

**Fairfax County Park Authority  
Board Meeting  
March 23, 2016**

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax, Virginia.

**Board Members:**

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

**Staff Present:**

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD  
Barbara Gorski  
Judy Pedersen, PIO  
David Bowden  
Barbara Nugent  
Todd Johnson  
Janet Burns  
Sandy Stallman  
Gayle Hooper  
Monika Szczepaniec  
Liz Crowell  
Ann Cissel

**Absent\***

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Langley Oaks Park/Langley Fork Park Land Exchange between Fairfax County Park A and United States National Park Service

Speakers: Joel Stillman, President MYA  
Ron Hutchinson, Vice President Evermay Community Association  
Robert Jordan, MCA

**ACTION ITEM**

A-1 Approval Langley Oaks Park/Langley Fork Park Land Exchange between Fairfax County Park Authority and United States National Park Service (Dranesville District)  
Ms. Grace Han Wolf made a motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the Langley Oaks Park/Langley Fork Park land exchange between the Fairfax County Park Authority and the United States National Park Service; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously by all members present; Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.

**APPROVED AND SIGNED APRIL 13, 2016**

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM**

- ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – March 9, 2016, Park Authority Board Meeting  
Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2016, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Messrs. Vajda and Vellucci. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.

**ACTION ITEMS (continued)**

- A-2 Scope Approval – Oak Marr Golf Course Driving Range Improvements (Providence District)  
Mr. Vellucci made a motion to approve the project scope to design and construct improvements to the driving range at Oak Marr Golf Course; seconded by Mr. Khan. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.
- A-3 Scope Approval – Brookfield Park Playground Replacement (Lee District)  
Mr. Batten made a motion to approve the project scope for installation of replacement playground equipment and related work at Brookfield Park; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.
- A-4 Sully Highland Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Chantilly Youth Association (Sully District)  
Ms. Godbold made a motion to approve the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program request from Chantilly Youth Association in the amount of \$20,000 to develop restroom, concession, and shelter facility at Sully Highlands Park; seconded by Mr. Vajda. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.

**CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS**

- Vice Chairman Ken Quincy stated that he had nothing to report in Mr. Bouie's absence.

**DIRECTOR'S MATTERS**

Mr. Kincannon asked Janet Burns to report on the following items:

- The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to Fairfax County Park Authority by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of

recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to the individual(s), department or agency designated by the government as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. This has been presented to Fairfax County Park Authority.

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

- Fairfax County's Department of Finance announced that Cherry Bekaert LLP has been awarded the county's contract for professional audit services which will be effective for the current FY 2016 audit.

Cherry Bekaert has extensive experience supporting local governments. It is the second largest southeast regional audit firm, with over 65 years of experience serving the public sector.

- Mr. Kincannon reported that in April 2015 the Fitness & Wellness Section of Park Services began to explore the RECenter vending practices and current contract with FCPS. It was determined that the product choices offered in RECenter vending machines were not reflective of the Park Authority's vision for better health and wellness in our facilities, and a change to more healthful options was the decided course of action. After many meetings with FCPS over the course of a year, we are happy to report some progress on this initiative. As of March 1, 2016, all Pepsi machines were removed from RECenter and park sites. The remaining beverage machines will offer both water, low/no-calorie beverages, and 100% juice. Beginning on March 15, all snack vending machines at RECenter and park sites began offering products that meet the USDA's Smart Snacks In Schools guidelines. This is a big step forward from only offering high-calorie, low nutrition snacks and candy. In the weeks to follow, the remaining hot beverage machines will be removed from sites as well. This changeover of machines and products is being monitored by the Wellness Coordinator, site managers, and site fitness directors. To support these changes, educational prompts are being developed to be posted on or nearby the vending machines. Though this is great progress made with FCPS under our current contract, we are exploring other contracts, namely Arlington County's Healthy Vending contract, which might better suit our needs for updated vending machines and more healthful products to offer our customers.
- The Park Authority's Colvin Run Mill Restoration Project has been selected as a finalist for the 2015 Harry H. Mellon Award of Excellence in Job Order Contracting. The Harry H. Mellon Award of Excellence in Job Order Contracting is the industry's highest honor, rewarding facility owners and contractors for their hard work through peer recognition from throughout the industry. The Award of Excellence Committee noted that the Colvin Run

Mill Restoration Project demonstrates outstanding principles and practices while identifying a unique and innovative way of using the Job Order Contracting procurement method to repair this national treasure. The ultimate winner of the award will be announced on April 6, 2016.

This mill restoration project completed in December of 2015 included fabrication and installation of the mechanical equipment and features required to fully implement the automated mill design developed by Oliver Evans in the 1794 Young Mill-wright and Miller's Guide. Upon completion of the restoration the mill became fully operational per the original design for the first time since pre-civil war times. The aging main power shaft and water wheel spokes were also replaced as part of the project. The project was partially funded by a National Trust for Historical Preservation Grant, the local community, and the Park Foundation.

The Project Team is to be commended for their hard work and ingenuity in completing this project that has been selected to be recognized for excellence from over hundreds of separate projects completed throughout the United States via Job Order Contracting.

Team members are:

Mike Henry, RMD, Colvin Run Mill, Manager  
Mason Maddox, RMD, Colvin Run Mill, Miller  
Heather Lynch, P&DD, Project Manager  
Rich Fruehauf, P&DD, Project Manager (Retired)  
John Lehman, P&DD, Manager of Project Management Branch  
HITT Contracting  
Ben Hassett, B.E., Hassett-Millwrights

## **BOARD MATTERS**

- Mr. Khan had nothing to report.
- Mr. Gorham had nothing to report.
- Mr. Batten reminded the Park Board that the Park Foundation Board is still looking to increase its size and asked the Park Board members to submit names of individuals that are interested and would be an asset to the Foundation Board to either Ms. Longworth or to Mr. McLeod, Chairman.
- Ms. Godbold reported that on Friday, March 18, she, Dave Bowden, and Pat Rosen took a tour of Sully Woodlands. It was very exciting to actually see the site.
- Mr. Thompson thanked staff for the very good public information meeting for the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan revision.

**APPROVED AND SIGNED APRIL 13, 2016**

On March 16 the Athletic Council approved an alternate recommendation to the County Executive for funding the \$500k request for the purpose of turf field replacement. The County Executive asked to raise the fee from \$5.50 to \$9.50 per child, per sport, per season. There was significant concern about that number. In order to meet that \$500k the Athletic Council recommends reallocating part of the fee which is already collected and taking it out of the field development fund, placing it in the field renovation fund, and increasing the tournament fee from \$25 per team, per tournament, to \$50. Mike noted that he understands that there is a lot of push back about raising that fee.

Mr. Thompson attended a workshop in Richmond earlier in the day with Ms. Vosper and Eric Kulczycky of Visit Fairfax, sponsored by Sports Virginia (consortium of Virginia stakeholders that pursues sports tourism opportunities). At that meeting they learned that the tournament fee at the Maryland Sportsplex is \$300 per game to use its fields. Fairfax County currently charges \$15 per team for an entire tournament. Two years ago the Athletic Council recommended that the Board of Supervisors raise that fee to \$100, but the Board did not consider it.

The Athletic Council embraced the current recommendation as an alternative that will fund the \$500k and match the \$500k the county will put forward which would meet the renovation need for turf fields for the next 10-11 years. A large number of those fields are Park fields. Together these funds would pay for the renovation program.

Mr. Vellucci indicated that the \$5.50 fee is a sore spot for many as it has not been raised since 2003. For the record he asked Todd Johnson what the cost would be if it was pay as you go. Todd indicated that it would be about \$27 per player.

Mr. Thompson stated for the record that through all the non-profits that run all the programs the county defers tens of millions of dollars of cost by not running the leagues, hiring the referees, buying uniforms, getting coaches, paying insurance fees. The approach started in the late '50s and was fully embraced in the '60s and from that point forward has asked the community to build and pay for those rec programs. The city of Salem, Virginia, runs its entire program out of general fund dollars with the exception of charging \$25 per child for uniforms. In Fairfax County the non-profits cover the expenses and some have taken out significant mortgages to pay in order to build all the turf fields.

- Mr. Vellucci reported that the master plan meeting for Lake Accotink Park had over 100 attendees. He thanked Mr. Batten and Mr. Thompson for being there. He also thanked Gayle Hooper and everyone involved. He looks forward to the process will be long but an important part to get it right for the next 25-30 years.

There is another meeting on Monday, May 16, which is going to address the findings from Burgess and Niple as to the lake's sustainability and courses of action. He encouraged anyone that did not make the March meeting to try to attend the May meeting.

Mr. Thompson also encouraged everyone to attend the May 16 meeting to learn about all that is going on and what will be needed to make it work.

Mr. Vellucci commented that when Lake Accotink was a reservoir for Fort Belvoir it was 23' deep; today it is 4'-5' deep.

He is determined that he will talk about encroachment at every meeting until the board takes action. As the weather begins to warm up people are starting to clean up their yards and are placing the debris in our parks if their property adjoins park property. While visiting parks in his district he noticed that some of the debris contains invasives which have probably replicated hundreds of times throughout the county. Parks is taking on a liability for the future in reforestation because it is not aggressive at this point in time.

He spoke with Sara Baldwin and she voiced her concerns for staff in terms of the board's action to adopt a resolution to direct the director to develop an encroachment management plan. They are going to work to finalize a draft resolution that he hopes to present to the board sometime in May. He is asking that everyone make encroachment an important issue, which will make it important to everyone else, including the Police Department, and DPWES.

He indicated that he will not be here for either of the April meetings, so he will miss a lot of the discussions on the Needs Assessment and the bond. With that in mind, he is advocating for Audrey Moore RECenter. He is having a hard time committing to a \$10M sports complex when there was a briefing that stated that there are enough baseball fields. The baseball fields rank low on the Needs Assessment survey that the board has received so far; are only used part of the year; don't have the patronage that the reccenters have, which are used year round; and don't generate the revenue that reccenters generate. The board has a fiduciary responsibility to the revenue fund and while the Financial Sustainability Plan is out of date, a lot of the tenants in it are still applicable today. He has concerns that if money is not put into Audrey Moore it will be 42-44 years old before it actually sees an upgrade. Parks found that when money is put into facilities they receive increased usage, like the Water Mine.

He understands that there is a lot of pressure on the bond, but the reccenters are Parks' flagships so it needs to take care of its infrastructure first, rather than building new, even if there is a need for it.

- Ms. Wolf thanked staff for all their hard work on the Langley Fork/Langley Oaks Parks land exchange that began long before she became a board member. It was nice to be at the finish and to see an exciting project come to fruition.

Fairfax County is installing a pollinator meadow on the back of the ellipse on the north side of the government center between the asphalt trail and the forest edge. The project starts in mid-May. She is talking with DPWES about the types of plantings that will be used. There is an opportunity to be a certified wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. Information is located on the county's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/news/pollinator-meadow-planned-government-center.htm>. The project will encroach into the RPA, but it will allow the county to get credit for the MS4 permit for the Chesapeake Bay.

Ms. Wolf noted that the Bluebells are coming. She encouraged everyone to go out to Riverbend Park to see them. They are blooming early.

- Mr. Vajda, Mason District, wished those of the Christian faith a very Good Friday and a Happy Easter.

Adding that there are many egg hunts throughout the park system, he encouraged everyone to bring their children and/or grandchildren out to one, including one at Hidden Oaks Nature Center.

Mr. Quincy announced that a Closed Session was necessary.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:25 p.m. Mr. Thompson made a motion to closed session for briefing by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. (VA Code §2.2-3711(A)(7).

Seconded by Mr. Vajda and approved by all members present, Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Thompson made a motion to certify that, to the best of each Park Authority Board 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. Khan and approved by all members present. Ms. Cortina and Messrs. Alcorn and Bouie were absent.

**ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION**

**C-1** No action was necessary.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Quincy called the meeting to a close at 8:31 p.m.

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Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

Minutes Approved at Meeting  
on April 13, 2016

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Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

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Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

**APPROVED AND SIGNED APRIL 13, 2016**