



County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

2020 Council Members

Magisterial Representatives:

Marcia M. Pape Daniels
Braddock District

Gregory Beckwith
Dranesville District

James Elder
Hunter Mill District

Lisa Mickey
Lee District

Barbara R. Lowrey
Secretary
Mason District

Lester Munson
Mount Vernon District

Stephen McLaughlin,
Chairman
Providence District

Michael Thompson, Jr.
Springfield District

Gary Flather
Sully District

Katherine Quinn
Member-At-Large

Vacant
Diversity-At-Large

Town Representatives:

Jeffrey E. Stein
Town of Clifton

Roland Taylor
Town of Herndon

Sam Althoff
Town of Vienna

Sports-Specific Representatives:

Rob Hahne
Baseball Council

Suzy Willemssen
Fast Pitch Softball Council

Carl A. S. Coan, III
Adult Softball Council

Steve Bergstrom
Basketball Council

Mark Meana,
Football Council

Mary Ann Wagner
Lacrosse Council

Lula Bauer
Soccer Council

Chuck Pruitt
Volleyball Council

Jenni Cantwell
Vice Chairman
Women's Sports

Non-Voting Members:

Michael Thompson
Park Authority

Vacant
Park Authority

Dr. Ricardy Anderson
School Board

William Curran
Fairfax County Public Schools

Executive Agency:

Christopher A. Leonard
Director
Neighborhood and Community Services

FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

MINUTES

June 24, 2020

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Link to Video of the Meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ldfl6V11E9E&feature=youtu.be>

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Mark O'Meara, Braddock District, Alternate
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District
James Elder, Hunter Mill District
William Bright, Lee District, Alternate
Lester Munson, Mount Vernon District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District
Gary Flather, Sully District
Mark Abbott, Sully District, Alternate
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large
Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton
Roland Taylor, Town of Herndon
Steve Bergstrom, Basketball Council
Suzy Willemssen, Fast Pitch Softball Council
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council
Carl Coan, Adult Softball Council
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council
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 Board
Kevin Williams, Fairfax County Park Authority
Dr. Ricardy Anderson, Fairfax County School Board, Mason District
Bill Curran, Director of Student Activities, Fairfax County Public Schools
Paul Hatcher, Fairfax County Public Schools
Chris Leonard, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services
Mark Martino, Branch Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services
Jason Shelton, Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Mickey, Lee District
 Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
 Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
 Rob Hahne, Baseball Council
 Mark Meana, Football Council
 Chuck Pruitt, Volleyball Council

GUESTS:

Eric Kulczycky, Visit Fairfax
 Matt McMahon, Fairfax Ultimate

MEETING OPENING

Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

STATUS REPORT FROM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVESNCS

Mr. Martino reported that NCS has issued summer field permits with restrictions. Groups must adhere to the CDC and Governor's phase 2 guidelines. The NCS field monitors, as well as Police and School Security are also out monitoring fields. School custodians are starting trash collection at FCPS athletic fields.

FCPS

Mr. Curran reported that FCPS reopened yesterday within the Governor's phase 2 guidelines. FCPS in consultation with the Health Department and Virginia High School League (VHSL) put together a program for administrators' and coaches to conduct workouts with student athletes. All high school Direct of Student Activities (DSA) received training on how coaches can work with student athletes while following social distancing guidelines. Any coach who volunteered received training as well. The workouts do not involve any equipment. The student athlete arrives at the school and receives a temperature check while remaining in their vehicle. They are then asked 4 question provided by the Health Department. All data is saved for tracking purposes. The coach confirms the student athlete has a water bottle and they can proceed to the field. After the work outs is conducted, everyone leaves the field in a staggered formation.

Mr. Curran informed the Council that FCPS submitted their Health and Safety plan to the Virginia Department of Education. Program and school re-opening are optional at this point and that information is being tracked.

Mr. Thompson inquired if FCPS had received any feedback or guidance regarding fall sports. Mr. Curran informed the Council that the VHSL has an executive committee meeting on June 25 to discuss fall sports. No decision is expected to be made, but a thorough discussion will take place.

Fairfax County Athletic Council
12011 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
703 324-5523



FCPS met with the State Superintendent regarding the prospective for fall sports. It was a positive meeting with the hopes that a fall season can be salvaged. There is still a lot of unknowns, much will be driven by school divisions across the state, as well as the Governor's phase 3 guidelines.

Mr. McLaughlin inquired what the phase 3 guidelines mean regarding competition for FCPS. Mr. Curran stated that phase 3 guidelines allow more things to open, however the guidelines around athletics is not very detailed at this time. The VHSL executive committee will look at the phase 3 guidelines and interpret what they could mean for athletics moving forward.

FCPA

Mr. Williams reported the park Authority is in the process of installing COVID-19 signage at all park facilities. Mr. Williams shared an example of the signage.

Mr. Thompson stated that the park Authority is moving forward with the obligations of the approved bond this fall which include projects that will affect athletic community. The Park Authority will keep the Council and community informed of upcoming public meetings and information regarding the bond.

Mr. Bergstrom inquired on the status of the backboards and rims being restored to outdoor park basketball courts. Mr. Williams stated that the process of restoring the backboards and rims had started as part of phase 2 reopening on June 12. Mr. Williams stated it may take a few weeks to get all backboards and rims replaced at all sites.

RETURN TO PLAY COMMITTEE

Mr. McLaughlin informed the Council that the Return to Play committee had met twice since the last Athletic Council meeting. The committee is co-chaired by Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Thompson and includes members from FCPA, FCPS, NCS and other sport group members. The first meeting was held before the Governor's guidelines were announced. This meeting included reviewing issues groups were facing amid the pandemic. After the initial meeting, NCS sent an email asking sports to send any questions, concerns, thoughts, ideas, suggestions, etc. NCS compiled the information received from groups and passed them along to Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Thompson. A document was put together by grouping similar questions and concerns from groups. Some questions were able to be answered by the Governor and CDC guidelines. The document addresses consensus interpretations and best practices that were discussed at the meetings. The document can be found at [Return to Play Document](#).

Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Curran if he could provide examples of what FCPS had done for graduations, training with student athletes, etc. Mr. Curran will provide documents to the Council.

There was some concern raised that the Governor's phase 3 guidelines does not specifically address athletic competition and could be interpreted different ways by groups. This may lead to some groups going to full competition which is concerning.



Phase 2

Indoor and outdoor recreational sports may occur if ten feet of physical distance can be maintained by all instructors, participants, and spectators, with the exception of incidental contact or contact between members of the same household. This applies during instruction and practice and during competitive events. Competition that involves close contact with other athletes must be avoided.

Phase 3

Indoor and outdoor recreational sports should maintain ten feet of physical distance between all instructors, participants, and spectators, where practicable.

VIRGINIA FORWARD PHASE 2 AND 3 GUIDELINES

[Virginia Forward Phase 2 Guidelines](#)

[Virginia Forward Phase 3 Guidelines](#)

STATUS OF SPORTS GROUPSBasketball

Mr. Bergstrom stated that basketball is idle right now due to FCPS gyms being closed. There is some activity in private gyms, but not much. Awaiting more information from future phases in reopening process.

Fast Pitch Softball

Ms. Willemssen reported that softball has been having competitions with social distancing protocols. She distributed the Return to Play committee information to the softball community and said while the social distancing is not perfect, most are adhering to guidelines.

Slow Pitch Softball

Mr. Coan reported that Fairfax Adult Softball plans to restart on July 5. They are implementing several social distancing protocols including a strike mat, having the catcher 6 feet behind home plate, as well as adjusting start times to avoid overlaps.

Soccer

Ms. Bauer stated that soccer groups must also follow Virginia Youth Soccer Association guidelines which are mandated by US Soccer. Pre-screening is occurring with all data being saved. Sessions are being conducted with 9 players and 1 coach. Unfortunately, fall registration is down 20%-30%. Groups are also self-reporting social distancing violations which led to Virginia Youth Soccer Association sending a strict memo reinforcing that social distancing guidelines must be followed.

Ms. Bauer provided the Council with Return to Play guidelines and videos at the following website.

<https://mvsc.org/rtp/>

Volleyball

Mr. Bailey stated that there was not much activity in the volleyball community. Mr. Bailey reported that some private clubs were opening, but most are waiting for fall.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully,
Barbara R. Lowrey, Secretary

