



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

## FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

### MINUTES

May 18, 2016

#### 2016 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*

**Vacant**

*Sully District*

**Elmer Arias**

*Member-At-Large*

**Clement Chan**

*Diversity-At-Large*

##### Town Representatives:

**Jeffrey E. Stein**

*Town of Clifton*

**Vacant**

*Town of Herndon*

**Sam Althoff**

*Town of Vienna*

##### Sports-Specific Representatives:

**Jerry Klemm**

*Baseball Council*

**Suzy Willemsen**

*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*

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District  
Rachel Huhn, Braddock District Alternate  
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District  
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District  
Lisa Mickey, Lee District  
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District  
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District  
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District  
Gary Flather, Sully District  
Jeffrey E. Stein, Town of Clifton  
Nichole Lopes, Town of Herndon  
Mark Meana, Football Council  
Carl Coan, Slow Pitch Softball Council  
Rebecca Frece, Slow Pitch Softball Council Alternate  
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council Alternate  
Rob Baily, Volleyball Council Alternate  
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs

#### **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  
Sarah Allen, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Jason Shelton, Neighborhood and Community Services

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Jonathan Willmott, Mount Vernon District  
Clement Chan, Diversity-At-Large  
Elmer Arias, Member-At-Large  
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna  
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council  
Dillon Lee, Basketball Council  
Suzy Willemsen, Fast Pitch Softball Council  
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council  
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council  
Chuck Pruitt, Volleyball Council

#### **GUESTS:**

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



## **MEETING OPENING**

Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

## **PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL**

### Doug Phung – Pandaroster

“Doug the Fairfax Ultimate Frisbee Guy,” who is also a software developer, did a demonstration of his no-frills registration site. He believes the fees are too high on other sites, so his site is free, both the program and web hosting. The only cost is for credit card fees, which can be negotiated lower if volume increases. It has industry-grade security. Mr. Phung asked groups to provide feedback, let him know their needs. He can be contacted at [phung.doug@gmail.com](mailto:phung.doug@gmail.com). Mr. Curran spoke highly of Mr. Phung.

## **CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

N/A

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

The April 20, 2016 minutes were approved.

## **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

Mr. McLaughlin reported that he met with the new School Board representative from the Providence District to bring her up to speed on a number of issues and get her views.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Nominating Committee

Mr. Thompson announced the following slate of candidates for Athletic Council officers for the upcoming year: Rob Hahne, Chair; Steve McLaughlin, Vice Chair; and Jenni Cantwell, Secretary. The elections will take place at the June Athletic Council meeting.

## **SPORT SPECIFIC UPDATES**

### Soccer

Ms. Moxie reported that the Washington Area Girls Soccer League, WAGS, is disbanding and the current teams will be absorbed into the National Capital Soccer League, NCSL, which was previously only for males. The official vote will take place next week. Several clubs have gone to the Club Champions League, which is focused on individual player development.

### Softball

Ms. Frese stated that they are trying to get a Softball Council meeting set up to review the bylaws.

### Volleyball

Mr. Baily reported that in men's volleyball, George Mason was represented in the NCAA tournament for the first time in 25 years, but lost to the eventual champions.

### Football

Mr. Meana informed the Council that football is getting ready to gear up for fall. On the concussion front, they are riding the wave of the introduction nationally of Heads Up. Fairfax County's results show a tremendous reduction in concussions, spilling over into a reduction in other injuries, as well. He noted that the rest of the state is following Fairfax County's program. Hopefully, parents are also getting more comfortable knowing that things can be done through education.

## **MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM GOVERNING BODIES**

### Fairfax County Public Schools

Mr. Curran thanked the Council for its support of the FCPS budget. Although there is no growth, there are also no real cuts. He told the Council that the artificial turf fields have had a dramatic impact on playoffs. High school teams, but also youth and community teams, have been able to play despite the recent rain. They have also made it attractive for Fairfax to get VHSL Jubilees, which bring in money and save on travel costs.

### Fairfax County Park Authority

Mr. Johnson reported that the synthetic turf field at Mason District will be replaced between June 20 and July 20. The lights will also be replaced, but that will probably be done over the winter. The synthetic turf field at Wakefield Park will also be replaced this winter.

Mr. Thompson reminded the Council that the Master Plan meeting for the baseball complex, Patriot Park North at Willow Springs, will be held on May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Willow Springs Elementary School. He encouraged people to attend. He noted that all fields will have portable outfields so they can be reconfigured.

Mr. Thompson stated that the final committee work has been done on the 2016 Park Bond. The bond is a total of \$94.7 million, including \$7 million for land acquisition and open space preservation, \$26.8 million for new park development, \$53 million for park renovations and upgrades, and \$7.7 million for natural and cultural resource stewardship. For budgetary reasons, only a small portion of that can be made available in any given year. The public votes on funding the categories, but there are projects behind each of the larger buckets. The list under new park development includes \$10 million for a baseball complex, funding to construct a rectangular field on leased property at Audubon Estates, a high-need area, upgrading and adding athletic fields and a dog park at Langley Fork. There are numerous pieces that affect various athletic complexes under renovations and upgrades, including upgrading county-wide lighting control systems and addressing irrigation systems. Mr. Thompson assured Council members that the Park Authority listened to the concerns of the athletic community in terms of making sure athletic facilities were included.

With respect to the Needs Assessment, Mr. Thompson said the final report from the consultant will be presented next week. Kirk Kincannon, Park Authority Director, is committed to trying to update the Needs Assessment every five years, although it took two years for just this update. Mr. Thompson cautioned that just because a need is listed, that does not mean it will get done, because there are far more needs than there are dollars. A good portion of future bonds will be taken up by renovation of RECenters. There is now discussion about separating needs for youth and needs for adults.

#### Neighborhood and Community Services

Mr. Leonard stated that thanks to the Athletic Council's engagement, the Board of Supervisors adopted verbatim the Council's recommendations for helping fund the artificial turf replacement fund shortfall by adjusting fees to \$8/player and \$50/tournament team. He said that the Board has great respect for the Athletic Council.

Mr. Leonard distributed a memo from County Executive Ed Long stating the county's position on using crumb rubber infill on artificial turf fields. This memo is a follow-up to the memo written last June. The Virginia Department of Health is working on this. Fairfax County has more artificial turf fields per capita than any other jurisdiction and has offered our fields for testing. The State of Washington has indicated they will have some results from their study this spring. Mr. Leonard explained that there is a lot being done and no one wants to rest until we can be assured of safety. If there is an issue, we want to make sure it is being addressed. Mr. Meana urged Council members to talk with their School Board reps to help educate them on the issue.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

N/A

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

N/A

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully,



Marcia M. Pape Daniels  
Secretary