



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods, and diverse communities of Fairfax County

FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL MINUTES

February 17, 2010

2010 Council Members

Magisterial Representatives:

Marcia M. Pape Daniels
Braddock District

Michael D. Champness
Dranesville District

Harold Leff, Vice Chairman
Hunter Mill District

Michael L. Rodgers
Lee District

Barbara R. Lowrey
Mason District

Jonathan Willmott
Mount Vernon District

Stephen McLaughlin
Secretary
Providence District

Michael Thompson, Jr.
Springfield District

David L. Lacey
Sully District

Vacant
Member-At-Large

Clement Chan
Diversity-At-Large

Town Representatives:

Jeffrey E. Stein
Town of Clifton

Gerald W. Carter
Town of Herndon

Sam Althoff
Town of Vienna

Sports-Specific Representatives:

Rob Hahne
Baseball Council

William Minto
Fast Pitch Softball Council

Carl A. S. Coan, III
Adult Softball Council

E. J. Thomas
Basketball Council

Mark Meana, Chairman
Football Council

Bret Bailey
Lacrosse Council

Lisa Cherubini
Soccer Council

Jill Fitzgerald
Volleyball Council

William J. Stephens
Women's Sports

Non-Voting Members:

George Lovelace
Park Authority

Bill Curran
School Board

Executive Agency:

Christopher Leonard
Acting Director
Community and Recreation Services

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Tonya A. McCreary, Braddock District Alternate
Michael Champness, Dranesville District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
Jenifer Beausoliel, Mason District Alternate
Jonathan Willmott, Mount Vernon District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Michael Thompson, Jr., Springfield District
Albert J. Mayer III, Springfield District Alternate
David Lacey, Sully District
Clement Chan, Diversity-at-Large
Jeffrey Stein, Town of Clifton
Gerald W. Carter, Town of Herndon
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
Mark Meana, Football Council
Bret Bailey, Lacrosse Council
Lisa Cherubini, Soccer Council
William Stephens, Women's Sports

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Todd Johnson, Fairfax County Park Authority
Bill Curran, Fairfax County School Board
Chris Leonard, Community and Recreation Services
Karen Avvisato, Community and Recreation Services
Jesse Ellis, Community and Recreation Services
Allison Agee, Community and Recreation Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Michael Rodgers, Lee District
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council
E.J. Thomas, Basketball Council
William Minto, Fast-Pitch Softball Council
Carl Coan, Slow Pitch Softball Council
Jill Fitzgerald, Volleyball Council

GUESTS:

None

Fairfax County Athletic Council
12011 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
703 324-5501



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MEETING OPENING

Mr. Meana called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

None.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Upon a motion by Mr. Stephens, which was seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, the January 20, 2010, minutes were approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Turf Field Committee:

Mr. Leonard stated that three applications for mini grants have been accepted, two of which require additional information.

Practice Under the Lights Committee:

Mr. Johnson stated that there is a Park Authority meeting next Wednesday where they will discuss the topic.

Walk-On Use Committee:

This committee is still awaiting data regarding the numbers of people present at a field that would constitute an "organized match."

MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM GOVERNING BODIES

Information – Fairfax County Public Schools:

Mr. Curran reported that the amendment proposed by the FCAC was adopted and was passed by a ten-to-one vote. He noted that the FCAC was very effective at communicating with the School Board and that the overwhelmingly favorable response was much to the credit of Athletic Council members. Several cuts remain in place including winter cheer as a sport and the drill team advisor position. Swim is being cut to three (instead of two) days of practice per week; additionally, language was included in the amendment to ensure that the proposed activity fee will be reviewed annually by the School Board as it should be a temporary measure.

Mr. McLaughlin emphasized that the success of the FCAC amendment was because the council had offered a solution to a problem and this was a good indicator of how to solicit further suggestions county agencies.

Ms. Beausoliel indicated that there are some concerns about the proposed fee for FCPS athletics and protecting the identity of students on free and reduced lunch to avoid any undue embarrassment. Mr. Curran stated that processes are being put in place so that the information remains secure and the student will not have to make such status known to the coach or any players, just to an athletic director or other administrator charged with collecting the participation fee.

Mr. Curran also stated that part of the adoption of the FCAC suggested amendment is receiving approximately \$400,000 in a transfer from Fairfax County. FCPS is requesting an \$87 million transfer overall; however, the position of the Board of Supervisors is that they will not transfer any funds to the FCPS. If the transfer does not occur, the amendment proposed may not pass into effect and the originally slated cuts may be made.

Mr. Meana suggested that, at the next meeting (after several state and county budgets are released), the council needs to develop its position and present it to the BOS. He also encouraged members to speak to their Board representative ahead of time and remain in touch. He also suggested that members be very mindful of the impact that the proposed amendment to FCPS has on school booster programs.

Mr. Curran also emphasized that no one should in any way attempt to remove snow from turf fields. He highlighted that both manual removal (shoveling or plowing) and chemical removal (salt or ice melt) have the potential to severely damage the fields. He asked that all groups stress to their users that everyone must be patient for a few weeks while the snow melts. He also stated that tryouts begin Monday for spring sports. Without fields, the tryouts will move indoors which will remove use for community groups.

Information – Fairfax County Park Authority:

Mr. Johnson reported that there will be two main cuts to the FCPA budget, the general fund, and the 303 fund. Some of the proposed cuts include cutting two area managers from each area and combining areas one and seven. The FCPA budget has yet to be released, and there were no definitive facts about cuts to be reported. He also articulated that last year many cuts were made to maintenance and mowing.

Mr. Johnson also emphasized that a grant budget had been replenished which can match organizations' projects on FCPA fields up to \$10,000 with prior approval. He encouraged groups to take advantage of this grant program.

Information – Community and Recreation Services:

Mr. Leonard reported that the BOS will release a budget next week. CRS will be combining with Systems Management but no major changes should be seen to the Athletic Services Division, though specific programs or services may be affected.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Meana emphasized that at the next meeting all council members should be prepared to develop positions on the upcoming budgets. He also distributed a press release about the Football Hall of Fame reception which will be honoring several participants from Fairfax County.

Mr. Thompson said that he had been in meetings with CRS to develop a policy for West Springfield High School allocation and other schools where outside groups have funded the creation of turf field space. The process is ongoing.

Mr. Champness stated that McLean Youth Association has been working with McLean to develop a turf upgrade program.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. McLaughlin, seconded by Ms. Beausoliel, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully,



Stephen McLaughlin
Secretary