiday party. He thanked all the staff that worked so hard to make that come together. There were a lot of folks working behind the scenes.

Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Vajda to thank his wife for the excellent bourbon balls.

He thanked Denice Dressel and the team from the Resident Curator Program that continues to move along. He believes they are meeting the deadline. A presentation will be made next month.

As the year comes to an end Mike thanked Kirk for everything that he has done this year to improve the Park Authority and help the board do its job, the Leadership Team for the support it provides to the board, and the efforts to provide a high quality service back to the public.

Mr. Thompson wanted to publicly thank the Park Foundation for the things they do not only to support everything the Park Authority does but for being advocates for what Parks does.

- Mr. Quincy agreed with Mr. Thompson said as far as thanking staff, fellow board members, and the Foundation for all they did this year. It was a success and he looks forward to next year.

MINUTES APPROVED AND SIGNED JANUARY 13, 2016

He suggested that if anyone has not yet read the CAFR, which was just sent out, they should take the time to read it. One thing that struck him as he was reading through it is that we hear about the Park Authority receiving awards now and then, but in the financial report ending June 30, 2015, you will see a ream of recognition and awards in that report. It covers every activity that Parks does. Parks has won a lot of awards. Take a look at the report, it's more than just numbers. It's a good description of what the Park Authority has accomplished and the recognition it received for it.

- Ms. Cortina, At-large, also agreed with Mr. Thompson's remarks and raised them with Ken's comments.

She would like to encourage the CAFR presentation to the board. In past years staff has presented it to the board, or budget committee. She feels it's a really important check point in Parks' financial health.

She thanked Judy Pedersen and all the volunteers on the team for the Elly Doyle Park Services Awards. Those awards and the Eakin Philanthropy Award are so inspirational. As an audience member and as a board member she is so energized by seeing what other people do for our parks. She recommends getting these stories out into the greater public because they are contagious. Volunteering and see how one can make a difference and how others do will inspire individuals to do the same.

Ms. Cortina suggested that some of the clips, such as the Hidden Pond Youth Award winner, should be posted on Parks' website.

Ms. Cortina thanked the team for the holiday party. It was great event.

She thanked the Park Authority for providing Earth Sangha space for some greenhouse growing over the winter. They in turn provide Parks with some native plants that have been grown from seeds in Fairfax County. They do all of the wetland restoration and stormwater stream restorations. They provide the vegetation. That's a great reuse of a property Parks was not using.

- Mr. Batten thanked everyone who was involved in the planning and execution of the holiday party. It really was fun. It was a fellowship of fun adding that Parks needs to do more of those kinds of things and needs to have more activity with the Foundation and its board. One meeting a year should not be sufficient for the kinds of participation and contributions that we can make to each other. He encouraged Parks to do more social things, but certainly to have a meeting twice a year. Those people are really involved in doing everything they can to enrich and enhance Parks' ability to serve the public.

Mr. Batten also encouraged the board to continue to ferret out people who they thing desire to be on the Foundation Board and represent the community well. The board has grown significantly over the last couple of years and have added some very fantastic business and community leaders.

He thanked the board for all that they have done; he thanked staff; he thanked the leadership around the room and those that have retired. It has been a good year.

- Mr. Gorham commented that on Veterans' Day he was truly honored to be part of the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Gary Smith Memorial Field. It is a beautiful turf facility honoring a true American hero killed in the Pentagon on 9/11. If you know more about him and his history Col. Gary Smith was a great guy who coached kids' sports and great father. Linwood could not have been more honored to participate in that ceremony. That field is there today because of Gary Smith. That field would not be there today if it wasn't for Mrs. Smith and her generosity and her willingness to partner with Parks to get that turf field done.

He thanked Bobbi Longworth who worked through the process of the donation from Mrs. Smith. Raising and promoting other funding for that project. So without Bobbi it would not have happened either.

He thanked Judy Pedersen for the remarks. He usually takes the prepared remarks and works through them, but when he read the remarks this time he knew that Judy's heart was in it too. He could just not improve on the remarks. He thanked Judy for a wonderful job on the remarks.

Last thanks to Mr. Vellucci, Ms. Cortina, and all the staff, including Dave Bowden and Kirk Kincannon that attended the event.

He thanked Judy Pedersen for a wonderful holiday party.

- Mr. Khan noted that this was the last meeting of 2015 and thanked the board for a wonderful year, the Park Foundation, Kirk and his staff. They have done a wonderful job throughout the year and hopes that Parks can take it to the next level in the coming year.

He wished everyone Happy Holidays.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:31 p.m. Mr. Thompson made a motion that the Park Authority Board convene in closed session for

- a. Discussion of the acquisition or disposition of real property for a public purpose, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or

MINUTES APPROVED AND SIGNED JANUARY 13, 2016

negotiating strategy of this public body in pursuant to Virginia Code 2.2 – 3711(A)(3);

The motion carried. Ms. Wolf was absent.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Thompson made a motion to 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. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

C-1. Land Exchange of Property Located in the Dranesville District

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve equalizing the difference in appraised fair market value between the exchange of properties in the Dranesville District through a donation and to authorize the director to sign the waiver document on behalf of the Park Authority. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

Minutes Approved at Meeting
on January 13, 2016

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant