

Magisterial Representatives: Marcia M. Pape Daniels Braddock District

Gregory Beckwith Dranesville District

Jeremy Lee Hunter Mill District

Lisa Mickey Secretary Franconia District

Barbara R. Lowrey Mason District

Lester Munson Mount Vernon District

Vacant Providence District

Michael Thompson, Jr. Springfield District

Gary Flather Vice Chairman Sully District

Katherine Quinn Member-At-Large

Marc Fernandes Diversity-At-Large

Town Representatives

Jeffrey E. Stein Town of Clifton

Roland Taylor Town of Herndon

Tom Hanton Town of Vienna

Sports-Specific Representatives: Rob Hahne Baseball Council

Suzy Willemssen Fast Pitch Softball Council

Vacant Adult Softball Council

Steve Bergstrom Basketball Council

Mark Meana Football Council

Mary Ann Wagner Lacrosse Council

Lula Bauer Chairman Soccer Council

Rob Baily Volleyball Council

Jenni Cantwell Women's Sports

Non-Voting Members: Michael Thompson Park Authority

Vacant Park Authority

Megan McLaughlin School Board

William Curran Fairfax County Public Schools

Executive Agency: Lloyd Tucker

Director Neighborhood and Community Services

# County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

#### Fairfax County Athletic Council Minutes

September 21, 2022

Meeting Held via Microsoft Teams

Link to Video of the Meeting:

Fairfax County Athletic Council Meeting - Sept. 21, 2022 - YouTube

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District Lisa Mickey, Franconia District Bill Bright, Franconia District, Alternate Barbara Lowrey, Mason District Bob Kirk, Mount Vernon District, Alternate Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District Gary Flather, Sully District Mark Abbott, Sully District, Alternate Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large Annmarie Swope, Member-At-Large, Alternate Roland Taylor, Town of Herndon Rob Hahne, Baseball Council Suzy Willemssen, Fast Pitch Softball Council Mark Meana, Football Council Lula Bauer, Soccer Council Trish Moxie, Soccer Council, Alternate Rob Baily, Volleyball Council

#### COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Karen Avvisato, Athletic Services Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services Mark Martino, Branch Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services Jason Shelton, Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services Jill Clark, Senior HHS Policy & Program Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services Kevin Williams, Acting Director, Park Operations Division, Fairfax County Park Authority Bill Curran, Director of Student Activities, Fairfax County Public Schools Paul Hatcher, Director of Administrative Services, Fairfax County Public Schools Vicki Garner, Coordinator of Community Use, Fairfax County Public Schools

#### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mark O'Meara, Braddock District, Alternate Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District Brian Luwis, Dranesville District, Alternate Jeremy Lee, Hunter Mill District Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District, Alternate Lester Munson, Mount Vernon District Kelly Ego-Osula, Providence District, Alternate Mark Heilbrun, Springfield District, Alternate Marc Fernandes, Diversity-At-Large Eric Sohn, Diversity-At-Large, Alternate Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton Tom Hanton, Town of Vienna Steve Bergstrom, Basketball Council Stew Clark, Basketball Council, Alternate Ryan Buchanan, Fast Pitch Softball Council, Alternate Ted Hollingsworth, Football Council, Alternate Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council Dave Paddock, Lacrosse Council, Alternate Christine Idip, Slow Pitch Softball, Alternate Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs Hillary Richardson, Women's Sports Programs, Alternate





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#### **MEETING OPENING**

Ms. Bauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

#### CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

#### PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

Ms. Jill Clark, Senior HHS Policy & Program Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services shared a PowerPoint presentation on New VFOIA Requirements for Public Meetings. The Council discussed the new requirements and will formally vote on whether to adopt a virtual participation policy at the October meeting.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The meeting minutes from the virtual meeting on July 20 were approved

### CHAIRMAN REPORT

None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

<u>Communications with Fairfax County Partners - FCPS, FCPA, NCS and Community Users</u> Mr. Flather asked the Council, NCS and FCPS for any updates on the FCPS cancelations.

Mr. Hahne stated he spoke with Mr. Curran about cancelations at high school level. Some of the recent cancelations were caused by football games having to be rescheduled due to referee shortages. Mr. Hahne reported that the green day issue has not been resolved. Mr. Hahne suggested setting up a meeting specifically to discuss high school community use.

Ms. Garner emphasized that the cancelations are a work in progress. The biggest issue the last few weeks has been the PTA groups. Ms. Garner is brainstorming with head of all the PTAs to see what measures can be taken so these events aren't entered so late. One issue is a lot of PTAs are not forming until September and therefore are entering events and programs that cancel NCS community use. Ms. Garner explained that her office has a dedicated staff member for NCS scheduling and investigating if entered school events are valid.

Ms. Garner reported that her staff has worked with several high schools to free up scheduling time on high school stadium fields when high school games and practices aren't occurring.

Ms. Garner was appreciative of the Council's advocation for additional staff to help with overseeing community use at schools.

Ms. Avvisato reported that communication between NCS and FCPS has greatly improved, and they continue to work on solutions to minimize the number of cancelations.

Mr. Thompson inquired if there is detailed information on the cancelation data that shows what the cause of the cancelation is. NCS confirmed they can identify and categorize each cancelation. Mr. Thompson explained that he has historically worked with PTAs and at looking at the Virginia PTA bylaws, all PTA officers are required to take office by July 1. Mr. Thompson stated that other non-profit groups that use FCPS facilities must abide by deadlines and the PTA groups should not be an exception to be able to cancel previously scheduled community use groups.





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Ms. Bauer appreciated the conversation and expressed frustration about recent cancelations she received from 2 high schools for Homecoming which is well known in advance.

Mr. Hahne thanked Mr. Curran for his responsiveness with any cancelation or issues related to high school community use. Mr. Hahne has written a letter in support of adding additional staff at schools to deal with community use and scheduling.

Mr. Flather reiterated that there is work still to be done and there needs to be some accountability on all sides.

Ms. Swope explained her experience on PTA groups and believe a lot of them don't know the process of how NCS is scheduled and how to reserve space. Ms. Swope believes a process can be set up at schools where the PTA can meet with the person in charge of reserving space in June and have another meeting in August to review the calendar of events.

### **REPORTS BY SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES**

#### Baseball

Mr. Hahne announced on November 15-17 there will be a Youth Baseball Summit which includes leaders from Major League Baseball, USA Baseball, Little League, Cal Ripken, PONY Dixie and all travel organizations at the Capitol One Watermark Hotel.

On December 8-10, Fairfax Oaks Marriot hosting Virginia Baseball Coaches Convention in conjunction with George Mason University.

#### Fast Pitch Softball

Ms. Willemssen reported the weather has been good and continuing work on the APRT report

#### **Football**

Mr. Meana reported the Fairfax County Youth Football League (FCYFL) has kicked off and things are going well. Officiating continues to be an issue as it has been in all sports.

Mr. Meana explained FCYFL had a successful transition from Falls Church High School to Marshall High School to do the annual weigh ins for FCYFL. Participation is up by 16 teams which is positive.

Mr. Meana shared that he attended the remembrance service for Mr. Stephen McLaughlin that took place at The Barns at Wolf Trap on Sunday September 18. Mr. Meana stated it was one of the most magnificent events he has attended, and the attendance showed how much impact Mr. McLaughlin had on so many throughout the community.

### <u>Soccer</u>

Ms. Moxie reported that soccer participation numbers are up. Recreational and travel soccer program are in their 3<sup>rd</sup> week of games and the weather has been fantastic so far.

### Volleyball

Mr. Baily stated that the girls high school volleyball season is in full swing and club volleyball tryouts start in October. The Boys High School Volleyball League had 35 teams this season with over 400 participants. A lot of the participants are starting interest clubs at their schools in hopes of taking the sport to the next level.

## STATUS REPORT FROM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

### <u>FCPS</u>

Mr. Curran reported that they are seeing a pattern of negative behaviors at sporting events which unfortunately has been a theme nationally. FCPS is taking some preemptive measures and reminding everyone what FCPS expectations are.





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Mr. Curran was pleased to report that high school sports participation is back and, in some cases, surpassing pre-pandemic levels.

### FCPA

Mr. Williams shared the following projects with the Council

Year	Park	Field	Type of Work	Status
2021	Patriot Park North	All Fields	Re-development of the entire park: lighted synthetic fields ((4) 90's and (2) 50/70's), restrooms, shelter, playground and parking areas	Update: Approximately <u>75%</u> Complete, with the exception of lighting. July 1, 2021 - Winter 2023
	Great Falls Nike	4	Resurfacing	Closed September and October
	Langley Fork	2 and 3	Replacing backstops and wing fencing expansion	Update: <u>Late Fall</u> 2022
	Lewinsville	1	Replacing backstop and wing fencing	Update: <u>Late Fall</u> 2022
2022	Rolling Valley West	1	Replacing backstop and sideline fencing	Complete
	Winterset Varsity	1	Renovation of Police Administration Building will close field; Irrigation will be installed before reopening of field	Spring 2022 - Fall 2024
2023	Cunningham	All Fields	Irrigation replacement	Update: <u>Spring</u> 2023
	Scotts Run(name?)	1	New Lighted Synthetic - 180' x 220'	Winter 2023/2024
	South Run District	All Fields	Irrigation replacement	Update: <u>Spring</u> 2023

Cub Run ES:

Skinning the two traditional little league diamonds and cutting out the tball field

Flint Hill ES: Skinning the traditional little league diamond

Westbriar ES:

Sodding the traditional little league diamond and cutting out only base areas to prevent washout which occurs with poor grade heavy rain

Leis Ctr: Skinning the traditional little league diamond

Thoreau MS: Skinning the two traditional little league diamonds





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Holmes MS: Rebuilding the existing 90ft baseball field to remove lips and address grade

Lewis High School: Rebuilding the 90ft and 60ft bullpens

Marshall High School: Addressing 90ft outfield water issues with drainage system

Oakton High School: Rebuilding softball bullpens and addressing high use areas between dugouts of the 90ft field

South Lakes High School: Addressing softball field outfield water issues with drainage system

Mr. Thompson informed the Council that the Park Authority has encountered costs are significantly higher than first anticipated.

#### <u>NCS</u>

Ms. Avvisato reported that NCS continues to work on the APRT report. The target date to report to BOS is December.

Mr. Martino stated that NCS is working on putting together a community meeting with all parties. Mr. Martino is meeting with all entities for agenda items and the meeting will be virtual for better participation and attendance.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Meana wanted to confirm if the FOIA discussion on in-person or virtual meetings moving forward would be an agenda item for next month's Council meeting. Ms. Bauer confirmed that it will be its own agenda item next month.

Mr. Meana also suggested that NCS gather updated contact information for all Council members.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Curran reported the funding for the high school stadium field permanent bathrooms was approved in the School Board and BOS budget.

Mr. Bright inquired on the status of the Best Practices Committee. Mr. Martino stated he would gather his notes from the last time the committee met and see what the next steps are.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lisa MicKey, Secretary

