



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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MEETING SUMMARY

BRADDOCK PARK MINI-GOLF COURSE

Community Meeting
June 12, 2014, 7:00 P.M.
Mott Community Center, Fairfax, VA

AGENDA

Welcome and Introductions	Mike Thompson, Springfield Representative, Park Authority Board
	Supervisor Herrity, Springfield District
Background Information	Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer
Presentation about Mini-Golf Course	Jay Rauschenbach, Project Manager, Park Planning Branch
Moderated Public Input	Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer
Adjournment	

Staff in attendance:

- Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
- David Bowden, Director, Planning and Development Division
- Todd Johnson, Director, Park Operations Division
- Barbara Nugent, Director, Park Services Division
- John Nolan, Communications Director and Legislative Aide, Office of Springfield District Supervisor Herrity
- Brian Williams, Acting Manager, Real Estate Services
- Diana Fuentes, Public Information Office
- Kathryn Wagner, Public Information Office Summer Intern

Staff presentations (available on the project website) included an overview of the Park Authority, background information about the mini-golf course in Braddock Park, and details about the two parallel processes going forward to determine the future of the mini-golf course. The two parallel processes include the June 12, 2014 community meeting and subsequent 30-day public comment period, and a "Request for Interest" (RFI) submitted by the Park Authority to gauge interest by private operators to make



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improvements and re-open the mini-golf course; please see the staff presentation for further details about these two parallel processes.

Following staff presentations, Judy Pedersen **moderated a community discussion** between community members in attendance and staff about the future of the mini-golf course. A summary of the community discussion is provided below, though please note that it is not verbatim and is only intended to provide the general impression and sentiment of the community discussion.

The meeting adjourned after an engaging community discussion.

Summary of Community Discussion

Prior to the start of the community discussion, Supervisor Herrity inquired about the number of non-Park Authority mini-golf courses in the area. Staff research after the meeting found that there are five courses by private operators and seven courses by other public operators, including Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and Prince William County. Below is the listing of these courses:

Within Fairfax County

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority
Fountainhead Regional Park (Fairfax Station)
Pohick Bay Regional Park (Lorton)

Woody's Golf Range
11801 Leesburg Pike, Herndon

Just Outside Fairfax County

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority
Algonkian Regional Park (Sterling)
Cameron Run Regional Park (Alexandria)
Upton Hill Regional Park (Arlington)

Topgolf Alexandria
6625 South Van Dorn Street, Alexandria

Dulles Golf Center & Sports Park
21593 Jesse Court, Dulles

Magic Putting Place
8902 Mathis Avenue, Manassas

Broad Run Golf & Practice Facility
10201 Golf Academy Drive, Bristow

Prince William County
Lake Ridge Park (Woodbridge)
Locust Shade Park (Dumfries)



To begin the discussion, Judy Pedersen and Mike Thompson briefly spoke about ideas and comments they've received from the community thus far, which have ranged from reopening the mini-golf course to converting it into a giant playground or picnic shelters.

Thereafter, the community discussion covered several topics:

- Findings of the existing conditions assessment conducted by the Park Authority, which showed safety and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance deficiencies with no funding identified to address
 - \$500,000 related to ADA upgrades
 - \$170,000 related to other maintenance issues
- Public funding for any option going forward would likely be in a bond referendum
- Utilization rates of existing mini-golf courses operated by the Park Authority
 - Jefferson Falls in Jefferson District Park is most frequented, followed by Oak Marr Park and Burke Lake Park, and then Lucky Duck in Lake Accotink Park
 - These four courses are open about 100 days each year, and attract about 120,000 rounds of mini-golf in total annually
 - The mini-golf course in Braddock Park generated an annual gross revenue of less than \$100,000 according to vendor information provided to the Park Authority
- Liability issues for any option going forward
- Overview of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and requirements for renovations versus new construction of public park facilities
- Assessment of the needed capital and operating costs to renovate and operate the mini-golf course concluded that it would not be feasible for the Park Authority to pursue this option

