

**PUBLIC HEARING: May 3, 2006
Sully Woodlands
Chantilly High School Auditorium
7:00 P.M.
DRAFT
MEETING SUMMARY**

Attendance: FCPA BOARD MEMBERS: Harold Strickland, Sully District, Winifred Shapiro, Braddock District; Georgette Kohler, Member at Large; Ken Feng, Springfield District

FCPA STAFF: Mike Kane, Park Authority Director; Lynn Tadlock, Director, Planning and Development; Kirk Holley, Manager, Special Projects Branch; Cindy Messinger, Director, Resource Management; Angie Allen, Project Manager; Andi Dorlester, Park Planning Branch; Heather Schinkel, Resource Management; Charles Smith, Resource Management; John Rutherford, Resource Management; Steve Lewis, Park Services; Ed Richardson, Park Operations; Leon Nawojchik, Resource Management; Jenny Pate, Trail Coordinator

CITIZENS: Approximately 115 citizens.

The meeting started at 7:00 p.m. and was facilitated by Judy Pedersen. Following introductions of Park Authority Board Members and Staff, Judy introduced Angie Allen to present the Master Plan for Sully Woodlands. After the presentation, Judy explained the process for public comment and then the floor was opened to citizens to speak.

Scott Miller – Pleasant Valley Subdivision

- Steering committee Cub Run Watershed
- Will be wonderful, but it's the transportation
- Live right at the intersection practically of Pleasant Valley and Braddock. Braddock is a cut through for Loudoun.
- Spent countless nights trying to get to Virginia Run Elementary School.
- Braddock Road is not used
- Need to terminate Braddock Rd at the County line
- Don't expect the Park Authority to solve transportation problem, but don't do anything road problem is fixed.
- Stop listening to the citizens and fix the transportation.

Tommy Donelson - Disc Golf Club of Northern Virginia

- Organization focuses on promoting & supporting disc golf
- Asking to be included in master plan
- Fastest growing sport, grows about 20% each year.
- Individual sport - many based on team
- Hard for dual income family to get kids to games
- Doesn't cost much to set up, cost about \$18,000, cost for 20 years \$1000 per year.
- Doesn't take primary land that many are competing for, not competing with soccer.
- Disc Golf Club conducted survey in Burke Lake Park, high use, 2787 people played.
- Course being built at Laurel Hill, but won't be able to satisfy the people in the Sully Woodlands area.

Beverly Dickerson - 11003 Oakton Woods Lane, Oakton, VA Fairfax 4 Horses

- Think you've come up with a good plan and tried to get as much as you can for everybody.
- Congratulate you on the inclusion of horses and riders in the plan.
- Horses are important part of Fairfax County. Play important role in recreation and therapy programs; also contribute to the economy of our county.
- Would like to have 100 acres set aside for equestrian purposes at Hunter-Hacor. Could be used at later date for riding lesson/show facility with stables, multiple rings, and pastures.
- Horne property previously mentioned as equestrian area. Important that the trails on Horne be accessible to all users, since this property provides connection to existing trails at Manassas Battlefield. Location of former stable, ideal to support equestrian activities, including pastures. Would like Park Authority to designate some of this area for equestrian purposes.
- Would like the Park Authority to include equestrian uses on all trails except special purpose trails that would be posted as such. Would ensure that equestrians receive the same treatment as other trail users.

Trip Barber - NVOAA

- Thanks for considering us in the master plan, will be tremendous to model rocket flyers living in FFX County.
- Model rockets are sold at hobby shops, Michaels & Wal-Mart.
- Need one place to relieve pressure of young people who want to fly rockets in the County.
- There is no place to go in Fairfax County.
- Great activity that encourages youth in aerospace. Encouraged by the National Aerospace Industry.
- Deeply appreciate the opportunity to conduct activity on small launch site for small rockets close to Dulles-that is fine, what kids are flying.
- Provide site liability insurance, supervision, equipment; completely safe activity.

Chuck Cowell - Aerospace teacher at Westfields High School

- 150 students registered next year. All interested in aerospace.
- 8 students earned pilot license in past couple years, they've gone to military academies, maintenance technicians schools, Virginia Tech Engineering, lot of interest in aerospace in this area.
- NVRC adopted the High School. Teaching from a text book, but here we had people with knowledge of flying.
- Hoping to go to Arcola field and fly, but it is now closed.
- Model aircraft can translate into real aircraft.
- When I was little, used to go to Arcola with my father.
- Looking forward to enjoying other activities in Sully Woodlands as well.

Laura Grape—DPWES Stormwater Planning Division

- Assistant project manager for Cub Run/Bull Run Watershed Plan.
- Commend the Park Authority for addressing watershed issues, encourage continued partnership.
- Objectives may be accomplished by partnership with DPWES, Park Authority, and local governments to achieve prime goals of stewardship and resource protection.
- Many recommended projects in the watershed plan occur on Park Authority property.
- Opportunity to multiply positive effects on the local and downstream water quality.
- Consistency and commonality between the two documents.
- Sully Woodlands plan is fine example of coordination between our two County agencies.
- Trail network in watersheds are important active and passive recreation gateways. Undisturbed nature of many parks is primary reason we have high quality streams in watershed.
- Encourage Park Authority to continue to be leaders and role models in managing run off and continuing use and promoting low impact development techniques.

Victor Kernus—Northern Virginia Radio Control (NVRC)

- Asked NVRC members to stand
- Non-profit group, membership around 300
- Large number of members inducted into Hall of Fame
- Arcola site is closing, had it for 35 years. No longer able to meet the needs of its members.
- Loss of our field represents loss to local economy
- Participate in youth programs, Toys for Tots, partnered with Westfields High School.
- Members recognize the need for various other fields in the County. With growing population, need for activity fields on the rise.

- Unlike neighboring counties, currently no place in FFX County for model airplanes.
- Request that the Park Authority maintain the model airplane field on Horne.
- Request expedited process, take steps necessary so we can begin flying and serving the needs of the model airplane community.

Marion Kitchens—2709 Colt Run Road, Oakton, Virginia; NVRC

- Ask a very specific question—can the Park Authority accelerate the archaeological survey and accelerate 2232 process as it applies to Horne property?
- Why—last year we had a youth program with 90 participants and \$1400 worth of prizes donated. Flew demonstrations for kids. First flying experience for 30 to 40 of the kids. This year no site.
- Toys for Tots—can't do that this year either
- Westfields High School—can go into classroom, can talk to them, but cannot give them first hand experience.
- Important for seniors as socializing
- Please make field available as soon as possible.

Ted Troscianecki—WFCCA, Virginia Run resident

- WFCCA representing some 50 homeowner and civic associations directly impacted by this process.
- Would like to first acknowledge the efforts of many, many organizations and individuals helping to bring us to this point in the process.
- Sits squarely in the WFCCA footprint, have been active in the process. Will continue to be an integral part of the process.
- Believe the plan accomplishes the goal of balancing the need to preserve vast areas of the assemblage and provide much needed active recreation facilities.
- Done an excellent job in assessing and inventorying the resources. Purpose and goals are well grounded.
- However, the devil will always be in the details especially when it comes to planning of active facilities, will be vetted during the 2232 process.
- Recreation Needs—Always be a debate on what facilities are needed. Difficult balancing act and we request that the Park Authority focus on the needs that have the greatest impact on the larger population. Residents of Sully District and Western Fairfax have waited long time; their needs should be prioritized over all others, especially those outside Fairfax.
- Use of facilities by those outside Fairfax County—sticking point with us for long, long time. Land acquisitions and facilities largely funded by FFX Co. tax payers. Strongly object to use of these facilities by those outside the County. Loudoun residents could be the largest beneficiary of its use unless necessary steps are taken.
- Transportation—South Riding could have easiest access to Core Properties. WFCCA strongly urges Park Authority and County to facilitate road

improvements prior to or in concert with any major recreational centers that are planned.

- Adequate public facilities—Have concerns over intense active recreation plans in area that lack the means to provide restroom facilities, sanitation facilities—need to consider that.
- Lighting in RC –WFCCA continues position that lighting of large recreational facilities is inappropriate with RC district.
- Will continue to be part of the process in very positive way.

Gary Rufner and Mike Alber—Virginia Run Residents

- Represent group of Virginia Run residents adjacent to Eagle.
- Community Serving Recreation Zone (CSPZ) on Eagle should be eliminated and entire property be considered a Resource Stewardship Zone.
- Currently Virginia Run has 2 large recreation area, pool, tennis courts, basketball court, and several tot lots.
- Surveyed community for recreation priorities and none of the CSRZ uses made the list.
- Community has significant cash reserves and can fund amenities ourselves.
- Virginia Run has not requested the CSRZ designation. Use funds for other uses.
- In summary, suggest that all of Eagle be a Resource Stewardship Zone.

Edwin Manson—1604 Highland Glen Place, McLean, Virginia; NVRC

- Member of NVRC for about 2 years
- Learned what makes an airplane fly, how to fly, model airplanes, how to build models from kits and just plans.
- Participated in volunteer workdays, flying contests, aerobatic contests, model building contests, Toys for Tots, spoke at Westfields High School.
- Important and exciting hobby.
- Learned how to safely operate models, spend time with Dad building models.
- Plan to study aeronautical engineering in college, think this hobby will help me prepare for college.
- Hope that FFX County will provide model airplane park .

Bob Burnett—400 Woodgrove Court, Herndon, Virginia; NVRC

- NVRC member for 50 years
- Whole-heartedly thank you for including model enthusiasts in draft plan
- Can make it work if you give us the opportunity
- 90 year old father is still interested in hobby
- During this time, County has gone through numerous changes. To support resident you build fields, some equestrian facilities, golf courses, walking trails, but no model airplane fields.
- All neighboring counties have fields for modeling residents. Think it is time that FFX supports its modeling residents.

- Heard some objections to the hobby—noise, environmental impacts, pollution, infer problems between equestrian.
- Noise—visitors to field from civic organizations and Park Authority, all were surprised by what little noise our planes do make.
- Our hobby does not pollute, very little effect on environment.
- Talking about putting in 2-3 acres for landing field, 20 acres for fly over area.
- No impact over Woodlands creatures, co-exist with all. We have for 50 years.
- Planes have been flying on methanol all along, glad to hear that cars are catching up.
- Compatible with horses, had horses next to us when flying. Horses are inquisitive creatures, never noticed them scared in any way.

Peter Rundel—6595 Creek Run Drive, Centreville, Virginia; NVRC

- Have had the pleasure of bringing along 14 year old into the hobby
- Wonderful hobby, builds character
- Helps you learn to put things together and take things apart.
- Hobby is important to us and we would like to continue with the hobby.

Cheryl Repetti—52115 Goldmore Court, Centreville, Virginia; Friends of Historic Centreville

- President of FHC
- Want to say ‘Yeah Park Authority’
- Pleased to see how thoroughly integrated historic resources are in the plan; not just in the cultural resource section, but throughout the plan.
- Applaud emphasis on connectivity (trails, streams), potential to use the internet to connect the sites
- Looking forward to implementation
- Agree that citizens should become stewards of our parkland.

Barbara Am Ende—43465 Laidlow, Chantilly, Virginia; MORE

- Would like to thank the Park Authority for having the foresight of setting aside land
- Particular interest in natural surface trail and partnering with the equestrians. Always had a good relationship with equestrians.
- Would like 10-15 miles of natural surface multi-use trails
- Support building trails that are sustainable with very little impact on the environment.
- 3,000 registered on website for DC area
- Have put in hundreds of hours building and maintaining trails
- Not a lot of mountain biking places in the area of the County
- Would like footbridge by Cub Run RECenter—would commute to work then
- Work with the spirit of cooperation—cooperate with community throughout the area. Work on trails throughout the County.

Deb Lesser—6208 Hidden Canyon, Centreville, Virginia; VA Run resident

- Came interested in trails, active in trails countywide, former trail committee member
- Done a good job looking at a variety of trails in the plan.
- Need natural surface and equestrian trails
- Also need hard surface trails without fair-weather crossings for bicycles
- Need to look at it as a group, what is the best use of this facility, what is the best use of these resources. Out of all these uses, which are compatible?
- When you look at model airplanes, you have to say ‘why can’t they go some place else?’ They have been turned away from other areas. They are noisy.
- Cannot take down any more trees—most important resource we have in Sully Woodlands.
- Hacor land set aside for open space, not for model plane park or model rocket park.

Arlen Harbaugh—Reston, Virginia

- Model airplane enthusiast
- The reason so many of us are here is important, because our needs have been overlooked.
- Back in 1990 there was a flying site at Baron Cameron Park because development encroached upon flyover area, not because we were obnoxious.
- Implied promise that FFX County was going to provide us with another facility.
- Appreciative that it is happening now. Driving 40 minutes to Loudoun County to fly. Where I fly in Loudoun, there is not an environmental disruption, supportive of preserving the environment.
- Flying activity would for very well in this plan.

Carl Whiskey—6038 Persinger House Court, Manassas, Virginia

- Want to talk about history of model aviation and use of park
- 1908—first time models got started at public parks
- 1954—go to public park on weekends with parents to watch radio controlled model planes
- 30 years later started flying model airplanes
- Very few opportunities today to go fly model airplanes
- Area will work and be compatible with other uses. Think you can do many different things in this area and it will work well together.

Mark McConn—7408 Bull Run Drive, Centreville, Virginia

- Biggest problem I see with the whole project is transportation.
- Bull Run Post Office Road—one of your gateways, substandard road, one accident a week, last 4 years, 2 people killed. Increased traffic because of Loudoun development.
- No plans on 6-year or 20-year State plan to do anything on that road. Not on County transportation plan.
- Putting people’s lives at risk, one thing you have got to listen to.

- Have to put transportation improvements first. If not and someone gets killed, will go screaming bloody murder to the press about what the Park Authority has done. Said this before the BOS on Field of Dreams.
- Number of stables out there, had to get the police to take model airplane flyers off Field of Dreams. They are spooking horses. One of main County horse trails goes through Horne, airfield will not work with horses.
- President of Sully District Civic Association

Ralph Wills—Chantilly Youth Association

- Like to commend you for coming up with the plan.
- Lots of opportunities and diverse interest. Your challenge is making all these things work.
- Unique because public entity is essentially doing the development. Most of the time with this much acreage you have a developer.
- Get BOS to get help getting road improvements done. Say need help getting roads done.
- Interim use at Quinn Farm—worked with Park Authority to make sure it was done right, volunteer effort.
- Got to start taking steps, get momentum up.

Bonnie Stephens—6222 Point Court, Centreville, Virginia

- Have petition
- Greatly appreciate efforts of Park Authority to add equestrian paths to parkland
- One issue that concerns us—opposed to the possibility of having model airplanes on Horne
- Directly adjacent to Union Ridge Equestrian Center—houses more than 70 horses, dozens more at private facilities
- Riders all over Bull Run Post Office Road utilize creek crossing to access Battlefield
- Model airplanes, riders, and hikers do not safely mix—horses will spook
- Airplanes are loud, no guarantee they would be safely controlled
- My question to you is will they be tethered? If allowed, ask that they be tethered, very important.
- Bull Run Post Office Road is one of last few horse area in County
- Please find another, safer spot for plane flying. Also ask that you guarantee safe crossing and trails through Horne and crossing Bull Run Post Office Road into Battlefield.

Bill Scott—10400 Whitehead, Fairfax, Virginia

- Own property on Bull Run Post Office Road
- Had suggested that easements be donated by property owners for trails, but reluctance from Park Authority to do it with easements. Wish you would review that, not sure why resistance to it.

- Dump truck turned over on Bull Run Post Office on Saturday, dangerous curve.
- Here as an equestrian, but suggest to model airplanes don't represent that planes are not noisy, just a noise horses can learn to get used to.
- Disagree with woman who says it shouldn't go there. Langley Air Force Base—horses near that do not raise their heads.
- Learn to work together—horses learn to get accustomed to things

Nicholas Burhans—Fauquier County Resident

- Member of Fauquier Flying Club, Prince William Flying Club
- Advantage of dedicated flying site—will gain structure, NVRC can control flying.
- Provide flying zone, controls, and safety rules
- AMA provides individual and site coverage.
- NVRC checks ability of individuals. Learn to fly with someone before you fly alone—use 'Buddy Box.'
- Structured situation so people not just flying all over, controlled.
- Commend you for dedication of facility.

Scott Daniels—NVRC

- Horses are smart critters, very adaptable
- Horses manage to deal with model aircraft. Used to fly at Air Force in Massachusetts, co-existed with horses up there, used facility at same time, just acted reasonably.
- Flying site next to Middlesex County equestrian field, equestrian events held when model airplanes flying without problem.
- Think we can make it, horses and planes fine.

Elizabeth Ann Wohlleben—Northern Virginia Equestrian Coalition Organization (NVECO)

- Coalition representing 20 equestrian organizations in the area—FFX, Prince William, Loudoun, Fauquier
- Live in Falls Church, home horse club is in Loudoun. Horse stables in Sterling under flight path for Dulles Airport. Horses got used to it. Some model airplanes around. Some horses took to the planes.
- Spirit of sharing, learn to co-exist. Opportunity for education and desensitization training.

