



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



B O A R D A G E N D A

March 22, 2023

7:00 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- (CW) ADMIN-1 Resolution to Honor Carol McDonnell, Manager of Sully Historic Site for the Fairfax County Park Authority, for More Than 42 Years of Service
- (CW) ADMIN-2 Resolution to Honor Cynthia McNeal, Land Acquisition, Land Management, and Real Estate Services Manager for the Fairfax County Park Authority, for 20 Years of Service
- (CW) ADMIN-3 Adoption of Minutes – March 8, 2023 Park Authority Board Meeting

ACTION ITEMS

- (CW) A-1 Approval of Fee Adjustments to the Published Fee Schedule for 2023

INFORMATION ITEMS

- (CW) I-1 FY 2023 Second Quarter Budget Review, Fund 10001, General Fund
- (CW) I-2 FY 2023 Second Quarter Budget Review, Fund 80000, Park Services Revenue and Operating Fund

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS
DIRECTOR'S MATTERS
BOARD MATTERS

ADJOURNMENT



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ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM – 1

Resolution to Honor Carol McDonnell, Manager of Sully Historic Site for the Fairfax County Park Authority, for More Than 33 Years of Service

ISSUE:

Seeking approval of the resolution to honor Carol McDonnell who has served the residents of Fairfax County as the Manager of the Sully Historic Site for more than three decades and in other various capacities with the Fairfax County Park Authority totaling more than 42 years of public service.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the resolution.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

History comes alive at Sully Historic Site thanks to literally decades of dedicated service and stewardship contributed by Carol McDonnell. Carol's "historic" journey with the Fairfax County Park Authority began just after college in 1981 when she obtained a job with the former Historic Preservation Division working on special events, educational and marketing efforts at Colvin Run Mill and Dranesville Tavern. Nine years later, Carol was introduced as the manager of the Sully Historic Site.

During her impressive 33-year tenure at the Sully Historic Site, Carol has exemplified the leadership, creativity and innovation that has served to enhance the guest experience at the site and express the underlying stories and histories of one of Fairfax County's hidden gems. She led the site's Interpretive Plan and Cultural Landscape Report. She initiated partnerships that have established annual community traditions such as the Sully Car Show, Candlelight Tours and Springfest/Earth Day Fairfax. She played a critical role in such projects as connecting the property to the county's water system, ADA upgrades, design and implementation of the new Visitor Center, the development of the trail concept plan for the site and leading the community-focused master planning process. Under her guidance the Sully History Site has repeatedly been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, most recently in 2018.

Between 1990 and 2004, Carol played a significant role in an extensive research effort along the south road where three dwellings were predicted to be present housing enslaved people. Using the findings, and in conjunction with primary sources, the Park Authority constructed a representative slave quarter. Carol's work was pivotal in capturing and expressing the untold stories related to the enslaved people at the site through printed displays, artifact exhibits and other experiences to create a powerful and insightful learning experience for visitors of all ages and from all over Fairfax County, Virginia, across the nation and from throughout the world.

Similarly, Carol's creativity and solution-focused approach to her work also resulted in the complete renovation of the East Wing of the main house. From planning and design to promoting support for the necessary park bond funding, Carol's focus remained on enhancing the visitor's experience at the site and providing a more connective experience to the history and space outside surrounding the home. A complete redesign of the exhibits in the East Wing removed the coverings which had been placed over the first-floor windows, allowing more light

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and giving visitors a chance to experience the views of the property from within the home. Additionally, the renovation included the installation of electronic kiosks that expanded the amount of information that could be shared while providing an interactive experience for visitors of all ages.

If her commitment to the site was not enough, Carol's dedication to her team may be her greatest legacy. "It doesn't matter if you are a seasonal, non-merit or full-time employee, Carol treats everyone with the same amount of respect and provides everyone with a chance to test their skills, explore their interests and succeed," said one employee. Throughout her years at the site, she has mentored and coached dozens of staff, volunteers and interns, many of whom have found continued success in their careers. She trusted her team and offered support to help them discover their strengths and passions.

In recognition of more than 42 years of extraordinary public service articulated by an unsurpassed commitment to the Park Authority and the preservation of the history and culture with which she was entrusted, we are proud to honor Carol McDonnell for her exceptional service to the Fairfax County community. She will be sorely missed, but we wish her the very best in her well-earned retirement.

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
Mary Olien, Manager, Historic Sites and Horticulture
Ben Boxer, Public Information Officer

***WHEREAS**, Carol McDonnell, has distinguished herself as an exceptional public servant on behalf of the residents of Fairfax County for more than 42 years with the Fairfax County Park Authority, articulated by an unsurpassed commitment to the Park Authority and the preservation of the historic and cultural resources with which she was entrusted; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Carol's exceptional creativity and innovation in her stewardship of The Sully Historic Site has enhanced the guest experience and found unique ways to express the underlying stories and histories of one of Fairfax County's well-beloved historic sites; and,*

***WHEREAS**, she has been critical to the success of major site initiatives such as the research, construction and programing of the representative quarter for enslaved people, the renovation of the East Wing of the main house, the connection of the property to the county water system, and the development of the site's Interpretive Plan, Cultural Landscape Report, trail concept plan and master plan; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Carol has been an outstanding ambassador to the community in establishing partnerships and associations leading to site investments, initiatives and the establishment of successful community-oriented events such as the annual Sully Car Show, Earth Day Fairfax Celebration, and Candlelight Tours; and,*

***WHEREAS**, under Carol's guidance, the Sully Historic Site has repeatedly, and as recently as 2018, been accredited by the American Alliance of Museums; and,*

***WHEREAS**, she has been, an exemplary leader who is dedicated to her team in allowing them the ability to expand their skills and explore their interests and has served as an influential mentor for dozens of staff, interns and volunteers who have found success in various related career fields attributable in part to her example, guidance and support; and,*

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

Carol 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 March 22, 2023.*

*Cynthia Jacobs-Carter
Secretary*

*Kiel Stone
Chairman*

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ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM – 2

Resolution to Honor Cynthia McNeal, Land Acquisition, Land Management and Real Estate Services Manager for the Fairfax County Park Authority, for 20 Years of Service

ISSUE:

Seeking approval of the resolution to honor Cynthia McNeal who has served the residents of Fairfax County in a variety of roles and positions with the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services and the Park Authority over 36 years of public service.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of the resolution.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2023.

BACKGROUND:

Cynthia McNeal has been a transformational force in the Fairfax County Park Authority. Known among colleagues and leaders alike as a “Guru for all things real estate,” Cynthia manages eight separate business functions, and her work reaches into every corner of the Park Authority. For the past 20 years Cynthia has reshaped the management of the Park Authority’s vast land holdings and had a leading role in framing the conversation on every land management and acquisition item to come before the Park Authority Board.

When she arrived on-scene as the manager for land management, she was welcomed by four broken filing cabinets and stacks upon stacks of paper lining the wall of her office. Courageously and systematically, she set to work constructing the Park Authority’s first comprehensive land records management system. Prior to the creation of this system, it would take days to determine if the Park Authority owned a property and whether there were protective covenants. Having the system in place has helped our staff manage the Park Authority’s portfolio of precious land and resources. In the process of creating a filing system, she developed strong working relationships with the Department of Tax Administration, the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services and GIS which led to the cooperative updating of the countywide land records system.

Over the course of her time with the Park Authority, Cynthia has been responsible for negotiating, writing, reviewing and otherwise administering leases, contracts, terms of acquisition, with all of the accompanying background research and analysis to complete these legal documents. Known by the board as a “bargain shopper” she has represented the Park Authority in the acquisition of more than 286 acres of public land since 2017 including historic locations such as the Old Colchester Inn-Fairfax Arms Tavern and a George Washington Farm.

In addition to effectively managing eight lines of business and being the “go-to” person for any and all land management questions, Cynthia has also been exemplary in her leadership and mentorship of the dynamic team of professionals she has assembled. “Cindy has a great way of putting her staff in a position to succeed,” they agreed. She offers clear guidance and the tools needed for success and trusts in the capabilities of her employees while offering the support and coaching necessary to ensure that the tasks are done. “When you have one meeting with Cindy, you have the whole story. She leaves no stone unturned.”

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For her 20 years of exceptional service to the Park Authority and her commitment and dedication to developing and supporting the team which will carry on the processes and best practices she has instituted, we extend to Cynthia McNeal our sincerest gratitude and best wishes for a fulfilling retirement which is, without a doubt, most certainly well-deserved.

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Resolution

STAFF:

Jai Cole, Executive Director

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Aimee L. Vosper: Deputy Director/CBD

Brendon Hanafin: Director, Planning and Development Division

Samantha Hudson, Assistant Division Director of Planning and Real Estate

Ben Boxer, Public Information Officer

***WHEREAS**, Cynthia McNeal, has distinguished herself as an exceptional public servant on behalf of the residents of Fairfax County for 36 years – first, as a project and construction manager for the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, and then for the Park Authority where she presently serves as the Manager of the Real Estate Services Branch; and,*

***WHEREAS**, she has played a critical role in the creation of a land records management system for the Park Authority, Fairfax County’s largest land steward, and in so doing, facilitated excellent working relationships with the Department of Tax Administration, Public Works and Environmental Services, and GIS to correct and update the countywide land records system; and,*

***WHEREAS**, because of her keen attention to detail and research methods, Cynthia has come to be known as a “Guru of all things real estate” in the observation of her Park Authority peers and leaders as she successfully guides the conversation in all land management and acquisition matters by providing clear histories, property details, records, timelines and analysis; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Cynthia has skillfully represented the Park Authority in land acquisitions since 2017 which have led to the acquisition of 286 acres of public land including several historical sites such as the Old Colchester Inn-Fairfax Arms Tavern and George Washington’s Union Farm; and,*

***WHEREAS**, Cynthia has been the recipient of numerous awards including five Outstanding Performance Awards, Trailblazer Supervisor of the Year, several other individual and Team Awards; and,*

***WHEREAS**, she is an outstanding mentor and a highly regarded leader who works tirelessly to put her staff in positions to succeed while offering continual coaching and guidance; and,*

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

Cynthia McNeal

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 March 22, 2023.

*Cynthia Jacobs-Carter
Secretary*

*Kiel Stone
Chairman*

Board Agenda Item
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ADMINISTRATIVE – 1

Adoption of Minutes – March 8, 2023 Park Authority Board Meeting

ISSUE:

Adoption of the minutes of the March 8, 2023 Park Authority Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends adoption of the minutes of the March 8, 2023 Park Authority Board meeting.

TIMING:

Board action is requested on March 22, 2023.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: Minutes of the March 8, 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
March 8, 2023**

At the beginning of the Planning and Development Committee Meeting at 6:15 pm 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
Timothy Hackman, Treasurer
William G. Bouie
Linwood Gorham
Faisal Khan
Mike Thompson
Jim Zook

Board Members Participating Virtually:

Dr. Cynthia Jacobs Carter, Secretary
Dr. Abena Aidoo-Hewton
Ken Quincy

Location:

Residence in Franconia District
Residence in Franconia District
Residence in Providence District

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. 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 participant is 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 members participating remotely: Dr. Carter, Dr. Aidoo-Hewton, and Mr. Quincy.

Mr. Stone made a motion that Dr. Carter's, Dr. Aidoo-Hewton's, and Mr. Quincy's voices may be adequately heard in this location; seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.

Mr. Stone made a motion that pursuant to the Park Authority's Policy 111 for Remote Participation in Public Meetings, that Board Members Dr. Carter, Dr. Aidoo-Hewton, and Mr. Quincy 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 and Mr. Kendall were absent.

Mr. Stone conducted a roll call of members participating in person; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.

Dr. Carter, Dr. Aidoo-Hewton, and Mr. Quincy participated in the meetings virtually due to medical reasons.

Chairman Stone called the Park Authority Board meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers were present.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes – February 22, 2023, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Bouie made a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 22, 2023, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.

ACTION ITEM

- A-1 Approval – Renaming of Franconia District Park to Grove Point Park
Dr. Carter made a motion to approve the renaming of Franconia District Park to Grove Point Park, seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.
- A-2 Approval – Naming of the Batting Pavilion at Chantilly Park Honoring John Lesch
Mr. Hackman made a motion to approve the naming of the batting pavilion at Chantilly Park honoring John Lesch, seconded by Mr. Gorham. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.
- A-3 Scope Approval – Lake Fairfax Park Byrd Property Demolition
Mr. Bouie made a motion to approve the scope approval for the Lake Fairfax Park Byrd Property Demolition, seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.
- A-4 Scope Approval – Audrey Moore Rec Center – Building Wellness Considerations
Mr. Hackman made a motion to approve the scope approval for the Audrey Moore Rec Center – Building Wellness Considerations, seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

I-1 Planning and Development Division Quarterly Project Status Report

No action was necessary.

I-2 Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Access (PROSA) Strategy Project Update

No action was necessary.

I-3 FY 2024 Proposed Budget

No action was necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS

- Mr. Stone stated that the next Federation of Friends meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14th at 7:00pm and it will be virtual. There will be an update on the PROSA Strategy, an update on the proposed FY 2024 Budget, and the Friends Groups will have a chance to share as well.
- Mr. Stone reinforced that the board members should be scheduling meetings with their respective Board of Supervisors members to discuss budget priorities.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS

- Ms. Baldwin shared that Ms. Cole was recently given the Land Manager of the Year Award from MORE (Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts.)
- Ms. Baldwin shared that Luca Twohie, a member of the Park Authority Human Resources team, was recognized by NRPA as one of the top 30 park and recreation professionals under 30 years old. Mr. Twohie has been innovative working on recruitment, through social media, job fairs, brand awareness and so much more, and the Park Authority is proud to have him on the team.
- Ms. Baldwin shared that the new signage has been updated on Franconia Rec Center and at Franconia District Park.
- Ms. Baldwin shared that the County recently held their longevity ceremony to recognize employees who have been with the County for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years. The 54 Park Authority employees who were recognized totaled 925 years of service. Ms. Baldwin shared a picture of Ms. Cole giving the award to Joe Jackson, a dedicated custodian at Audrey Moore Rec Center.
- Ms. Baldwin shared that the Park Services team has worked to negotiate with the Saint James facility to provide skating lessons while Mt. Vernon Rec Center is closed, starting this spring, through a lease agreement.
- Ms. Baldwin stated that staff recently toured the new Patriot Park North facility with several tournament organizers, including Major League Baseball. MLB will be holding a new home run derby type event at Patriot Park North.

BOARD MATTERS

- Mr. Bouie shared that Reston Community Center is going to have a public hearing on the purchase of two vans to do mobile recreation programming in the Reston community.
- Dr. Aidoo-Hewton shared that she met Luca Twohie and Jennae Asbornio at the George Mason University School of Sport, Recreation and Tourism Management career fair and they were doing a great job representing the Park Authority and connecting with the students.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:44pm, 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:

- Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(7).
 - *Kimberly LaFave, et al. v. County of Fairfax, et al.*

Seconded by Mr. Hackman. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Godbold and Mr. Kendall were absent.

The Park Authority Board returned to open session at 7:55 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 §2.2-3711 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 and Mr. Kendall were absent.

ACTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION

C-1 No action was necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Stone adjourned the meeting at 7:56 pm.

Participating Staff:

Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO

Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Michael Peter, Director, Business Administration Division
Cindy Walsh, Director, Park Services Division
Laura Grape, Director, Resource Management Division
Brendon Hanafin, Director, Planning & Development Division
Ryan Carmen, Director, Golf Enterprises Division
Kim Eckert, Director, Park Operations Division
Susan Kalish, Director, Marketing and Communications Office
Ben Boxer, Public Information Officer
Allison Rankin, Management Analyst

Minutes Approved at Meeting on March 22, 2023

Allison Rankin, Management Analyst

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ACTION – 1

Approval of Fee Adjustments to the Published Fee Schedule for 2023

RECOMMENDATION:

The Park Authority Executive Director recommends approval of all proposed fee adjustments as advertised, as presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on March 22, 2023.

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INFORMATION – 1

FY 2023 Second Quarter Budget Review, Fund 10001, General Fund

As presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on March 8, 2023.

INFORMATION – 2

FY 2023 Second Quarter Budget Review, Fund 80000, Park Services Revenue and Operating Fund

As presented to and reviewed by the Budget Committee on March 8, 2023.