

**Fairfax County Park Authority  
Board Meeting  
November 15, 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, Treasurer  
Walter Alcorn  
Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter  
Maggie Godbold  
Timothy Hackman  
Ronald Kendall  
Faisal Khan  
Ken Quincy  
Kiel Stone\*

**Staff Present:**

Sara Baldwin, Acting Executive Director  
Cindy Walsh, Acting Deputy Director/COO  
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD  
Barbara Gorski  
Judy Pedersen, PIO  
David Bowden  
Todd Johnson  
Barbara Nugent  
Cindy Walsh  
Janet Burns  
Cindy McNeal  
Laura Finks  
Chrissy Mead

**Absent\***

**Guests:** Corrine Luckett, County Attorneys' Office

**AGENDA CHANGE**

Chairman Bouie announced that the Presentation by Cherry Bekaert has been deferred to December 13. A legal matter has been added to the Closed Session items.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Speaker:**

Chris Aiello  
Lisa Namerow  
Len Forkas

**Topic:**

Opposition to Milestone cell tower at Fred Crabtree Park  
Opposition to Milestone cell tower at Fred Crabtree Park  
Milestone Communications cell tower at Fred Crabtree Park

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – October 25, 2017, Park Authority Board Meeting  
Mr. Thompson made a motion to adopt the minutes of the October 25, 2017, Park Authority board meeting; seconded by Mr. Quincy.

**APPROVED AND SIGNED DECEMBER 13, 2017**

Ms. Cortina requested that the minutes be amended by deleting ‘and it was approved’ from the second sentence in her Board Matters. The sentence would read, “This was the second meeting to go over the contract line by line.”

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the amended minutes; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried; Ms. Godbold abstained and Mr. Stone was absent.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- A-1 Approval of Annual Review and Distribution of Telecommunications Revenues  
Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the telecommunications funded projects. Twenty percent, excluding Mason District, for the Natural Resource Management Plan and Cultural Resource Management Plan projects and the remaining 80% of telecommunications revenue will be used for project within the district. One hundred percent of Mason District telecommunications revenues to be used for Mason District Park projects; seconded by Ms. Cortina and Mr. Quincy. The motion carried by all members present; Mr. Stone was absent.
- A-2 Approval of Horsepen Run Stream Valley Land Dedication Request – RZ/FDP 2017-MD-027 – Horsepen Run, LLC (Sully and Dranesville Districts)  
Ms. Godbold and Mr. Hackman made a motion to approve the staff recommendation for a dedication of approximately 35 acres of land to the Park Authority as part of the rezoning application RZ/FDP 2017-MD-027 – Horsepen Run, LLC; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present; Mr. Stone was absent.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- I-1 Planning and Development Division’s Quarterly Project Status Report  
No action was necessary.
- I-2 Cultural Resource Management Plan FY 2017 Accomplishments and FY 2018 Implementation Plan  
No action was necessary.
- I-3 Natural Resource Management Plan – FY 2017 Accomplishments and FY 2018 Implementation Plan  
No action was necessary.

### **CHAIRMAN’S MATTERS**

- Mr. Bouie congratulated Pat Harrison on her retirement from the county. Pat has worked with Parks in a number of instances primarily for her work with the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), creating NCS and making it what it is today.

Mr. Thompson will be attending the Athletic Council meeting later in the evening and will make a presentation to her.

- Mr. Bouie extended congratulation to Patti Stevens for her leadership award. She is the director of the Office of Public-Private Partnerships (OP3). Mr. Bouie mentioned this because she announced in her speech that she is the pickleball queen. Parks is looking forward to taking advantage of her partnerships to make sure that Parks gives her the opportunity to expand the pickleball community in and around Fairfax County.
- Mr. Bouie said that he is looking forward to the Elly Doyle Awards Recognition on Friday, November 17. Ms. Godbold will serve as the master of ceremonies.
- The Burke Lake Golf Clubhouse ribbon cutting will take place on December 2 at 3 p.m.
- Mr. Bouie announced that he has another conflict of interest—one with the Houston Astros who are the World Series champs. Reed Ryan, the president, and his dad, Nolan Ryan, are good personal friends and today he received some swag. He received a hologram of Justin Verlander's MVP for the ALCS. Mr. Bouie said that he would declare that item.
- He concluded by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, reminding everyone to be safe, eat well, and return.

#### **DIRECTOR'S MATTERS**

- The Friends of Clemyjontri and the Park Foundation have joined forces and are purchasing a new trackless train dedicated solely to Clemyjontri. The Friends of Clemyjontri are contributing more than \$28,000 toward the purchase. A special ribbon-cutting for this special train will be hosted on March 31 and more details to follow.
- Winter Wonderland is the next large special event hosted by **Burke Lake Park** and this year it features two full weekends of fun and fantasy for young children. Hot chocolate, hayrides, arts and crafts, and even a visit from jolly St. Nick will provide families with hours of good times.
- The Ghost train earned more than \$14,000 in a revenue share with Northern Virginia Community College. This popular event is staffed mostly by volunteers who are potentially pursuing higher education in recreation, parks, or tourism.
- First Hike Fairfax – Healthy Steps for a Happy New Year will once again be hosted on Sunday, January 1, 2018. This continues the tradition to follow TAKE 12! Steps for Family Health in 2018. This self-directed activity at five popular family-friendly trails, encourages everyone to get and be active, and to start the New Year off on the right foot and the left foot.

Hikers are welcome to photograph their favorite parts of the vast trail network and upload them to our website. The winners in each hike location will receive a RECenter pass along with an invitation to take the Take 12! Pledge. The best photos are selected by staff and posted on the Park Authority's social media platforms.

- In an effort to develop a plan to further engage the community in maintaining Fairfax County Parks, Fairfax County Park Authority joined with members of the community, Park Authority Board Members and staff, and multiple volunteer groups on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> to help improve two local parks, **Backlick Park and Spring Lane Park**. The volunteer groups included students from Shenandoah University, the Lions Club, and community homeowner's association members. Approximately 50 volunteers combined with Park Authority Board Members and staff accomplished tasks such as mulching, weeding, cleaning, trash collection, painting and tree trimming. With a successful Park Cleanup Blitz kickoff this fall, we are excited to plan future park clean ups for spring 2018. Special thanks to Board Member Ron Kendall for his support and participation in the park clean-up blitzes.

## **BOARD MATTERS**

- Ms. Cortina announced that she understands that her name will be put forward by the Board of Supervisor to serve on the Planning Commission filling the seat recently vacated by former Park Board member Jan Hedetniemi. Ms. Cortina stated that she will resign from the Park Authority Board effective Monday, November 20, 2017. She is waiting until Monday because she wants to attend the Elly Doyle Awards Ceremony. She commented that she is amazed what the volunteers do for this park system and for the county and its residents. They are truly awe inspiring and she wouldn't miss the opportunity to miss the awards reception.

She stated that it has been a sincere pleasure to serve the residents of Fairfax County on the Park Board and hopes that her contributions have a lasting and positive impact on the park system. Mary again said that the volunteers are phenomenal, which includes the Park Board. Staff throughout the organization are exceptionally dedicated. It has been an honor to work alongside all to further the mission of the Park Authority.

Ms. Cortina added that the Board members will be missed as well as the people of the Park Authority. As everyone knows she enjoys spending a lot of time in parks which significantly impact their quality of life for her and her family. They will continue to be out watching wildlife at Huntley Meadows; hiking along the Potomac at Riverbend and Scotts Run Parks; camping at Lake Fairfax with certain Boy Scouts; swimming at the Water Mine; attending the summer camps that her family has enjoyed for many years; fishing at Burke Lake; mountain biking in the parks, and gardening at Pine Ridge Park; going to the Farmers' Market; listening to music at Mason District Park and many of the other parks. It really is a major quality of life issue for residents especially for herself and the family. She thanked

everyone for making this a wonderful opportunity and she really likes servings. Ms. Cortina concluded by stating that she wished everyone well.

- Mr. Khan congratulated Ms. Cortina, also known as Lady Fairfax, and wished her good luck in her future endeavors. He added that hopefully Parks will have another friend on the Planning Commission.
- Mr. Quincy stated that to say Ms. Cortina will be missed is an understatement. He added that she has been a jewel on this board and that he is truly sincere. He wished her the very best and told her not to forget Parks.

Mr. Quincy thanked staff for reaching out to the Volunteer Teams. There has been a lot of effort reaching out to the Friends Groups and now the Volunteer Teams have been brought into the fold. He noted that he has received comments of appreciation from those folks.

Mr. Quincy reported that there is a sizeable project being undertaken by Dominion Energy to provide power from the Idylwood station to service Tysons. And Tysons needs a lot of power. Ken was appointed to serve on a focus group that was comprised of community individuals as well as certain agency individuals. A Park Authority staffer also serves on the focus group. The group covered what would be realistic, plausible avenues for this power to go. They are looking at impacts to parks, roads, residences among other things. The group looked at a number of parks that could be impacted and there were numerous alternative routes being proposed. It has pretty much been narrowed down. Staff has prepared a response to Dominion about the concerns from the Park Authority. As this moves toward the final phases he will make sure the board is briefed on how this affects parks.

- Dr. Carter said that the board will miss Ms. Cortina greatly and wished her all the best in her new assignment.
- Ms. Godbold stated that she will really miss Ms. Cortina. Ms. Cortina has taken her under her wings to get her started and oriented, and has always pointed her toward things she should be doing and doesn't. Ms. Godbold is glad that Ms. Cortina will be on the Planning Commission. Parks can use a friend there, but she will be missed.

Ms. Godbold remarked that it is great to be back from her recent trip. One of the things that was so gratifying is that as she introduced herself to the folks that were all very much interested in nature, and she talked about the favorite thing that she does which is to be on the Park Board and described the parks in Fairfax County. Most of them were just amazed at what Parks has. She said that we should never forget how special this is because a lot of people in this country do not have these.

- Mr. Kendall congratulated Ms. Cortina and said he will miss her, but will be seeing her at Pine Ridge Park.

He extended kudos to the Area 2 managers and staff as well as the Mobile Crew. He had to admit he knew we had the equipment but he had not seen it; he was impressed. The neighbors were also impressed.

Mr. Kendall also thanked the Mobile Crew for getting out on Tuesday, November 14, for the cleanup of the garden plot materials. It was a pretty quick process. He would like Parks to consider looking at other places in the Mason District to expand the garden plot program. He believes there is a waiting list of nearly 500 people. As long as Parks can find the staff to cover the ground he thinks places could be found for garden plots.

Mr. Kendall announced that the monopole money will be able to fund the summer concert series in Mason District next year. Those funds will also help with other things around the park that are not concert related which are focused on helping people get into the park and having a good time while there.

The Pudge Rodriguez field was used on November 4 and 5 for a U-11 tournament, which was a sponsored tournament that came into our area.

- Mr. Hackman congratulated Ms. Cortina on the appointment that is well-deserve. He is certain of the wisdom of the Board of Supervisors to appoint her that position. Ms. Cortina was a mentor to him and helped get him up to speed and guide him through the policy manual, etc. He thanked her for that and for all she has done for Parks.

Mr. Hackman and Todd Brown had the pleasure of being in Great Fall at the Grange at a retirement party for Gary Eisner. Gary was the head of the maintenance crew at Riverbend Park and started working at Riverbend spending his whole career there. Mr. Eisner was one of the few employees to get a plaque. He began working there when he was 16 and didn't have a driver's license. His mother would drive him to the park to go to work. He worked for the Park Authority for over 36 years. It's a wonderful thing he has done, not only as a maintenance person, but as a naturalist he is very knowledgeable about the flora and fauna at Riverbend. Mr. Hackman wished Mr. Eisner the very best. As a side note, Mr. Eisner's position was one a number of years ago that was on the chopping block because of the budget restrictions. We were fortunate to have gotten through that crisis and to keep such a stellar employee.

Mr. Hackman also thanked Andi Dorlester for her job Monday, November 13, at the McLean Citizens' Association Tysons update. Ms. Dorlester did the Park portion of that presentation and did a marvelous job. Overall it was a great meeting that was well attended.

Transportation, Community Relations, and the Park Authority were all there. With regard to parks, the MCA is concerned about the Tysons fields and the number amount would them to be a higher percentage so the fields remain for Tysons use. Another concern that came up

that night was the dollar amount that is used for proffers for parks and public facilities. The monetary contribution based on the cost of land plus facility is currently set at \$2.38 sq. ft. Gross Floor Area. That fee will be looked at later this year. That is sort of free money for all of us. The last time it was changed was 2015, we should look at it annually given the rising land values at Tysons.

- Mr. Alcorn told Ms. Cortina that when she is on the Planning Commission and the clock goes after midnight and the chairman asks for the next speaker and the meeting goes into the next morning . . . he said he was just warning her.

Mr. Alcorn said that Ms. Cortina will definitely bring to the Planning Commission an environmental ethic and sensibility.

He thanked her for her service.

- Mr. Gorham agreed that Ms. Cortina will offer a lot on the environmental perspective. He wished her good luck on the Planning Commission and said that she would be missed.
- Mr. Thompson congratulated Pat Harrison who has done so much for the county, for the Athletic Council, for NCS, and for her support of so many of the programs that Parks has done.

The Sports Tourism Task Force met earlier in the day. The process continues to move forward to leverage what we have in the county but also to examine what we need in the county to continue to grow our sports tourism base.

The Winter Wonderland event is at Burke Lake, which is another reason why Burke Lake is the best lake front park in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Thompson also noted that when one comes to the ribbon cutting for the new clubhouse at the golf course, you can go down to the next entrance and enjoy the Winter Wonderland. He encouraged everyone to schedule some extra time at Burke Lake Park.

Mr. Thompson announced that he would be late, or would miss the Elly Doyle Awards Ceremony because he is, once again, attending dress rehearsal for the Nutcracker which will be presented by the Burke Centre Ballet on Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 19.

Mr. Thompson thanked Ms. Cortina. He commented that some people laugh how he and Mary squabble like brother and sister in terms of the process. She has a unique insight and can sense when things don't make sense. In the process of asking questions, it makes all of us better, makes staff better, and makes the Park Authority better. Ms. Cortina is also one of those people that has never hesitated to let us know what she is thinking, in a good way. It is his hope that the Planning Commission will get that same impact and that same help that

Parks has gotten. He often receives phone calls from her after the board meetings he hopes that after the chairman welcomes the speaker and says 'good morning' at the Planning Commission that on her way home she doesn't call him because he will be fast asleep.

He closed by thanking Ms. Cortina for all that she has done.

- Mr. Bouie said that the minutes should reflect that the best lake front park is Lake Fairfax.

He told Ms. Cortina it has been a pleasure and their relationship will continue. He will miss their Wednesday afternoon catch up calls. The day of a board meetings he and Ms. Cortina talk usually for an extended period of time, for 45 minutes or so, to go over things. She gives a whole new perspective to things. Mr. Bouiw said that he will miss that, but they can talk about other things, so she should feel free to call at any time.

At the tenth anniversary for Public Art Reston last week at the Aperture, which is a beautiful new facility in Reston, a friend of Mr. Bouie brought by a lady and asked her if she had ever met him. She said that she had not, so he introduced himself and she introduced herself stating that she was Ken Lawrence's daughter. Mr. Bouie said that he still has hug marks around him from the hugs he received from her family in appreciation for naming the park in honor of Ken Lawrence. She told Mr. Bouie that she and her mom drive past the park twice a week just to see his name.

Mr. Khan left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 8:17 p.m. Mr. Thompson made a motion to convene in closed session for

- a) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(3).
- b) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, and consultation with legal counsel regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (7).

Seconded by Mr. Quincy and approved by all members present, Messrs. Stone and Khan were absent.

Mr. Thompson left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.



**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

Mr. Gorham 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; seconded by and approved by all members present. Messrs. Stone, Khan, and Thompson were absent.

**ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION**

C-1 Addition of Properties Located in the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts to the Workplan  
Mr. Gorham made a motion to add the properties located in the Mount Vernon and Lee Districts to the workplan; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried; Messrs. Stone, Khan, and Thompson were absent.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

Minutes Approved at Meeting  
on December 13, 2017

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Sara Baldwin, Acting Executive Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

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Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant