



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



B O A R D A G E N D A

January 8, 2020

7:30 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

(CW) ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – December 11, 2019, Park Authority Board Meeting

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS
DIRECTOR'S MATTERS
BOARD MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT



If ADA accommodations are needed, please call (703) 324-8563. TTY (703) 803-3354

Board Agenda Item
January 8, 2020

ADMINISTRATIVE – 1

Adoption of Minutes – December 11, 2019, Park Authority Board Meeting

ISSUE:

Adoption of the minutes of the December 11, 2019, Park Authority Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Acting Executive Director recommends adoption of the minutes of the December 11, 2019, Park Authority Board meeting.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on January 8, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Minutes of the December 11, 2019, Park Authority Board Meeting

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
December 12, 2019**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:35 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
Linwood Gorham, Treasurer
Abena A. Aidoo, Ph.D.*
Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter
Maggie Godbold
Timothy Hackman
Ronald Kendall
Faisal Khan
Kiel Stone
James Zook

Staff Present:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Barbara Gorski
David Bowden
Judy Pedersen
Cindy Walsh

Absent*

PUBLIC COMMENT

SPEAKER: Waka J. Mahoney
Mr. Sachin

SUBJECT: Public Archery Range
Public Archery Range

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – November 13, 2019, Park Authority Board Meeting
Dr. Carter and Mr. Quincy made a motion to adopt the minutes of the November 13, 2019, Park Authority board meeting; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present; Dr. Aidoo was absent.

ACTION ITEMS

A-1 Approval – Ellanor C. Lawrence Trust Spending Plan – Funding for Natural and Cultural Based Projects at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park
Ms. Godbold made a motion to approval of FY20 and FY21 Ellanor C. Lawrence Trust spending plan to be funded by the Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Trust; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present; Dr. Aidoo was absent.

- A-2 Approval to Advertise Proposed Fee Adjustments and Date of Public Comment Meeting
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the advertisement of both the proposed fee changes and notification of the January 15, 2020, public comment meeting concerning the proposed fee changes; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present; Dr. Aidoo was absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- I-1 McLean Project for the Arts at Clemyjontri Park (Dranesville District)
No action was necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie noted that Parks has had plenty of opportunities to say multiple good-byes to the members of the Board of Supervisors who are leaving.

It was great to have so many staff and board members at the Board of Supervisors' meeting on December 3 when Parks was presented with another plaque for winning another national Gold Medal.

Mr. commented that this event followed the very successful Elly Doyle Awards which was Parks' biggest event ever. People continue to talk about it and are saying great things. He thanked Judy Pedersen and her team for putting the event together. It was tremendous and all the Supervisors that were honored that evening were blown away by the fact that Parks took the time to recognize their support and achievements during their time in office.

- Monday, December 6, is the inauguration ceremony for the newly elected Supervisors. The ceremony will be held from 4-6 p.m. Everyone has been invited to attend.
- The Park Board and Foundation Board holiday reception held on December 6 at Twin Lakes was tremendous. He stated that it was great to see the board members and their significant others. He was sorry for those that couldn't make it but a good time was had by all. He hopes that it was the beginning of a beautiful holiday and nice Christmas.
- Mr. Bouie announced that Mr. Khan will be contacting each of the board members as Chair of the Nominating Committee regarding the election of officers on January 22.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

- Mr. Kincannon welcomed and introduced John Burke, formerly of DPWES, who is going to lead the Natural Resources Branch. John is committed to natural resources management in the Northern Virginia area and throughout the U.S. He began his career as a volunteer coordinator and naturalist at nature centers in Northern Virginia where he organized invasive

plant removals, developed interpretive programs, and assisted with natural resource inventories in those parks.

Most recently in Fairfax County he has led coordination efforts to mitigate pollution generated from county facilities and conducted water-quality monitoring to assess the impacts of urbanization on landscape and the counties aquatic habitats.

Mr. Kincannon congratulated Mr. Burke and thanked him for coming to the board meeting.

- The Park Authority currently owns and operates 11 dog parks and has received an abundance of questions and commentary over the past years related to the operation and expansion of dog parks within the county. This public interest led to the formation of the “Dog Park Study.”

A multi-divisional project team was formed to determine the scope of the study. The team identified the following focus areas to be addressed by the study:

- Off Leash Dog Area (OLDA) countywide need and accessibility
- Strategies for long term planning, development and management of OLDAs
- Design standards and site placement guidelines
- Maintenance and operations best practices
- Rules and etiquette
- Sponsorship and volunteer group opportunities

A combination of benchmarking, spatial analysis, public outreach, and other in-house expertise is being used to inform these key study focus areas. As part of this study, a comprehensive online survey was published in November using the newly acquired Publicinput.com platform. To date, we have received 4,539 responses. The survey poses questions centered around OLDA accessibility, amenities, design, and maintenance/operational concerns.

The survey was advertised through postcard mailers, county webpages, social media, and dog-focused events. The amount and quality of public feedback acquired by the survey has been an immense success and will provide invaluable data for the study deliverables moving forward.

The public survey is scheduled to close December 15, 2019. The results and methodology of the study will be published as part of a report which will include county-wide need, updated OLDA standards and guidelines, maintenance and operations best practices, revised rules and etiquette, and sponsorship/volunteer opportunities. The draft report is anticipated to be published for public comment in June 2020 with PAB report consideration anticipated in September 2020.

BOARD MATTERS

- Mr. Kendall wished everyone Happy Holidays and hopefully a peaceful transition into the New Year.
- Mr. Hackman reported that he has an occasion to walk a DPWES and Park Authority reforestation project in Churchill Park and it was just marvelous. They did a super job there. It was sort of an experimental project trying out different patterns to see what works best. He thanked Meghan Fellows and all those at DPWES for doing that.

He and Kirk Kincannon attended Mike Henry's retirement party at Colvin Run Mill with about 70 other well-wishers on December 10. There was a cake which had the mill from the wheel side depicted on it. Mr. Hackman took the opportunity to read the resolution that the Park Board adopted on November 13.

Mr. Hackman extended best wishes for a wonderful holiday to everyone.

- Mr. Stone stated that he and Mr. Bouie had a conversation following the Elly Doyle Award ceremony. He has attended two and the winners seemed to be fairly old and very white. While he doesn't believe that it is a reflection of the selection committee but rather has something to do with who is volunteering and actually using the parks which makes him a little concerned for long term support of the parks in Fairfax County with demographics changing. He doesn't have an idea of what to do with that information but he has recognized this twice and it is something that Parks needs to pay a little more attention to.

Mr. Bouie indicated that that was part of the initiation of the conversation during the committee meetings as we make decisions about new parks, new offerings, to try to train ourselves to look at it through an equity lense. Once Parks gets some acceptance of those new facilities and things because people recreate and use parks in different ways today. Once Parks gets a little establishment of that and gets a little more depth then it will see more participation. It's hard when Parks continues to recognize what it is used to. He thanked Mr. Stone for bringing it up. This is something everyone is aware of and sensitive to and will work on going forward.

- Mr. Gorham commented that the board has been to some pretty elaborate and delightful activities in the last month and somebody whose fingerprints are clearly all over all of them is Judy Pedersen. He thanked Judy and her team for all their hard work.

He wished everyone a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year.

- Mr. Thompson also thanked Judy Pedersen and her team for the party, knowing all the efforts that goes into it.

He commented that while Parks is thinking about the bond it needs to get its arms around of the Needs Assessment and the ongoing process. The last time Parks went through the process One Fairfax was not even a consideration. Parks needs to think about what its does in between those ten-year marks and how it moves forward. It is becoming abundantly clear that it needs to think about what kind of facilities it needs. Pickleball wasn't even brought up during the process and it has been growing. As things move quickly on so many different fronts Parks needs to figure out how to integrate those things.

He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Bouie suggested that Parks should go along two tracks and the board has had a number of conversations. Ten years is great for a capital building plan but is unrealistic for a Needs Assessment. He believes the Needs Assessment should be cut down to five years, but it must be able to be in a position at three years to make an assessment that is going to make a change in five years or less. Parks needs to start looking at that because everything that it does changes exponentially faster today than it ever has because of technology and needs. Parks needs to be cognizant of that and at the same time being responsible for making decisions.

- Mr. Quincy added that the demographics of Fairfax County are changing rapidly. Parks needs to be ready to address those changes and provide the facilities that are in demand. Percentage wise seniors are the fastest growing population in Fairfax County, but there are other demographic segments that are growing quite fast. Parks needs to be more responsive.

He acknowledged that Parks has had a very successful year adding that everyone including staff should pat themselves on the back having done a great job—especially budget-wise.

He thanked the Gold Medal staff and board for all their participation and wished them the best over the holidays and looks forward to another Gold Medal year in 2020.

- Ms. Godbold stated that it was a really good year and Parks overcame some real challenges.

She wished everyone a great holiday season and will see everyone in January.

- Dr. Carter echoed all that has been said and extended holiday wishes to everyone.

She echoed Mr. Stone's remarks regarding the Elly Doyle awards and thanked him for bringing it up. She had wondered if she was the only one that was 'gob smacked' at the composition of the recipients at Elly Doyle. She also thanked Mr. Bouie for his remarks in that regard.

As chair of the Park Authority Awards Committee, she thanked Judy Pedersen and her team. They began talking at the party about ways to make some changes, enhance somethings, and

do some things a little differently with an eye on the budget and perhaps with a little larger budget.

She stated that it has been a wonderful year working with everyone and thanked them for everything.

- Mr. Zook commented that it must have been a short conversation about how to approve the awards ceremony.

He thanked staff for their support of the board in the past year stating that it has been excellent, the programs have been excellent.

He wished everyone a Happy Holiday and New Year and looks forward to working with the board and staff in the year to come.

- Mr. Khan stated that Parks has a gold star team and gold star staff. The Board of Supervisors' recognition of the Gold Medal award was a wonderful event. It was heartening to see their appreciation. He added that he hopes Parks can continue this in the future. It would not be possible without such a wonderful staff. He extended congratulations to staff and the board.

Mr. Khan wished everyone happy and safe holidays.

- Dr. Carter thanked Barbara Gorski for being so helpful to her. She also thanked Mr. Bouie and Mr. Kincannon for being excellent leaders that help get things done. The board appreciates them.

Mr. Bouie noted that there are twelve (the board) – fifteen (including the director and deputies) great leaders. It is a great board and there are not many boards that could have the conversation it had earlier. It is the best board in the county and it's a tough conversation but like everything else it hits it head on.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8 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).

Seconded by Mr. Quincy and approved by all members present; Dr. Aidoo was absent.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Thompson 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 Mr. Quincy and approved by all members present; Dr. Aidoo was absent.

No action was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Minutes Approved at Meeting
on January 8, 2020

Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant