

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
February 22, 2017**

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
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
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Judy Pedersen, PIO
David Bowden
Todd Brown
Barbara Nugent
Cindy Walsh
Andi Dorlester
Samantha Hudson

Absent*

Guests:

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – February 8, 2017, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Thompson made a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 8, 2017, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Vajda. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Godbold was absent.

ACTION ITEMS

- A-1 Scope Approval – Lifecycle Replacement of Pool Filters and Elevators at Various RECenters
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve of the project scope for lifecycle replacement of pool filters and elevators at various RECenters; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Godbold was absent.
- A-2 Scope Approval – Great Falls Nike Park Rectangular Field #7 – Athletic Field Lighting and Synthetic Turf Installation Including Approval of the Contribution and Use Agreement (Dranesville District)

Mr. Hackman made a motion to approve of the project scope to design, permit, and install athletic field lighting and synthetic turf at Great Falls Nike Park Rectangular Field #7 and the Contribution and Use Agreement; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Godbold was absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

I-1 Telecommunications Facilities on Parkland Update

No action was necessary.

I-2 Quarterly Project Status Report

No action was necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie commented that he had received a number of calls inquiring whether the ballfields could open early and whether lights could be turned on at tennis courts, racquetball, and basketball courts.
- The county is in the middle of budget season and all of the Supervisors have budget meetings scheduled. Some of the Park Board members may have been invited to attend those meetings, but each Park Board members should try to attend these meetings.

He and another board member will provide testimony at the Board of Supervisors' Budget Hearings in April. It looks like Parks is in a pretty good position so it should thank the Board of Supervisors for what it has done for Parks.

On a sad note, Mr. Bouie informed the board that a friend from McLean, Dick Rosenbaum, died tragically on February 21. Mr. Rosenbaum was a longtime resident of McLean and president of the Reston Little League for a number of years. He had gone in for ankle surgery and went into cardiac arrest and was not able to recover. Mr. Bouie extended thoughts and prayers to the family on behalf of the Park Authority. Services will be held Friday, February 24, at 3 p.m. at the National Cathedral.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:

- Mr. Kincannon welcomed Sara Baldwin upon her return to the office and said that everyone is glad to have her back.

Mr. Kincannon thanked Aimee Vosper for helping to carry the load and the rest of the staff that stepped up and picked up the additional work.

- The first Park Operations Showcase was held on February 22 at the Laurel Hill/Lorton Nike Missile Site. He thanked Mr. Gorham for attending. In addition to approximately 100 Park Operations staff that participated in the effort staff from Resource Management, History, Golf Enterprises, Park Services, Planning and Development, Finance, and the Director's Office joined in the effort. The project was a huge success. He thanked Todd Brown and his team for putting that incredible effort together. It was quite an achievement to see what the site was a few weeks ago after years of degradation and neglect and then come in and after five or six hours seeing all of it taken care of.

He thanked all those that turned out to support the crews.

- Planning and Development and Resource Management staff won the Oar Award for their 100% staff response rate to the Fairfax First Culture Survey last month. Participating in the survey were, David Buchta, Liz Cronauer, Liz Crowell, Andi Dorlester, Andy Galusha, Gayle Hooper, Samantha Hudson, Lynne Johnson, Kirk Kincannon, Cindy McNeal, Dacthien Ngo, John Rutherford Kristen Sinclair, Ryan Stewart, and Samantha Wangsgard.

The survey was about how to improve and enhance our work culture to improve and to speed up the business process related to Planning and Development and site review.

Mr. Kincannon thanked everyone for their great effort. They have been 100% engaged in the process and they are the only staff across the county that is 100% engaged.

Hats off to the great leadership and team work.

BOARD MATTERS:

- Faisal Khan noted that following the election of officers on February 8, he thanked everyone, but had forgotten to thank Barbara Gorski for assisting with the process.

He welcomed Sara Baldwin back in the office.

- Mr. Quincy also welcomed Sara back.

He thanked Mr. Kincannon and Dave Bowden for the great briefing he received on the Scotts Run Metro Trail project. It's an intricate project involving several agencies and has a high interest factor particularly in the Providence District.

- Dr. Carter had no comments.
- Ms. Godbold was absent.

- Ms. Cortina, At-large, thanked Nick Duray and the team for putting together the fee proposal and seeing it go through.

She also thanked staff for the great presentations provided at the February 8 board meeting, as well as the presentation on Old Colchester presented during the Resource Management Committee meeting.

Ms. Cortina thanked Sara for returning.

- Mr. Thompson had no comments.
- Mr. Gorham, with regard to the cleanup project at the Laurel Hill/Lorton Nike Site, had one word, WOW! He wished everyone could have seen it. They would have a different vision of the Park Authority and just how strong it is; how big it is; how capable it is. Just to see all those people in one place bonding and working together – they transformed the Nike Missile Site from a Bradford Pear blob into a historic site in four hours. Two buildings were found that that were so overgrown that no one knew were still there.

This project was such a great idea. Everyone was there as a team. One could tell they were excited to be there. It was a positive event for them. Linwood has yet to get a straight story. Todd Brown says it was Mr. Kincannon's idea; Mr. Kincannon says it was Mr. Brown's idea; it was a great idea no matter whose idea it was. Mr. Gorham wished all the board members a big project in their respective districts in the future. It's not something that can be done too frequently but for a big project that needs to be taken care of.

He closed by expressing his appreciation to Messrs. Kincannon and Brown, and everyone that was at the Nike Missile Site.

- Mr. Alcorn had no comments.
- Mr. Vellucci reported that the drone policy that Bob Lamond developed has been passed to Mr. Kincannon and Ms. Vosper.

There is also a DC Drone users' group (DCDUG).

Mr. Vellucci and Ms. Godbold met with Judy Pedersen and Chrissy Mead on Thursday, February 16, to discuss the upcoming Awards Committee meeting and came up with some modifications to the Elly Doyle Awards nominations which should be distributed soon. They are hoping to standardize and make the nomination forms more consistent.

Mr. Vellucci thanked Messrs. Kincannon and Bowden for attending a land use meeting in Supervisor Cook's office on February 16. The board can be briefed in a closed session as to what is taking place.

Mr. Vellucci met with Andrew Roesell and Beverly Bradford on February 15 in the Herrity Building. Marie Reinsdorf also attended the meeting. Mr. Vellucci urged Mr. Roesell and Ms. Bradford to address the board and petition the board and staff with regard to the changes they would like see.

Mr. Roesell (a Springfield resident) noted that the public has no visibility into the FCPA land acquisitions. Mr. Roesell noted that the 2016 bond was set at \$15M for land acquisition and was reduced to \$7M; land is not getting any cheaper; there is less open space to buy. He also noted that the public can and will be a partner if the Park Authority allows them to do that. He also noted that the Park Foundation received about \$30K last year for open space acquisition but no one really knows where that money goes once they make a contribution to the Foundation. He feels that more citizens would contribute more if they knew where the money was going specifically. He identified several jurisdictions in New Jersey and Pennsylvania with advertised land acquisition plans that are in the public domain, at the parcel level, with estimated prices. Mr. Vellucci had some questions related to price inflation, but Mr. Roesell did not have the answer but promised to research it and get back to him.

Thanks to Mr. Kincannon, Mr. Vellucci also learned that Alexandria also has land acquisition plans in the public domain.

Mr. Vellucci believes that the request to have greater visibility into Parks land acquisitions probably has merit and is something Parks should look into. Mr. Vellucci feels that most of its acquisitions seem to be reactive and not necessarily proactive and that they may not be aligned with Parks' Strategic Plan. He offered it up to staff to look into this.

Ms. Bradford had a number of issues. She was a Fairfax County resident from 1989-2004 and currently lives in Loudoun County. She is still an FCPA volunteer at Turner Farm.

Mr. Vellucci also recommended that Ms. Bradford address the board with her issues. Some of the things she has issues with are:

- Public access to the Park Authority Board meetings.
- The distance from Dranesville to the Herrity Building.
- Access to the Herrity Building after 5 p.m.
- Three minutes for public comment is not enough. Tony agrees and suggested five minutes.
- Public comments are not included in the board minutes. Tony commented that there is no follow up mechanism in order to determine what appropriate action staff took and perhaps they could be addressed during Director's Matters.
- Digital capture of board and committee meetings. Committee meetings are not captured in minutes so they public has no knowledge of what was presented unless they were present.

- Board and Committee of the Whole meetings were not inclusive and there was no verbatim record available to the public
- Planning Commission meetings are held in the Board auditorium and are broadcast live on Channel 16 and recorded on DVDs and are available for review in the Planning Commission by appointment, but the PC uses the audio/visual equipment for use by the BOS.
- Wonders why no AV recording equipment is available in the boardroom.

Ms. Bradford may be presenting these to the board at a future date.

While the February 8 board meeting was not appropriate to address terms limits, Mr. Vellucci indicated that he would like to bring up a new business proposal at the next meeting and asked that it be placed on the agenda.

Mr. Bouie stated that it would go through the Administration and Board Management Committee.

Mr. Vellucci stated that he would learn Roberts Rules of Order so that he can bring up the item.

- Mr. Hackman said that you ever wanted to see a truly beautiful baby, you should ask to see a picture of Ms. Baldwin's new baby.

Additional kudos to Planning and Development. He thanked Andi Dorlester, who after presenting at the Park Board meeting on February 8, attended a very lengthy meeting of the Planning Commission regarding the Tysons Plan amendments. She held up the Park Authority flag very well and fielded all sorts of questions on Parks behalf. She did a marvelous job.

While Mr. Bouie has heard about turning on the lights at sites, Mr. Hackman has continuously heard from the Analemma Society about Dark Skies in the context of the Fairfax County Environmental Vision document.

- Mr. Vajda welcomed Sara back.

As everyone may have heard, there was a fire at Providence RECenter on February 16. Ms. Pedersen called Mr. Vajda around 9:30 that evening notifying him of the call she received from the Fire Department. He immediately called Supervisor Gross and they both had nightmare visions of the amphitheater fire.

As a testimony to staff, it was a fire at an external lighting fixture which did not immediately set off the alarm. Thursday evening is a late night at Providence RECenter and staff noticed

the smoke and immediately evacuated the facility. Staff was also responsible for alerting the Fire Department.

Apparently the birds had been building a nest and the lighting ignited the nesting materials which in turn started a fire in the insulation.

The Fire Department was able to get rid of most of the smoke and the RECenter was closed for one day, reopening on Saturday, February 18.

On a personal note, Mr. Vajda announced that this may be his last board meeting. As some may be aware, he and his wife have been hoping to move into a retirement facility. They are currently #3 on the wait list and thought they would have been moving much earlier. This is a testament to the fact that people are living longer.

He and Supervisor Gross have been looking for candidates and have found one. The plan is that Supervisor Gross will submit the candidate's name for approval at the February 28 Board of Supervisors' meeting. If approved, the Park Board will have a new Mason District representative. Mr. Vajda is willing to come to the March meeting as an observer and to welcome his replacement onboard.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

Minutes Approved at Meeting
on March 8, 2017

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant