



# 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

October 21, 2015

### 2015 Council Members

#### Magisterial Representatives:

**Marcia M. Pape Daniels**  
Secretary  
Braddock District

**Gregory Beckwith**  
Dranesville District

**Harold Leff,**  
Vice Chairman  
Hunter Mill District

**Lisa Mickey**  
Lee District

**Barbara R. Lowrey**  
Mason District

**Jonathan Willmott**  
Mount Vernon District

**Stephen McLaughlin,**  
Chairman  
Providence District

**Michael Thompson, Jr.**  
Springfield District

**David L. Lacey**  
Sully District

**Elmer Arias**  
Member-At-Large

**Clement Chan**  
Diversity-At-Large

#### Town Representatives:

**Jeffrey E. Stein**  
Town of Clifton

**Barbara Glakas**  
Town of Herndon

**Sam Althoff**  
Town of Vienna

#### Sports-Specific Representatives:

**Jerry Klemm**  
Baseball Council

**Suzy Willemssen**  
Fast Pitch Softball Council

**Carl A. S. Coan, III**  
Adult Softball Council

**Gordon Austin**  
Basketball Council

**Mark Meana,**  
Football Council

**Mary Ann Wagner**  
Lacrosse Council

**Lula Bauer**  
Soccer Council

**Chuck Pruitt**  
Volleyball Council

**Jenni Cantwell**  
Women's Sports

#### Non-Voting Members:

**Michael Thompson**  
Park Authority

**Todd Johnson**  
Park Authority

**Megan McLaughlin**  
School Board

**William Curran**  
Fairfax County Public Schools

#### Executive Agency:

**Christopher A. Leonard**  
Director  
Neighborhood and Community  
Services

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District  
Rachel Huhn, Braddock District Alternate  
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District  
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District  
Barbara R. Lowrey, Mason District  
Jonathan Willmott, Mount Vernon District  
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District  
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District  
David Lacey, Sully District  
Ralph Wills, Sully District Alternate  
Clement Chan, Diversity-At-Large  
Eric Sohn, Diversity-At-Large Alternate  
Jeffrey E. Stein, Town of Clifton  
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna  
Jerry Klemm, Baseball Council  
Walt Brady, Fast Pitch Softball Council Alternate  
Mark Meana, Football Council  
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council  
Rebecca Frece, Slow Pitch Softball Council Alternate  
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council  
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council Alternate  
Chuck Pruitt, Volleyball Council Alternate

### COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Michael Thompson Jr., Fairfax County Park Authority  
Todd Johnson, Fairfax County Park Authority  
Bill Curran, Fairfax County Public Schools  
Chris Leonard, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Karen Avvisato, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Mark Martino, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Jason Shelton, Neighborhood and Community Services

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Mickey, Lee District  
Elmer Arias, Member-At-Large  
Barbara Glakas, Town of Herndon  
Gordon Austin, Basketball Council  
Suzy Willemssen, Fast Pitch Softball Council  
Carl Coan, Slow Pitch Softball Council  
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs

### GUESTS:

Pete Daca  
Eric Kulczycky, Visit Fairfax  
Dillon Lee

Fairfax County Athletic Council  
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Fairfax, Virginia 22035  
703 324-5501



## **MEETING OPENING**

Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

## **PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL**

### **NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Dave Bowden, Sandy Stallman and Anna Bentley gave an update on the Park Authority Needs Assessment. There were multiple means of public input, including online and in-person. IdeaScale had over 700 users, 60 ideas, 300+ comments and 2,300+ votes. There were also seven meetings in a box and 800+ other online/email responses. A wide variety of opinions, concerns and ideas were expressed, a majority of them constructive. A few takeaways: Interest groups and communities rallied around specific facilities or activities. No service or facility went unmentioned. There is high use and reliance on the system, but there are concerns about the age and condition of facilities.

The survey itself was 7 pages long and took 10-15 minutes to complete. The surveys could be completed by mail, web or phone. The goal was to receive 3,000 completed surveys. A total of 4,665 residents completed the survey, the second largest survey ETC Institute has ever administered.

As for the inventory, the facility types remain consistent with the last Needs Assessment. All FCPS facilities were counted and verified as well as FCPS and other public facilities as appropriate. Field types were broken into four diamond sizes and one rectangle.

The consultants are currently analyzing the data and will make recommendations regarding need and how to meet that need. Park Authority representatives will attend the November 18 Council meeting to discuss need and service level standards.

## **CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

N/A

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

The September 16, 2015 minutes were approved.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Mr. McLaughlin reported that he was still working on a letter from the Council to the School Board urging no cuts in FCPS athletics as part of the budget.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Synthetic Turf Field Committee

Mr. Leonard stated that NCS is recommending continuing the Synthetic Turf Field Mini Grant program, which focuses on the development of new synthetic turf fields. The program was temporarily ceased while the high schools in Fairfax County received synthetic turf fields, based upon the findings of the Synthetic Turf Task Force. Mr. Leonard asked the Council to vote on the turf grant application and in favor of continuing the program. Mr. Lacey asked whether it would be just for this year or going forward. Mr. Leonard replied that it was only for this year and that replacement needs may factor into the program's future. Ms. Bauer asked if crumb rubber infill questions would have any effect on the program. Mr. Leonard responded that the Director of the Health Department had given him an update, which he shared with the Council. The message states that there has been no conclusive evidence to relate crumb rubber with safety issues and that the County will continue to monitor the subject. The Council voted in favor of continuing the Synthetic Turf Field mini grant program for 2015.

### Gym Policy Committee

Mr. Lacey reported that the committee received good input from the different sports representatives. The committee hopes to have a draft for next month's meeting. They will hold two public focus sessions in November, followed by a 30-day public comment period. Mr. Lacey hopes to have a vote on the updated Gym Allocation Policy at the December or January Council meeting.

## **SPORT SPECIFIC UPDATES**

### Soccer

Ms. Bauer reported that they are in the process of getting ready for the revised 2016 goal mandate. The Soccer Council is also working through the new age requirements, which do not allow some high school seniors to play club soccer. Ms. Moxie thanked Mr. Johnson for granting the ability to view light schedules.

### Softball

Ms. Frece stated that there are two weeks remaining in the season.

### Volleyball

Mr. Pruitt reported that the Volleyball Council met for the first time in two years. At that meeting, they were able to pass their by-laws as well as elect officials. The new chairman of the Volleyball Council is Chuck Pruitt and the vice chairman is Rob Baily. Mr. Pruitt explained one of the next things on the Volleyball Council's radar is to look at ways to build the adult volleyball program.

### Baseball

Mr. Klemm reported that there are still ongoing light issues at West Potomac High School. Mr. Curran responded that he will follow up with the school and maintenance division.

### Lacrosse

Ms. Wagner stated that the fall lacrosse season is winding down and they are now in their development season.

Diversity-At-Large

Mr. Chan thanked Mr. Meana for his help on the badminton courts at the Vienna Community Center.

Football

Mr. Meana reported that football is  $\frac{3}{4}$  through their season and safety is a big focus.

**MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM GOVERNING BODIES**

Fairfax County Public Schools

Mr. Curran reported back on the effects of the change in bell schedule. He indicated fall is the easiest time, but winter will be a challenge. An issue that has come up is a significant increase in swimming pool fees that was not accounted for in the budget, but FCPS has made it work. Mr. Curran stated that he has not heard of any change in the budget conversation. He closed by stating that the fall sports season is wrapping up, with winter practices starting soon.

Fairfax County Park Authority

Mr. Johnson reported that the synthetic turf field at Grist Mill Park is open and that there will be a ribbon cutting on Veteran's Day. A second field at Pine Ridge Park is scheduled to be converted to synthetic turf this winter. Mr. Johnson also stated that the synthetic turf project at South County Middle School is coming along well. He reported that the Park Authority is looking at potential synthetic turf fields in Tysons. Mr. Johnson added that the synthetic turf field at Mason District Park is scheduled to be replaced this winter and the synthetic turf field at Wakefield Park is scheduled to be replaced next winter. In closing, Mr. Johnson announced that the Burke Lake Volleyball complex will be named for Dave Lacey on Saturday November 14 at 9:30 a.m.

Neighborhood and Community Services

Ms. Avvisato announced that the Champions of Character ceremony is on Tuesday October 27 at 7:00 p.m. She encouraged all district and sports representatives or their alternates to attend. Ms. Avvisato also reported that this winter, NCS will be starting the certification process for all organizations to meet the requirements of the updated Field Allocation Policy that goes into effect spring 2016.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Curran reported that the 90' turf field at Stuart High School is close to opening. He thanked Mr. Klemm for his help in making this happen, as it was a massive construction project.

**OLD BUSINESS**

N/A

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Pape Daniels". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Marcia M. Pape Daniels  
Secretary