

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
February 8, 2017**

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

Board Members:

William G. Bouie, Chairman
Ken Quincy, Vice Chair
Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary
Mary Cortina, Treasurer
Walter Alcorn
Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter
Mary Cortina
Maggie Godbold
Linwood Gorham
Timothy Hackman
Faisal Khan
Frank S. Vajda
Anthony J. Vellucci

Staff Present:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Barbara Gorski, Admin Assist
Judy Pedersen, PIO
David Bowden
Todd Brown
Barbara Nugent
Cindy Walsh

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes - January 25, 2017, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Quincy made a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 25, 2017, Park Authority Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie stated that the Board of Supervisors' Budget Hearings are coming up and that he owes the director's office times to schedule testimony by the board. He asked if there was any new information regarding the budget. In response to Mr. Bouie's inquiry, Mr. Kincannon indicated that Parks will know more about the budget on February 14. Mr. Bouie reminded the board members to try to get their respective Supervisor's support for as many of Parks' efforts as possible.
- Mr. Bouie congratulated Mary Olien and Andi Dorlester on their promotions noting that they are well-served. He looks forward to working with them in their new positions and especially thanked Todd Brown for his special efforts on behalf of some folks in the north Fairfax area.

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DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

- Mr. Kincannon reported that on Saturday morning, January 28, Parks hosted a Federation of Friends meeting at Twin Lakes Golf Course.

About 50 were in attendance including board members and staff. Seventeen different groups were represented. The primary focus of the meeting was to inform and update attendees on the Friends Handbook, MOU, Policy Project work, and share information that staff has learned along the way, including the legal issues.

Two speakers addressed the group – Henri Stein McCartney from Cable and Consumer Affairs spoke to the State and County Charitable Solicitation Regulations and Len Clark from Risk Management spoke about Volunteers, Groups, and Insurance. The sessions seemed of great interest by our groups and had lots of good discussion with each. Both sessions provided a lot of new information to everybody in the room. There were a lot of good questions and good discussions and dialogue which will be followed by a lot of research.

The sessions were videotaped to help Parks share the information directly with others that could not attend and/or for those to bring back to share with their groups and any new groups to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Bobbi Longworth and he provided updates on Parks and the Foundation. There was a very enlightening ‘around the room’ session where Parks heard happenings amongst the attendees and the parks.

Mr. Kincannon thanked the Park Authority Board members who attended; there were seven Park Authority Board members, five representatives from the Foundation, and 13 staff, including Craig Carinci from DPWES for showing up and being part of the day.

Thanks to Harry Glasgow, who provided a passionate welcome to the group, and to Mary Cortina for her closing remarks. He also thanked all the Park Authority Board members who attended for their support, the staff at Twin Lakes for the great set up and of course Judy Pedersen and her staff for keeping everything organized and professional. It truly was a team effort. Mr. Kincannon thanked Aimee Vosper and Lizzie Ehrreich, and all the folks in the Director’s Office, and everyone who helped put this together.

Just as a reminder the next steps in the process includes policy development, handbook, and MOU. All the information currently available will be taken, working with the county, and will be deciphered with all the ins and outs regarding the policy questions and issues. There were a lot of great questions from Mr. Vellucci and Mr. Thompson looking forward as to how Parks would work with the Foundation related to the Friends groups, the insurance questions, liability, and the 501©(3) questions. Parks will probably come back

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in April with some initial review of that information. The timeline is to try to get it to the board for final review in May with final editing in the June timeframe. Depending upon what else Parks finds it may get extended but the goal is to have this vested by June.

- Park Authority Board Member Linwood Gorham and Mr. Kincannon visited Laurel Hill Nike Missile Site to discuss the concerns on the current conditions of the site. They were excited about the conversations they had and brainstorming about ways to take a look at the parks that have been sort of out of love for a while. The result of that meeting and Mr. Kincannon's discussion with Todd Brown was the birth of the first Park Operations Showcase Team Building Day that will be held on February 22 at the site. Beginning at a.m. all area crews, facility maintenance, mobile crew, forestry and turf operations of the Park Operations Division along with assistance from other agency divisions and RMD's Historic Site Volunteer Corps will take an 'all hands on deck' approach to spend the day retrieving the site to a more manageable park site.

The tasks include:

- Clean up all debris and trash around the buildings and the open grounds.
- Remove all non-native saplings, bushes, and other undesirable vegetation from the historic buildings.
- Remove all of the piles of soil from the roadway.
- Secure all the windows and doors on the historic buildings.
- Mow all grass areas and the 10' areas around the buildings.
- All material is to be hauled off, put in roll-offs or poked up for removal.

Mr. Kincannon and Todd Brown discussed all the other opportunities throughout the county, in all the other districts, using this approach in other sore spots in the county and taking this road show around the county.

As a result, every board member will have an opportunity in their respective districts. He invited everybody to come out to the Nike Missile Site at Lorton/Laurel Hill and join in the effort on February 22.

Mr. Kincannon thanked Todd Brown and his crew for embracing this idea and moving it forward.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS (continued)

- Mr. Bouie announced that there has been a Hal Strickland sighting. When Mr. Bouie, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Khan were reappointed by the Board of Supervisors Mr. Bouie immediately received a note from Mr. Strickland noting that he has been watching from afar. He is loving everything the board is doing; that he truly supports us; and reminds the

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board to keep on remembering that our citizens love their parks. He promised to be in touch soon.

BOARD MATTERS

- Mr. Vajda reported that he attended the Federation of Friends meeting on January 28 as a member of the Park Board, but also as a member of the Friends of Mason District Park. He commented that it was an outstanding program.
- Mr. Hackman stated that with regard to the resident curator program kudos to Park Authority staff and the Board of Supervisors for putting that program together. It is a great way to start to tackle the expenses that Parks does not have to maintain these historic properties. Cindy Walsh had informed him prior to the board meeting that a second application was received for the Turner Farm house. He believes that both applications are applications with which the community should be quite happy. One of the applicants is going to address the Environment, Parks, and Trails Committee of the Great Falls Citizens Association on Monday, February 13, and talk about what the applicant has in mind for the Turner Farm House. It is not something the person was asked to do, but something that the applicant chose to do to build a relationship with the community.
- Mr. Vellucci met with Bob Lamond on January 26 regarding drones. He learned about FAA rules. While the FAA owns the airspace from the blade of grass upward. It is legal to launch a drone from the street over public and private property. There are issues regarding privacy, safety, and reckless endangerment which the FAA is grappling with now. Mr. Vellucci suggested to Mr. Lamond that one way to jump start this is to look at other Park policies and write one himself, which he did. It follows FAA directives and instructions. He knows the process for requesting exemptions. It identifies the no fly-zone in the county and nearby airports, such as Dulles, Manassas, and Curtis Field which is Fort Belvoir. It does not identify PFCPA park sites in which drones may be used. Mr. Lamond would like to use this to start discussions with the Park Authority. Mr. Vellucci indicated that he is going to send it to Mr. Kincannon to look at, and hopefully start the process.

On February 1, Mr. Vellucci met with Beverly Bradford and had invited Messrs. Bouie and Quincy to attend. They discussed Park Authority transparency, addressing board and staff transparency issues, and access to board meetings. Mr. Vellucci and Ms. Bradford will meet again on February 15. Mr. Vellucci invited former Park Authority Board member Marie Reinsdorf to join them. He asked Ms. Bradford to identify specific actions that she would like to see on the part of the board and staff and the board would look at them for consideration.

Mr. Vellucci was pleased with the Friends meeting and thought it was great. It raised a lot of questions and concerns. One thing he addressed is that the handbook needs to be

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positive, constructive, and a guide that helps individuals establish and sustain Friends groups.

While he has been active in establishing Friends groups in the Braddock District, Mr. Vellucci has encouraged one group to dissolve because of the liability issue. He asked Braddock Dogs to submit its Mastenbrook Grant application as soon as possible and then dissolve until Parks resolves the liability issue and then reestablish itself if it chooses to do so.

Mr. Bouie asked why they would need a Mastenbrook Grant if they are dissolving. Mr. Vellucci responded that it would be the money they raised for the Monticello Dog Park.

Mr. Bouie asked who would administer the grand funds along with the money that is held with the Park Foundation if the group was dissolved. Mr. Vellucci said the money would go to Planning and Development for the development of the dog park.

On February 6, Supervisor Cook and FCDOT held a meeting regarding the widening of Braddock Road. Mr. Vellucci thanked Andy Galusha for attending the meeting. Mr. Vellucci was concerned about the amount of information that was made available to Mr. Galusha by FCDOT prior to the meeting. Mr. Galusha had commented to Mr. Vellucci that his first look at the alternative was at the meeting. Mr. Vellucci is concerned about FCDOT not sharing information with other county agencies ahead of time. He let Supervisor Cook's staff know of his concerns.

The preferred alternative that FCDPT proposed would impact Wakefield and Lake Accotink Parks along Braddock Road. He asked that staff look at what FCDOT has proposed as soon as possible before FCDOT moves any further along, and identify any milestones. He has significant heartburn with a couple of areas and he would like to share those with the board. The biggest thing is that FCDOT is proposing no less than four stormwater retention ponds alongside of the roadway which would take up a significant amount of acreage.

Mr. Vellucci attended a meeting of the Friends of Royal Lake and the Department of Public Works on February 7 about the Royal Lake dredging. He thanked Ed Richardson for attending the meeting. The project is six to eight weeks ahead of schedule. Sediment is now removed. DPWES contracted for \$59K, everything went so well that DPWES contracted for an additional \$20K. Almost 80,000 cubic yards of sediment has been removed from the lake. They are now working on the fore bays. The lake side fore bay is almost complete. The Royal Lake fore bay has yet to start. DPWES is now addressing dredging project damage impacts with the contractor. The lake side impacts are minimal and there will be more extensive impacts to the Royal Lake park side.

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Mr. Vellucci remarked that he asked Barbara Gorski to share Mr. Pless' letter with the board regarding Lake Accotink Park. He thanked Mr. Kincannon for the response.

The next DEQ Technical Advisory Committee meeting which is going to set the TMDL levels for Accotink Creek is set for mid-March. The program manager anticipates that the public meeting will probably take place the first or second week of April.

- Mr. Alcorn announced that he is serving on the Board of Supervisors' Community Council on Land Use Engagement. The first meeting will take place on Monday, February 13, at the Government Center in rooms 4/5 at 7 p.m. He invited anyone with an interest to attend. The group will meet at least five times and will produce a set of recommendations on ways to improve the county's public outreach and community engagement in the land use and development process.
- Ms. Cortina thanked Mr. Kincannon and commended staff for taking the Friends group to this point compared to a year ago. The information was really valuable and would send shills to small groups, but they needed to know that they may have exposure to general liability without the proper insurance. She hopes that Parks can work through the Foundation or find a way to allow the Friends groups to continue to exist until they are big enough to buy their own insurance.
- Mr. Thompson echoed the comments on the Friends meeting. He stated that as a board it needs to help, whether the Foundation or others, created a process that makes it easy for the Friends groups to operate but at the same tie provides protection to them. It is more than an insurance issue because of some of the filings required of them. It is hard for a volunteer to keep track of all the filings. There are not groups formed by Parks or that Parks controls. There was a chilling effect on some of the people in the room and it is incumbent on Parks to try to help facilitate something that can benefit everybody.

Mr. Thompson sent an email to Ms. Gorski to forward to the board regarding drone racing. The Drone Racing League acquired its first major sponsor, and insurance company, and ESPN bought the broadcasting rights for the races and they will be broadcast over 75 countries. The video shows the higher end of what drones can do. It does continue to raise the issue that it is not just the drone that you fly over your court. In the not too distant future parks will have a new competitor for open space. It will create more pressure on the organization in terms of space. It will not be long before the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services receives request for field space. While Parks is thinking about it in terms of regulatory issues, there is also the practical implication that needs to be worked through. There already is a need for more field space from the users that are already there. Mr. Thompson thinks Parks will find new and significant pressure to find out where drones can be flown.

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- Mr. Quincy seconded the comments regarding the Friends' meeting. The comments that were made were somewhat chilling, but it brought reality to these folks who are not really adept at the legal avenues and various ways of protection. As Mr. Thompson comments, Parks does owe them some guidance, especially the small groups. Mr. Quincy noted that he had received a number of emails and calls following the meeting. Parks needs to keep these groups involved because where would Parks be without them.

The Gazette ran a story entitled, *Tyson's Park Could Be Named in Pursuit of a Community Leader*, which would be Ken Lawrence. Mr. Quincy noted that this had not gone through committee review as yet. He was not sure where Brian Trumpeter received his information. The item will be coming to the Park Operations Committee on March 8. The dedication will take place when the weather improves.

- Ms. Godbold echoed the comments regarding the Friends meeting. She is pleased that Parks will do this again earlier than a year from now.

On Monday, February 6, she spent two hours hiking with Bill Niedringhaus looking at spots where there were networks of trails here or there to determine how they could be connected. He has plenty of ideas.

Ms. Godbold attended a Sully Foundation meeting on Tuesday, February 7. Mary Olien was also there. The Foundation is putting in new picnic grounds in the future and they are hoping to rent it out to groups. The Sully Foundation is also installing interpretive signage and will have a dedication.

She announced that she will miss the February 22 and March 8 board meetings.

- Dr. Carter had nothing to report.
- Mr. Gorham stated that there were a lot of things going on in the Mount Vernon District and he may be a little overdue in thanking people. He thanked everyone that has been working on McNaughton Field to include the upcoming ribbon cutting that will be held on the 9th of April; the people that are working on the trails issue at Mount Vernon District Park; Mount Vernon RECenter renovation; the summer concert series; and, something Todd Brown is working on which Mr. Gorham would not mention. He is so please on so many different levels about the Nike site cleanup and he loves the idea. It has all positive things, such as team building. It is an innovative idea, a new way of doing something. He hopes this can be a regular thing to build morale and enthusiasm within Parks' maintenance department.

Mr. Gorham thanked Mr. Kincannon and added that he had nothing to do with the idea.

Mr. Kincannon passed Mr. Gorham's thanks on to Todd Brown.

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- Mr. Khan had nothing to report.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Bouie turned the floor over to Mr. Khan, Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Mr. Khan thanked the board members for their cooperation during the nominating period and thanked the members of the Nominating Committee for their help and dedication – Ms. Godbold and Messrs. Alcorn, Vajda, and Gorham.

Mr. Khan stated that the elections were duly advertised and announced the nominees for office.

Chairman: William G. Bouie
Anthony J. Vellucci

Vice Chairman: Mary Cortina
Anthony J. Vellucci

Secretary: Michael Thompson, Jr.

Treasurer: Linwood Gorham

Mr. Khan called for nominations from the floor for the office of Chairman. Mr. Vellucci withdrew his name from the slate. There being no other nominations, Mr. Vajda made a motion to close the nominations; seconded by Mr. Quincy.

Mr. Vajda made a motion to unanimously elect Mr. Bouie to the office of Chairman; seconded by Dr. Carter. The motion carried. Messrs. Quincy, Thompson, Alcorn, Hackman, Vajda, Khan, Gorham, Dr. Carter, Ms. Cortina, and Ms. Godbold voted AYE; Mr. Vellucci abstained.

Mr. Khan called for nominations from the floor for the office of Vice Chair. Mr. Vellucci withdrew his name from the slate. There being no other nominations, Mr. Quincy made a motion to close the nominations; seconded by Mr. Vajda.

Mr. Quincy made a motion to unanimously elect Ms. Cortina to the office of Vice Chair; seconded by Messrs. Thompson and Alcorn. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Khan called for nominations from the floor for the office of Secretary. There being none Messrs. Vajda and Quincy made a motion to close the nominations; seconded by Dr. Carter.

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Mr. Quincy made a motion to unanimously elected Mr. Thompson to the office of Secretary; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Khan called for nominations from the floor for the office of Treasurer, there being none Messrs. Quincy and Vajda made a motion to close the nominations; seconded by Mr. Alcorn.

Mr. Vajda made a motion to unanimously elect Mr. Gorham to the office of Treasurer; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Khan announced the Park Authority Board officers for 2017

Chairman: William G. Bouie
Vice Chairman: Mary Cortina
Secretary: Michael Thompson, Jr.
Treasurer: Linwood Gorham

Mr. Bouie thanked Mr. Quincy for his service as Vice Chair and stated that it is an honor and a privilege to serve as the Chairman.

Mr. Khan congratulated the newly elected officers and recognized Mr. Quincy's contribution and what he has done for the board, add that his service is very valuable.

To Mr. Bouie, Mr. Khan stated that going forward Mr. Bouie needs to make his job appear more difficult, and not so easy. He thanked Mr. Bouie for his service and looks forward to another year.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Michael Thompson, Jr., Secretary

[SIGNATURES CONTINUE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

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Minutes

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Minutes Approved at Meeting
on February 22, 2017

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

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