

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
April 26, 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
Mary Cortina, Vice Chair
Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary
Linwood Gorham, Secretary
Walter Alcorn
Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter
Mary Cortina
Maggie Godbold*
Timothy Hackman
Ronald Kendall
Faisal Khan
Anthony J. Vellucci

Staff Present:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Judy Pedersen, PIO
David Bowden
Barbara Nugent
Cindy Walsh
Janet Burns
Isabel Villarroel
Steve Lewis
Nick Duray
John Berlin
Brian Laws

Absent*

Guests: Jeff Snoddy

Paul Brailsford, Sanath Kalidas, Bryan Slater, Brailsford & Dunlavey
Amado Fernandez, Hughes Group Architects.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker: Steve Beste

Topic: Online Planning Tool for Siting Dog Parks

CHANGE TO AGENDA

The Chairman announced that Information-1 Systemwide RECenter Sustainability Plan Update would be moved up in the agenda.

INFORMATION ITEM

I-1 Systemwide RECenter Sustainability Plan Update

The detailed assessment phase of the Systemwide RECenter Sustainability Plan which is concluding included:

- Synthetization of market analysis data to develop short- and long-term recommendations and outline program statements for each FCPA site.

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- Development of a comprehensive system-wide financial model that incorporates project-specific conceptual capital budgets. This model will also integrate membership and other revenues, as well as reliable operating costs, net operating income and debt considerations for each recreation center into detailed pro-formas.
- Identification and review of various funding opportunities with FCPA to finance proposed project(s).
- Reconciliation of desired program recommendations with the financial model to allow for informed decision-making by FCPA.

With the completion of the detailed assessment phase representatives from Brailsford & Dunlavey updated the Park Authority Board on the outcomes of this phase and the status of the plan.

[Mr. Khan left the meeting during the presentation at 8:03 p.m.]

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- ADMIN-1 Resolution Honoring Jeffrey Snoddy upon His Retirement from the Fairfax County Park Authority
Ms. Cortina made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Jeffrey Snoddy upon his retirement from the Fairfax County Park Authority; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Godbold and Mr. Khan were absent.
- ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes – April 12, 2017, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Thompson made a motion to adopt the minutes of the April 12, 2017, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Ms. Cortina. The motion failed with a vote of six to six. Messrs. Bouie, Thompson, Quincy, Gorham, Hackman, and Kendall voted AYE. Mr. Khan and Ms. Godbold were absent. Ms. Cortina, Dr. Carter, and Messrs. Alcorn and Vellucci abstained having missed the meeting on April 12.

ACTION ITEMS

- A-1 Great Falls Nike Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Great Falls Nike Soccer Club (Dranesville District)
Mr. Hackman made a motion to approve the Great Fall Nike Soccer Club Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program request in the amount of \$20,000 to convert field 7 to synthetic turf at Great Falls Nike Park; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Godbold and Mr. Khan were absent.
- A-2 Scope Approval – Twin Lakes Golf Course Lakes Course Bunker Renovations and Reallocation of Project Funding (Springfield District)

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the project scope for Twin Lakes Golf Course Lakes Course bunker renovations and reallocation of project funding; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Godbold and Mr. Khan were absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- I-2 E. C. Lawrence Park Draft Master Plan Revision for Public Comment (Sully District)
This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee, no action was required by the board.
- I-3 Update on Transportation and Stormwater Project Affecting Parkland
This item was reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee, no action was required by the board.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie commented that he was privileged to sit in earlier in the day as part of One Fairfax with the Urban Land Institute to talk about community outreach. This is a great program with regional leaders talking about various things to try to make us better as a community and to communicate with the community. He thanked Kirk Kincannon for his invitation to participate and Chairman Bulova's invitation as well.
- On Sunday, April 22, he had the opportunity to welcome Jeff and Charlie, our new draft horses at Frying Pan Farm Park. A wonderful time was had by all. We had lots of wagon rides and the park was full of activity as it always is. He thanked Judy Pedersen for putting it together noting that the weather had cooperated.
- He reported that the Board of Supervisors is just about completed with the budget markup and Parks has not been affected so far. Mr. Bouie reminded the Park Board to stay in touch with their Supervisors and to thank them for their support. He and Ms. Cortina spoke at the budget hearings and their remarks were well taken.
- Farmers' Markets open this week, so Mr. Bouie reminded everyone to get out and support their local farm market.
- Mr. Bouie announced that there is a children's citizenship ceremony scheduled for May 9 at Sully Historic Site at 10 a.m. that he participates in every year. He noted that Mr. Quincy is always there and encouraged everyone to come out. It is one of the greatest events that Parks hosts on an annual basis. The kids range in age from about five to 15. Their parents are there with pride.

- On Saturday, April 29, Mr. Bouie will attend the Mason District Little League Opening Day Ceremony at 8:30 a.m. Parks will have the opportunity to introduce its partnership with the Washington Nationals and the project at Mason District Park.
- Mr. Bouie reminded the board members to find out if they have any proffers and if they do, they should get with staff to use them. If they don't have limitations, use them as soon as possible.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

- Mr. Kincannon thanked Mr. Bouie for signing off on the significant proffers he recently approved totaling almost \$600,000.
- The Park Authority will receive four honors when the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) holds its annual awards ceremony in Canton, Ohio, on June 8, 2017.

The agency's Invasive Management Program, which strives to control non-native invasive plant species in county parkland, will receive a 2017 NACPRO Award in the Environmental/Conservation category. In the Planning Initiative category, the Park Authority will be honored for its Great Parks, Great Communities Long Range Park Plan and Needs Assessment.

Two individuals will also be honored by NACPRO. Sandy Stallman, who retired this year as a Planner III in the Planning & Development Division, has been selected as a recipient of a 2017 NACPRO Award in the Professional-Lifetime category. Norma Hoffman, a long-time volunteer and park advocate at Huntley Meadows Park, will be honored in the Outstanding Volunteer category.

- Despite a cool and rainy day the sixth annual Healthy Strides Community 5k/10k took place on Saturday, April 22, at Burke Lake Park. Nearly 250 runners and walkers finished the 5K, and 160 finished the 10K. AND...not only did Mr. Quincy run a great race . . . but he finished first in his age bracket!

Considering it was Earth Day, Healthy Strides prides itself on being green in everything from the locally made t-shirts, to the virtual race bag, to the recycling of event waste and goods. The running shoe recycling program was a success and gently used shoes will be donated to someone in need; badly worn shoes will be ground up and find new life as surfacing materials for athletic and playground surfaces for underprivileged children. Additionally, a portion of the proceeds from the race will go toward helping homeless children attend our summer camps (PACT). Forty-one runners made separate donations totaling \$245 to the PACT program.

Healthy Strides is a Take 12 Steps for Health event, in partnership with Fairfax County Park Foundation, and sponsored by Giant, Cigna, Inova, VA Pediatric Group, Walmart, and Whole Foods Market. Race refreshments were provided by Trader Joe's and Vend Natural (our new Healthy Vending vendor). Stretching and warm up area provided by Inova Physical Therapy.

- The 11th annual Culmore Multicultural Day was hosted on Saturday, April 22, nestled between the Bailey's Library and Bailey's Elementary School. Over 250 community members came out during the rain to enjoy all the offerings by more than two dozen vendors of local services. Unfortunately, the performances were cancelled due to the wet conditions on the stage. This has become a signature event hosted by the Fairfax County Park Authority and enjoyed by thousands over the past decade. Community providers were able to showcase the programs and services they provide and also enjoyed a wide range of music depicting various genres of music.

Supervisor Penny Gross and Park Authority Board member Mr. Kendall opened up the event with kind words and messages for everyone to have a good time and enjoy all benefits that were being presented for everyone today.

- Once again the Park Authority will partner with Clean Fairfax to host Fairfax County's Earth and Arbor Day celebration on Saturday, April 29, from 10-4. We are delighted to host this year's event at Sully Historic Site. A wide range of hands-on activities and games highlight some of the most interesting aspects of our environment and healthy-living here in Fairfax County. This year's performers include Billy B., and The Recycling Pirates Puppet show. See live animals, participate in an environmental scavenger hunt, race through obstacle courses and even touch a truck.

Mr. Kincannon invited everyone to join us at 10:30 a.m. for poetry readings, as the Park Authority's Children's Poetry Contest winners present their written works.

The event is sponsored by the Fairfax County Park Foundation.

BOARD MATTERS:

- Mr. Khan was not present.
- Mr. Quincy commended Park Authority staff on how well they ran the Healthy Strides event at Burke Lake Park, it was flawless even though the weather was questionable.

A very successful egg hunt was held at Nottoway Park on Saturday, April 15. Mr. Quincy thanked Ms. Longworth and Mr. Brooks from the Park Foundation Board for their participation.

- Dr. Carter had nothing to report.
- Ms. Godbold was absent.
- Ms. Cortina remarked that during the Board of Supervisors' Budget Hearings she asked them to help Parks with their environmental vision for the 17,000 natural acres that Parks is not managing to best practices currently because of the resource challenges. She also asked them for their support, as Parks is challenged to meet the promise of One Fairfax because of its financial structure of covering all the operating costs for recreation which makes it very difficult. With the 275th anniversary coming up she reminded the Board of Supervisors that we need a dedicated repository for our artifacts and that Parks looks forward to the discussion of that topic.

Ms. Cortina had the pleasure of going to Hidden Oaks to see the Nature Playce natural playground and encouraged everyone to take the time to visit the site as it's a great place for kids to get out and run in the dirt. It's a different kind of playground concept.

The highlight of her week was attending the Green Spring Gardens' volunteer lunch with Mr. Kendall. She remembered when there was nothing there but the house. There are so many volunteers that have given 25, 20, or 15 years. They give 700-800 hours a year.

The following is a list of those volunteers that were recognized:

25 years

Fran Watkins '92
Ernie Watkins '92

15-years

Ivy Sinaiko '01
Lynn Murray '01
Diane Runnels '02

20-years

Joyce Kinnecom '96
Johanna Zinn '97
Margaret Shutler '97

10-years

Ardella Guth '06
Paul Berger '06
Mary Alice Huybrechts '07
Joanne Williams '07
Sarah Psitos '07

- Mr. Thompson thanked staff for the community meeting regarding Lake Accotink Park. While he could only stay for the first hour, it went very well and he appreciates the heavy activity with the community.

He called attention to an article that appeared in the Washington Business Journal on Wednesday, April 26, about the new aquatic center that Arlington is going to build. It is a \$64M aquatic center. Those are the kinds of things that Parks is somewhat competing with and some of the other things other jurisdictions are doing.

For Mr. Bowden's attention, Mr. Thompson commented that the board had approved a Mastenbrook Grant earlier in the evening at Great Falls Nike Park for a new turf field. If recalled, two weeks ago at a Park Operations Committee meeting it was noted that they are going to use a new synthetic turf, cool turf which potentially reduces the surface by 35 degrees. Schools has actually purchased the stuff that actually lets you measure the temperature of the surface and has offered to measure on a regular basis once the field is built so we can make a smart assessment long-term on the real impact of the cool turf and decisions that might be made for what Parks is doing.

Mr. Thompson pointed out that if anyone is interested in seeing a really cool project they should go out and see the driving range at Burke Lake Golf Course. It not only looks good, but is proving to be a nice revenue draw.

A study came out of Australia at the end of last year that looked at kids and youth sports. One of the things it found was that proactively participating in team sports helped mental health tremendously. The kids who could not participate saw a dramatic change. Mr. Thompson recommended that one of the things Parks should be thinking about long-term is the group of kids that are not served very well and are very difficult for the youth organizations to serve. That is, kids who get kicked out because of their mental state. Maybe they get angry and hit another player. Most youth organizations would not allow them to participate anymore. Those are the kinds of kids that can be helped. He does not know if Parks has a way to solve that, but it is a part of the community that Parks should be thinking about and how to address those needs in a proactive way if at all possible.

Mr. Bouie noted that in Reston they are trying to figure out a way to put middle school sports back in the middle schools in Reston. Mr. Thompson noted that he is personally working with NCS that he may even fund out of his pocket the referees to bring back some of the anti-gang programs.

- Mr. Gorham had nothing to report.
- Mr. Alcorn stated that on land use engagement ULI found him as well. The Land Use Engagement Council that he is chairing wanted to do a shout out to Parks' staff. Samantha Hudson helped facilitate one of the break out groups at one of its meetings. She had the toughest breakout group and did a great job. Mr. Alcorn thanked Samantha Hudson for her work.
- Mr. Vellucci referred to Mr. Thompson's comments about the Cultural and Natural Resources workshop for Lake Accotink Park on Monday, April 23. He thanked Gayle Hooper and the three presenters who had an incredible amount of information, Kristen Sinclair, John Rutherford, and Danielle Wynne from DPWES.

Mr. Vellucci thanked Steve Beste for providing information on dog parks during the public comment period. It is an incredible tool and one of the things Tony thinks is interesting is

the Steve Bestes and the Bob Lamonds have an incredible amount of experience and Parks needs to do a much better job of leveraging the experiences of its patrons and its residents because they are force multipliers for the Park Authority. Especially as Parks has less and less people as the Jeff Snoddys of the world who have that institutional knowledge.

Mr. Vellucci asked if there had been any progress on the drone policy. Mr. Kincannon indicated that he will check and get back to Tony.

Mr. Thompson indicated that he had a meeting with the county's sports marketing committee which he serves on and the new manager of Eagle Bank formerly the Patriot Center. They are actually getting a lot of phone calls from people that want to do drone racing inside their facility. There is a growing popularity for using run down shopping malls. The committee is proactively trying to figure out how to address this issue.

Mr. Vellucci inquired about the DPWES and Park Authority MOU and where it stands. Mr. Kincannon advised Mr. Vellucci that it is under the County Executive. He indicated that he and Mr. Bowden met with the Board of Supervisors about four weeks ago with the other partners and it is beyond the Park Authority and DPWES. It involves the Redevelopment and Housing Authority, Transportation, and FMD. It's a much broader scope now because they all do so many more things.

Mr. Vellucci had received notes from a couple of constituents which he passed along to Park Authority staff which he knows they are looking at now about photography fees.

- Mr. Hackman suggested that they use the equestrian facility at Frying Pan Farm Park for drone racing. Mr. Thompson noted that he and Todd Brown had a recent discussion about that. Mr. Kincannon added that Barbara Nugent and her staff are looking at South Run and they are looking at Frying Pan Farm Park.

On May 9 the Great Falls Citizens Association is having a focus on local parks. Speakers are going to be there from Colvin Run and from Riverbend Park. They will be talking more generally about FCPA and other local activities and opportunities.

Mr. Hackman extended thanks to Cindy Walsh and Dave Buchta for attending a meeting on April 25 with the Friends of Colvin Run on their visions for the future.

Before the board members go to SpringFest at Sully Historic Site on Saturday, April 29, they can stop by the Friends of Riverbend Park Native Plant Sale behind the Grange from 8-11 a.m., or until the plants sell out.

Just a thought--Jeff Snoddy talked about the memories generated as a camper. A penny for your parks, a penny for your memories. The same kind of thing.

On Saturday, April 22, thanks to Judy Pedersen and Dave Bowden and many others, Parks celebrated the LEED Silver designation award at Spring Hill RECenter for the addition

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which included an elevated track and fitness center, etc. Twenty-seven percent less energy than a conventional addition; 25% of the waste was actually recycled. It's a very impressive story. Mr. Hackman thanked everyone that put that together.

- Mr. Kendall stated that as Mr. Kincannon mentioned, Culmore Multicultural Day was held on Saturday, April 22, in the rain with 250 folks. It's of note to mention that that is a \$0 investment. Everyone at the event was not getting paid and was there as a volunteer or showing up on their own dime. The Firefighters and Sheriff's office, and Police office were there along with several groups, even in the rain. Mr. Kendall requested that everyone put that event on their calendar for next year.

Mr. Kendall provided the remarks at the Green Spring Gardens volunteer reception. It went very well and people were very appreciative. They allowed him to make his remarks without any catcalls or boos. They are doing a great job there. He is hopeful that he can talk some of them into expanding energies over to the John C. and Margaret White Gardens once that gets going.

He thanked Mr. Kincannon and all of his staff for helping him Monday to see the light at the end of the tunnel of understanding how Fairfax County Park Authority operates. They spent four hours grinding through the policies and the manual. Mr. Kincannon supplied him with a thumb drive so he didn't have to carry 10 pounds of paper. (Mr. Kincannon noted 'technological improvements'.)

Ms. Cortina asked if she could turn in her binder for a thumb drive.

Pinecrest Golf Course is going to be hosting the qualifying rounds for FootGolf which will take place on June 10.

Green Springs will hold its annual plant sale on May 20. If anyone would like any non-invasive species, please stop by and tell them that's what you are looking for.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

[SIGNATURES CONTINUE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

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Minutes Approved at Meeting
on May 10, 2017

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

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