



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



B O A R D A G E N D A

October 25, 2023

7:30 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- (CW) ADMIN-1 Board Resolution to Honor Michael McDonnell, Site Manager, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Upon His Retirement for 40 Years of Service to the Park Authority
- (CW) ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes – September 27, 2023 Park Authority Board Meeting
- (CW) ADMIN-3 Park Authority Board Meeting Schedule – January to December 2024

ACTION ITEMS

- (P) A-1 Park Naming – Change Oak Marr Park, Rec Center and Golf Center to Oak District Park, Rec Center, and Golf Center
- (D) A-2 McLean Central Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – McLean Central Playground Team
- (CW) A-3 FY 2025 Budget Submission, Fund 10001, General Fund
- (CW) A-4 FY 2025 Budget Submission, Fund 80000, Park Revenue and Operating Fund
- (CW) A-5 FY 2025 Budget Submission, Fund 30010, General County Construction Fund
- (CW) A-6 Approval to Advertise Proposed Fee Adjustments and Date of Virtual Public Comment Meeting

INFORMATION ITEMS

- (CW) I-1 Planning and Development Division Quarterly Project Status Report
- (CW) I-2 FY 2025 General Fund Budget Process

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS
DIRECTOR'S MATTERS
BOARD MATTERS

CLOSED SESSION

ADJOURNMENT



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

Board Agenda Item
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ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM – 1

Board Resolution To Honor Michael McDonnell, Site Manager, Hidden Oaks Nature Center, Upon His Retirement For 40 Years of Service to the Park Authority

ISSUE:

Seeking approval of the resolution to honor Michael McDonnell on the occasion of his retirement after 40 years of service to the Fairfax County Park Authority.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the resolution.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on October 25, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

For four decades, Michael McDonnell has been an extremely valued member of the Fairfax County Park Authority family. Throughout his years of service his influence and leadership have benefitted seven park locations including Colvin Run Mill, Sully Historic Site, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Green Spring Gardens, Riverbend Park, Huntley Meadows Park and, most recently, the Hidden Oaks Nature Center. His involvement in countless teams over the years has also extended his positive impact across the county's entire park system.

Michael's list of achievements is extensive. He has received multiple recognitions for excellence including three Fairfax County Outstanding Performance Awards, FCPA Director's Leadership Award, Stewardship Award, and Trailblazer Awards (Quality of Life and Supervisor of the Year). He is a consummate team player and gracious leader who has built a positive work environment and earned the respect of countless visitors, volunteers, community leaders, partners and park professionals with whom he has worked and mentored over the years. In some of their own words:

- "Michael is one of the most poised and graceful leaders around. I consider him a true mentor and one that I have learned a lot from – about managing people and about working for FCPA."
- "Michael exemplifies dedication to the citizens of and visitors to Fairfax County and its parks. He is tenacious in fulfilling the FCPA mission of public service, and created a joyful working environment which resonates through his staff to the public."
- "He is welcoming, caring, respectful and makes staff feel like they are part of a family; he motivates staff to serve the Park Authority according to their full potential; and he is always willing to take time to answer my many questions and help me build my leadership capabilities."
- "Michael is a quintessential team leader with outstanding collaborative skills who has mastered the art of listening."
- "His calm demeanor enables all levels of staff to feel individually and collectively valued."

Over the course of his career, Michael has been involved in a lengthy list of projects, programs and initiatives. Always willing to step in and lend a helping hand, his experience and wisdom has been experienced and appreciated on a project list that is as long as it is diverse. Some of the highlights include:

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- From 1994 through 1998 he led Conservation Division staff and multiple other Fairfax County agencies to put on FCPA's annual Wildlife Art and Photography show.
- Oversaw the development and management of two bond referendums for Hidden Oaks including the 2003 permanent exhibit, Urban Woodlands- Habitats and Havens. Due to his foresight, the exhibit is fully functional and appreciated 20 years later.
- Michael served on the agency's first CAPRA Accreditation team from 2003 which also earned a 2008 Gold Medal Award for FCPA. He also served on the Accotink Trail Team, the Farmers Market Team and the Coon Branch Restoration Team.
- In 2006, Michael was part of a four-person team focused on helping the agency expand program offerings to reach increasingly diverse audiences.
- Through Michael's leadership working with paid and volunteer staff, Hidden Oaks procured grants, proffers and donations which, over his 30-year tenure, has increased diverse programs and exhibits, and created Hidden Oaks' program shelter, rain garden parking lot and award-winning Wing Wall exhibit.
- Michael's work with the Friends of Hidden Oaks has been extraordinary, resulting in numerous park improvement projects and community engagement initiatives.
- On several occasions, Michael was called upon to manage multiple sites simultaneously.
- He successfully managed the recent 2021-2022 new building design and construction at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, leading his team to provide continued public service and programs during the 12-month closure which also overlapped COVID restrictions.

The list goes on and on.

For his more than 40 years of distinguished service to the Fairfax County Park Authority, and with immense gratitude for a legacy of kindness, resilience and commitment to the FCPA mission that will continue to be felt long after his departure, he is recommended for recognition by the Park Authority Board.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

STAFF:

Jai Cole, Executive Director

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD

Laura Grape, Director, Resource Management Division

Ben Boxer, Public Information Officer

***WHEREAS**, Michael McDonnell has served the Fairfax County Park Authority and residents of the county with distinction for 40 years and across several locations within the agency, including Colvin Run Mill Park, Sully Historic Site, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park, Green Spring Gardens, Riverbend Park, Huntley Meadows Park and the Hidden Oaks Nature Center; and*

***WHEREAS**, his creativity, innovation and enthusiasm has influenced countless projects, programs, partnerships and community engagement initiatives and have resulted in facility improvements, successful stewardship-driven activities, events and exhibits, and enhanced diversity in park programs and experiences; and*

***WHEREAS**, Michael's exemplary dedication to public service has shown him to be a consummate team player whose contributions have been a significant component of countless Park Authority achievements including CAPRA accreditation, the Hidden Oaks Nature Center renovations, and aiding the agency's response to a variety of unique challenges; and*

***WHEREAS**, through his encouragement, collaboration and a gracious approach to leadership, he has established a positive work environment for staff and healthy, fun and engaging park experiences that have earned him the respect and admiration of countless visitors, volunteers, community leaders, partners and park professionals with whom he has worked and mentored over the years;*

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board that it expresses appreciation and thanks to*

Michael McDonnell

*For dedicated and outstanding contributions to the Fairfax County Park Authority and residents of Fairfax County.
Adopted by the Fairfax County Park Authority Board on October 25, 2023.*

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ADMINISTRATIVE – 2

Adoption of Minutes – September 27, 2023 Park Authority Board Meeting

ISSUE:

Adoption of the minutes of the September 27, 2023 Park Authority Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends adoption of the minutes of the September 27, 2023 Park Authority Board meeting.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on October 25, 2023.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Minutes of the September 27, 2023 Park Authority Board Meeting

STAFF:

Jai Cole, Executive Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Allison Rankin, Management Analyst

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
September 27, 2023**

At 6:21pm, during the Planning and Development Committee Meeting at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax, Virginia, the following was read by Chairman Kiel Stone to allow for the meeting to proceed with virtual participants.

Board Members Present:

Kiel Stone, Chairman
Cynthia Jacobs Carter, Secretary
Timothy Hackman, Treasurer
Abena Aidoo Hewton
Bill Bouie
Linwood Gorham
Jim Zook

Board Members Participating Virtually:

Ron Kendall

Location:

Residence in Mason District

Absent: Maggie Godbold, Ken Quincy and Mike Thompson were absent and excused.

Mr. Stone stated that Virginia law authorizes the remote participation of Board members provided that a policy exists to ensure that such remote participation is consistently administered. This board has approved Policy 111 – Remote Participation in Public Meetings. Mr. Stone continued that remote attendance must be approved by the Board as long as a physical quorum of the Board is actually present; voice of the remote participants are able to be heard by everyone in the room; and the remote participation comports with the policy.

Mr. Stone conducted a roll call of the member participating remotely: Ron Kendall.

Mr. Stone made a motion that Mr. Kendall's voice may be adequately heard in this location; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold, Mr. Khan, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

Mr. Stone then made a motion that pursuant to the Park Authority's Policy 111 for Remote Participation in Public Meetings, that Board Members Mr. Ron Kendall be permitted to participate remotely in this meeting because it comports with the policy we adopted, and a physical quorum is present here at the Park Authority Board Room, 9th floor, Herrity building. Mr. Hackman seconded the motion. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold, Mr. Khan, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

Mr. Stone conducted a roll call of members participating in person; Ms. Godbold, Mr. Khan, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

Mr. Ron Kendall participated in the meetings virtually due to medical reasons.

Chairman Stone called the Park Authority Board meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax Virginia.

Faisal Khan arrived during the dinner recess and was present for the Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers were present.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – September 13, 2023, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Bouie made a motion to adopt the minutes of the September 13, 2023, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

ACTION ITEMS

A-1 Great Falls Grange Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Great Falls Grange Foundation
Mr. Hackman made a motion to approve the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant request from the Great Falls Grange Foundation in the amount of \$15,763.00 to help fund a project to furnish and install central HVAC service in the Historic Forestville Schoolhouse, as presented to the Park Operations Committee on September 27, 2023, seconded by Mr. Bouie. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

A-2 Endorsement of the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Access (PROSA) Strategy Report
Mr. Bouie made a motion to endorse of the final Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Access (PROSA) Strategy Report, as presented to the Planning and Development Committee on September 2, 2023, seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

INFORMATION ITEM

I-1 Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Access (PROSA) Strategy Project Update
No action was necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Stone had no report.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

- Ms. Cole shared that there was a ribbon cutting event at North Hill Park on September 16th. The local residents have already cleaned up 176 bags of trash and 5 tons of large debris from the surrounding areas that had decades of accumulation.
- Ms. Cole stated the 23rd Virginia Native American Festival held on September 16th at Riverbend Park was a success with representatives from the Rappahannock Tribe, the Chickahominy Tribe and the Mattaponi Tribe in attendance. There were over 1,000 people in attendance.
- Ms. Cole shared the Park Authority staff who won their competitions at the recent ROAD-E-O, put on by DPWES. Winners include: Carl Meadows, Jordan Simpson (won in 4 categories!), Dylan Johnston, Walter Wesley, Gregory Greenhow (won in 2 categories), Alex Guevara, Jordan Simpson, Daniel Maier, and David Owens. They will now advance to compete in the regional competitions.
- Ms. Cole shared the revenue and admissions numbers for the 2023 Water Mine season. Admission was up from 86,162 in summer 2022 to 93,786 in summer 2023, marking an increase of 9%. Revenue was up from \$1.27 million in summer 2022 to \$1.41 million in summer 2023, marking an increase of 11%.

BOARD MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie thanked Mr. Stone for his recent notice that he will receive a Chairman's Choice Award this year. He will accept that award on behalf of the entire board as it is a collective award.
- Mr. Khan thanked Mr. Bouie for his service.
- Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter stated that there was a great Elly Doyle Committee earlier in the day and she thanked the team for their work on the event.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:42pm, Dr. Carter made a motion that the Park Authority Board recess and convene in closed session for discussion and consideration of matters enumerated in Virginia Code §2.2-3711 and listed in the agenda for this meeting as follows:

- Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of publicly held 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).

- Consideration of the addition of property located in the Sully District, adjacent to the Cub Run Stream Valley, to the workplan.

Seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

The Park Authority Board returned to open session at 7:53 pm.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Dr. Carter made a motion that the Park Authority Board certifies 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. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION

C-1 Mr. Gorham made a motion to support the potential land dedication in Sully District, as discussed in closed session; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

Mr. Gorham made a motion to support the addition of property located in the Sully District, adjacent to the Cub Run Stream Valley, to the work plan, as discussed in closed session; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present, Ms. Godbold, Mr. Quincy, and Mr. Thompson were absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 7:54 pm.

Participating Staff:

Jai Cole, Executive Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Cindy Walsh, Director, Park Services Division
Ryan Carmen, Director, Golf Enterprises Division
Kim Eckert, Director, Park Operations Division
Laura Grape, Director, Resource Management Division
Michael Peter, Director, Business Administration Division
Allison Rankin, Management Analyst

Minutes Approved at Meeting on October 25, 2023

Allison Rankin, Management Analyst

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ADMINISTRATIVE – 3

Park Authority Board Meeting Schedule - January to December 2024

The following schedule is proposed for Park Authority Board meetings during calendar year 2024. Upon consensus of the board, the dates will be published as the regular meeting schedule for calendar year 2024.

January 10 – In person
January 24 – In person
February 28 – Virtual
March 13 – In person
April 24 – Virtual
May 22 – In person
June 19 – In person (Note: This would be the 3rd Wednesday in June.)
July 10 – Virtual
July 24 – In person
September 11 – In person
September 25 – In person
October 9 – Virtual (*NRPA Conference week - Information items only)
October 23 – In person
November 13 – In person
December 11 – In person

This proposed schedule for 2024 consolidates meetings for the months of February, March, April, May, June, November and December. A second board meeting in those months could be reinstated if necessary.

This schedule plans for 15 meetings for the Park Authority Board. According to state legislation and the Park Authority Board's Policy 112 regarding holding all-virtual public meetings, the board would be permitted to hold up to four of these meetings, non-consecutively, in an all-virtual format.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

None

STAFF:

Jai Cole, Executive Director

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Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Allison Rankin, Management Analyst

Board Agenda Item
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ACTION – 1

Park Naming – Change Oak Marr Park, Rec Center and Golf Center to Oak District Park, Rec Center and Golf Center

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval to rename Oak Marr Park, Rec Center and Golf Center to Oak District Park, Rec Center, and Golf Center and directs staff to execute all changes to the documents that pertain to the name change, as presented to and reviewed by the Park Operations Committee on October 25, 2023.

ACTION – 2

McLean Central Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – McLean Central Playground Team

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of a Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant award to the McLean Central Playground Team in the amount of \$20,000 to help fund a playground renovation project at McLean Central Park, as presented to and reviewed by the Park Operations Committee on October 25, 2023.

ACTION – 3

FY 2025 Budget Submission, Fund 10001, General Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the FY 2025 General Fund (Fund 10001) Budget Package Submission, as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on October 25, 2023.

ACTION – 4

FY 2025 Budget Submission, Fund 80000, Park Revenue and Operating Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the FY 2025 Park Revenue and Operating Fund (Fund 80000) Budget Submission, as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on October 25, 2023.

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ACTION – 5

FY 2025 Budget Submission, Fund 30010, General County Construction Fund

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the FY 2025 General County Construction Fund (Fund 30010), as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on October 25, 2023.

ACTION – 6

Approval to Advertise Proposed Fee Adjustments and Date of Virtual Public Comment Meeting

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval to advertise both the proposed fee changes and notification of the November 15, 2023 virtual public comment meeting concerning the proposed fee changes, as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on October 25, 2023.

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INFORMATION – 1

Planning and Development Division Quarterly Project Status Report

As presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on September 27, 2023.

INFORMATION – 2

FY 2025 General Fund Budget Process

As presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on September 27, 2023.