Board Agenda Item
March 26, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE – 1

Adoption of Minutes – March 12, 2014, Park Authority Board Meeting

ISSUE:
Approval of the minutes of the March 12, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:
The Park Authority Acting Director recommends approval of the minutes of the March 12, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting.

TIMING:
Board action is requested on March 26, 2014.

FISCAL IMPACT:
None

ENCLOSED DOCUMENTS:
Attachment 1: Minutes of the March 12, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting

STAFF:
Kirk W. Kincannon, Director
Cindy Messinger, Deputy Director/CFO
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

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REVISED 3/24/14

Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
March 12, 2014

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

Board Members:
William G. Bouie, Chairman
Ken Quincy, Vice Chair
Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary
Frank J. Vajda, Treasurer
Edward R. Batten, Sr.
Mary Cortina
Linwood Gorham
Faisal Khan
Harold L. Strickland
Richard (Rip) C. Sullivan, Jr.
Michael Thompson, Jr.
Anthony J. Vellucci

Staff Present:
Kirk Kincannon, Director
Cindy Messinger, Deputy Director/CFO
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Barbara Gorski, Administrative Assistant
Judy Pedersen, PIO
Barbara Nugent
Cindy Walsh
David Bowden
Todd Johnson
Debbie Babcock-Daley
Sandy Stallman
Don Sweeney

Guests: Beth Teare, County Attorney
Julie Cline, DPZ

PUBLIC COMMENT: No speakers were present.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM/PRESENTATION

ADMIN-1/P-1 Resolution Honoring Julie Cline's Service to the Fairfax County Park Authority

Mr. Vajda made a motion to approve a resolution honoring Julie Cline's service to the Park Authority; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kincannon presented the resolution to Ms. Cline. She thanked the Board for the resolution and stated that she is pleased to have had the opportunity to work with the Park Authority.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:45 p.m. Ms. Quintana MOVED the Park Authority Board convene in closed session for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(7) regarding *Moira*

Callaghan, et al v. The Fairfax County Park Authority, et al, Case No. 2014 03016 (Fx. Co. Cir. Ct.) (Hunter Mill District); seconded by Mr. Quincy and the motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

At 8:02 p.m. Ms. Quintana MOVED the Park Authority Board certify 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. Vajda. The motion carried unanimously.

No action was required.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMs

ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes, February 26, 2014, Park Authority Board Meeting

Messrs. Batten and Vajda made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2014, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

A-1 Updating Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Criteria

Ms. Quintana made a motion to increase the maximum amount of the match to $20,000 per fiscal year and to allow for more than one project per fiscal year, but limit the combined amounts of grant funding awarded to the $20,000 annual limit per fiscal year; seconded by Mr. Thompson.

After Board discussion concerning the original staff recommendation of $15,000, the Board voted. The motion carried with a vote of 10 to 2; Messrs. Gorham and Vellucci voting nay.

A-2 Poplar Ford Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Northern Virginia Radio Control, Inc. (Sully District)

Mr. Strickland made a motion to approve the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program request from the Northern Virginia Radio Control, Inc. in the amount of $5,000 to improve existing vehicular access to the radio-control model aircraft flying field at Poplar Ford Park; seconded by Ms. Quintana. The motion carried unanimously.

A-3 Approval of Fee Adjustments to the Published Fee Schedule for 2014

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve all the fee adjustments as advertised for 2014; seconded by Ms. Quintana. The motion carried unanimously.

A-4 Scope Approval – Lake Accotink Dam Outfall Trail Improvements (Braddock District)
Mr. Vellucci made a motion to approve the project scope to design and permit approximately 300 linear feet of asphalt trail improvements and 325 linear feet of elevated pedestrian crossing over the dam outfall in Lake Accotink Park; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

A-5 Scope Approval – Ashgrove Lane Trail Improvements (Providence District)
Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the project scope to improve 375 linear feet of trail on Ashgrove Lane in Old Courthouse Spring Branch Stream Valley Park; seconded by Ms. Quintana. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

I-1 FY 2014 Second Quarter Review – Fund 10001, Park Authority General Fund
No action was necessary.

I-2 FY 2014 Second Quarter Review – Fund 80000, Park Authority Revenue Fund
No action was necessary.

I-3 Department of Justice ADA Audit of Fairfax County Update
No action was necessary.

I-4 Quarterly Project Status Report
No action was necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS:

- Mr. Bouie attended Supervisor Hudgins' Town Hall meeting which was attended by almost 200 people. Schools participated. There was a good discussion and even better discovery of Frying Pan Farm Park by a number of people that had not been there. A good day was had by all. There was a lot of citizen involvement and feedback.

- On March 6, Mr. Bouie had the opportunity to present a resolution on behalf of the Park Authority Board to Merni Fitzgerald for her years of service, not only as the Public Information Officer of the county, but also for the twelve years she spent as the Public Information Officer of the Park Authority. It was a well-deserved. All the Supervisors were there. Congressman Connolly was there; Chairman Bulova was there. Ms. Fitzgerald's father gave a great speech. Her children were there. It was a wonderful event. He extended best wishes for her future endeavors.

- Mr. Bouie was happy to report that Parks has a firm commitment which has been noted in the CIP for 2016 as a minimum of $63M in park bonds. The Park Bond would be for $75M, $12M to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and $63M to the Park Authority.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:

- Mr. Kincannon stated that he looks forward to seeing many of the Board members on the tour of the Dranesville District with Rip Sullivan on Saturday, March 15.

- He reminded the Board members to work with Barbara Gorski to set up times to meet with him during the next several weeks. A couple of meetings have already been set. This is an opportunity to get to know them a little better on a personal level, and also hear about your thoughts and ideas relative to the Board and taking us to the next level as he discussed when he first came onboard.

- Recently, the Park Foundation and Hidden Oaks Nature Center was selected to receive a $5,000 grant from Cox Charities in partnership with Hispanics Against Child Abuse and Neglect (HACAN). This grant will allow many more HACAN students to experience nature and science activities, a robotics presentation, and even write reports for their county classroom teachers on their nature, science and wellness activities. The grant will also fund new quarterly weekday programs, using the Culmore chapter of the Boys & Girls Club as a new HACAN venue, for HONC naturalists to host additional interactive programs. Cox Charities, by extending the benefit of this FCPA/HACAN partnership, will enable FCPA to reach many more and different underserved students in Culmore/Bailey's Crossroads. This is a great thing and one of the many things staff does an excellent job at – reaching out and working with the Foundation to develop our continuing partnership efforts.

- Many are familiar with Ann Smith via 9-11 and Lt. Col. Gary Smith who died in the tragedy. Ann committed shortly afterwards to pledge $100,000 for a field in his honor at Grist Mill Park. Kirk was happy to report that Ann has cut the check for final payment of her $200,000, making this the largest gift ever made to the Park Foundation from a living individual. She also raised nearly $9,000 more from family and friends to help fund the synthetic turf field conversion at Grist Mill Park in honor of LTC Gary F. Smith. Construction is slated for summer 2015. Planning and Development staff was able to work with the county to increase the bond allocation for 2015 so the field can be built in 2015, about one year ahead of schedule.

BOARD MATTERS:

- Mr. Khan announced that Fairfax Families 4Kids gives youth ages 12 to 21, currently living in foster care or out of foster care, the opportunity to participate in group and individual mentoring, and spend quality time in the community engaged in regularly scheduled, structured group activities. His cricket team will be holding a clinic for these kids on June 21 through the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services at Oak Marr Park. Mr. Khan invited everyone to attend. The clinic will begin at 9:30 a.m.

- Mr. Gorham had nothing to report.

- Mr. Batten thanked Ms. Stallman for attending the Lee District Land Use and Transportation Committee meeting on Monday, March 11, and making a presentation on the Franconia Park

Master Plan. There were a number of questions and a lot of give and take. The presentation was positively received and positively responded to.

Mr. Batten asked the Board to forgive him for not being able to participate in the tour on Saturday, but has a commitment to Supervisor McKay on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to attend the final meeting of the Budget Advisory Committee.

To anyone that knew Paul Gagnon, he is very ill with inoperable stomach cancer and his wife asks that everyone keep him in their thoughts and prayers. Paul was an extraordinarily active person in the Lee District and Fairfax County, politically and otherwise. For several years Paul had served as the chairman of the Lee District Land Use and Transportation Committee.

- Mary Cortina, At-large, attended the Federation of Friends meeting on March 11, hosted by the Friends of Green Springs Garden. She thanked Messrs. Quincy and Vadja for attending. Mr. Kincannon gave a great speech to introduce himself and Ms. Baldwin presented the roll-out of the "No Smoking" signs for areas frequented by children, which was well received by attendees.

  Park Foundation Board Chair, Kathy Ward, Senior VP, American Institute for Cancer Research, and Lane Brooks, COO, Food & Water Watch, are both professional fundraisers and gave an excellent presentation on planned giving, for people who wish to leave the Park Foundation in their will. An interesting fact is that most people who leave an organization in their will are small donors, who make small ($100 or less) donations here and there over their lifetime. The Friends groups are an ideal audience for planned giving and several people attending the meeting had designated the Park Foundation as a beneficiary in their wills. She recommends Board members attend the Federation of Friends meetings if possible as it provides a good communication and exchange of ideas. For example, a Friends of Frying Pan Farm Park member suggested we encourage formation of a youth friends group, which she thought was a great idea.

  Ms. Cortina thanked Ms. Nugent and Ms. Baldwin for responding to citizen concerns of strong chlorine odors during swim team practices at the Audrey Moore RECenter. Ms. Nugent provided her with detailed information on the issue, including an outside report. A Park Authority project to install the "Evacuator," to pull air from the water's surface, is scheduled for later this summer. She would like to encourage the project to move forward on schedule and wanted to thank Ms. Nugent, Ms. Baldwin and the RECenter team for being responsive to our patrons and addressing the issue so thoroughly.

  Finally, Ms. Cortina participated in a Green Spring Gardens tour bus trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show last week. There was trouble with the bus – it was late arriving and broke down in Philadelphia, which delayed departure several hours. The Park staff running the trip, however, were wonderful – they communicated well and took care of the customers, such that people were not upset. Mistakes happen, problems happen, but it's how we recover from those problems that matter, and the Park staff did a wonderful job handling the situation. Many thanks to them.

- Mr. Quincy seconded the comments about the meeting with the Federation of Friends. Every Board member should attend these meetings because they are very informative. If you want to be inspired, that's all you have to do is talk to these people. You talk to the ones in your respective districts, but when they all get together and you listen to them you realize how much strength they provide us.

  Former Board member Janyce Hedetniemi has been named the 2013 Citizen of the Year from The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations. The awards banquet will take place on April 27. This is very prestigious award. Congratulations to Jan.

  Mr. Batten added that Jan is currently on the Park Foundation Board. For those members of the Board who have heard this every time and will continue to hear it time and again, please provide the names of those individuals that the Board deems to be the caliber person whom you would choose to participate as a member of the Foundation Board of Directors. The Foundation would like to grow the great Board that it has. It brings in significant dollars to this organization. Bobbi has begun to push bequests. Many of those that have given small donations throughout the course of their lives are leaving significant donations in their estate planning.

- Ms. Leggett-Quintana thanked staff for resolving an issue with one of our long time farmers' market vendors. She was pleased that issue was worked out.

  She mentioned that she is looking forward to the tour on Saturday, March 15. She hopes that the Boards will be well received in Mr. Sullivan's district. She actually frequents some of these places so it will be interesting to learn more about those sites.

  She recently visited Huntley Meadows; it was her first visit following the major restoration project. She was very pleased to see how great condition everything was in. It was beautiful. It is really neat when one is wandering around. There are so many languages being spoken and so many families. Her son walked all the way around the park. It was a lovely day, with the turtles and ducks and everything that was out.

  She came upon an interesting phenomenon, which staff told her was not supposed to be there. Someone has been industrious creating wooden teepees surrounding trees throughout the park. They were actually kind of cool. She thought perhaps staff was doing some sort of research project, but found out that they were not part of any project and were slated to be removed.

  She also recently visited Frying Pan Farm Park and promptly forwarded pictures to Judy Pedersen. Ms. Pedersen suggested that she write a blog. As a busy working mom and Board member her time with her family is valuable to her. She figured there are a lot of families out there with young children that want advice from other moms about visiting the parks. To make it easy on herself and because she is passionate about the toddler age and what to do with a toddler, this will be the first in a series that she will be doing over the course of the

next several months. Ms. Quintana encouraged all the Board members, that if there is something they are passionate about, a park that they love, or something that they love about the parks that you visit, maybe consider writing a guest blog post for the Park Authority as a board member and what it means to you. It doesn't have to be warm and fuzzy stuff; it can be things that are of concern to you. It could be an encroachment issue or people are doing something that you don't like in the parks that you are seeing and you just want to put a message out there for folks.

- Mr. Vajda had nothing to report

- Mr. Thompson thanked staff, Ms. Baldwin in particular for the work she is doing in helping him with the Braddock Park mini-golf. Supervisor Herrity, along with Kirk and others will all be out there on Friday afternoon looking at it.

  One thing that came up at Athletic Council that he believes is important was about the no smoking signs that will be placed at playgrounds and fields. Several folks in the room indicated that either the organizations they are affiliated with and/or organizations that they know or represent through their magisterial stuff would probably be willing to donate money toward getting more printed because they know we don't have enough to cover everywhere. There was discussion about trying to identify what the cost of the signs would be so that some of the groups could potentially adopt or get the signs up on fields that they use.

  The Northern Virginia Youth Football Hall of Fame Banquet went very well. Unfortunately, Mr. Strickland was under the weather and could not attend. Mr. Thompson presented the awards Mr. Strickland was scheduled to present.

  Mr. Thompson suggested to Mr. Batten that the Lee District Budget Advisory Committee join the Board tour on Saturday. Perhaps they would have an opportunity to see some sites in need of money.

  Mr. Batten stated that he would talk with the Chair. He added that Ms. Messinger addressed the Committee last year and they are still speaking in terms of her cooperation and the kinds of things she helped them understand. They were interested in doing something in their report again this year, but it was recommended that they should hold off until next week.

- Mr. Vellucci thanked the Maintenance Crews for the snow removal they did at county parks. They did an incredible job.

  He started reaching out to community groups in the Braddock District that have significant amounts of land that is common property that borders Parks. He is trying to get them to look at invasive management.

  Mr. Vellucci accepted Ms. Quintana's challenge and will write a guest blog about invasive management.

Community associations own a lot of land in the county and Parks is only touching part of the invasive management issue. Parks talks about its land, and we need to talk about their land too. He is excited to get this started in the Braddock District and challenged the Board to do the same in their respective districts.

The Friends of Lake Accotink Park are meeting on Thursday, March 20. Everyone is invited to attend.

- Mr. Sullivan is looking forward to welcoming everyone to the Dranesville District. He will show everyone a good time.

  Mr. Sullivan had breakfast with Julie Clemente and Bobbi Longworth. The Friends of Clemyjontri Park recently gave a nice donation to help address some of the maintenance issues at Clemy, but expect Parks to step up to its commitment. He is looking forward to having everyone see Clemyjontri; it is beautiful, but needs attention.

  Mr. Sullivan met with Art Anselene who sent regards to the Mr. Bouie. They discussed general topics in Herndon and Art remarked that he had helped to launch Mr. Kincannon.

- Mr. Strickland mentioned that all the Supervisors are holding budget meetings in their districts. The Sully meetings have always been well attended with nearly 100 people attending. He suggested that this is an opportunity to speak to the budget context of where Parks stand in the reductions and some of the services that may not continue if we go down the same road. You are not talking with the Supervisors at these meetings, but rather presidents of civic associations and to whoever else is in the room. Mr. Strickland has found this to be very effective opportunity to get the message out to those folks that may not have really understood the cuts Parks have taken over the year. This is a good chance to get to your citizens to talk about Parks.

  Ms. Messinger commented that the budget forums are listed on the Board members websites.

- Mr. Bouie announced that he would be out of town for 13 days beginning Friday, March 14.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection, Mr. Bouie called the meeting to a close at 8:42 p.m.

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Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary

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Minutes Approved at Meeting
on March 26, 2014

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Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

_____
Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

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Board Agenda Item
March 26, 2014

ACTION – 1

Scope Approval – Great Falls Grange Park Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements (Dranesville District)

RECOMMENDATION:
The Park Authority Director recommends approval of the project scope to construct Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements at Great Falls Grange Park as presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 12, 2014.

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Board Agenda Item
March 26, 2014

INFORMATION – 1

FY 2014-FY 2018 Strategic Plan and FY 2014 Implementation Plan, Mid-Year Update

As presented to and reviewed by the Strategic Planning and Initiatives Committee on March 12, 2014.

INFORMATION – 2

Draft Brookfield Park Master Plan Amendment

As presented to and reviewed by the Planning and Development Committee on March 12, 2014.

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