



County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

2023 Council Members Magisterial Representatives:

Marcia M. Pape Daniels
Braddock District

Gregory Beckwith
Dranesville District

Harold Leff
Hunter Mill District

Lisa Mickey
Secretary Franconia
District

Barbara R. Lowrey
Mason District

Lester Munson
Mount Vernon District

Kelly Ego-Osuala
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 Willemsen
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

Kim Eckert
Park Authority

Megan McLaughlin
School Board

William Curran
Fairfax County Public Schools

Executive Agency:

Lloyd Tucker
Director
Neighborhood and Community Services

Fairfax County Athletic Council Minutes

September 20, 2023

Members Present:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Mark O'Meara, Braddock District, Alternate
Lisa Mickey, Franconia District
Bill Bright, Franconia District, Alternate
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
Kelly Ego-Osuala, Providence District
Dean Shepard, Providence District, Alternate
Gary Flather, Sully District
Eric Sohn, Diversity-At-Large, Alternate
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large
Roland Taylor, Town of Herndon
Tom Hanton, Town of Vienna
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council
Mark Meana, Football Council
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council, Alternate (virtual)
Rob Baily, Volleyball Council
Hillary Richardson, Women's Sports Programs, Alternate (virtual)

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Pallas Washington, Deputy Director, Neighborhood and Community Services
Aimee Garcia, Division Director, Access and Economic Mobility, Neighborhood and Community Services
Karen Avisato, Athletic Services Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services
Mark Martino, Branch Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services
Jason Shelton, Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services
Kim Eckert, Park Division Director, Fairfax County Park Authority
Vicki Garner, Coordinator of Community Use, Fairfax County Public Schools (virtual)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District
Brian Luwis, Dranesville District, Alternate
Jeremy Lee, Hunter Mill District, Alternate
Lester Munson, Mount Vernon District
Bob Kirk, Mount Vernon District, Alternate
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District
Mark Heilbrun, Springfield District, Alternate
Marc Fernandes, Diversity-At-Large
Annmarie Swope, Member-At-Large, Alternate
Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton
Steve Bergstrom, Basketball Council
Stew Clark, Basketball Council, Alternate
Suzy Willemsen, Fast Pitch Softball Council
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

GUESTS:

Jai Cole, Director, Fairfax County Park Authority
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director, Fairfax County Park Authority
Randall Farren, Park Planning Branch Manager, Fairfax County Park Authority
Fernando Belli, Fairfax County Public Schools
Tom Horn, Fairfax County Public Schools
Eric Kulczycky, Visit Fairfax
Jeremy Purcell, FXA Sports

Fairfax County Athletic Council
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Fairfax, Virginia 22035
703-324-5533





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MEETING OPENING

Ms. Bauer called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll was called, and a quorum was present.

CITIZENSTO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

PRESENTATIONSTO COUNCIL

FCCA staff gave a presentation on the Tysons Corner Athletic Field status.

A link to the presentation can be found at:

[Tysons Athletic Field Discussion](#)

The Council had several questions on the presentation that included the following:

- How many athletic fields have been fulfilled?
- Where does the County stand on promised proffers?
- Who has met their commitment and who is delinquent?
- Is there potential to buy-out of proffers? If so, is it a set amount or case by case?

FCCA staff explained they are still in the early stages of collecting information and will take the Council's questions and follow-up at the November Council meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The meeting minutes from the July 19 Council meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN REPORT

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

After-School Middle School Sports

Ms. Bauer explained that the Council had created a committee to discuss the after-school middle school sports programs.

Mr. Tom Horn and Mr. Fernando Belli from Fairfax County Public Schools explained the process of how the after-school middle school sports program came to be. Mr. Horn and Mr. Belli stated their office learned of the program 8 months ago and learned what the initiative entailed roughly 4 months ago. The current program plans to offer cross country in the fall and track and field in the spring. Mr. Horn and Mr. Belli have encountered staffing issues as there is no extra staff available for these programs. Staff must be hired and trained.

There are roughly 1,600 students participating in the program this fall. There are 4 cross country meets planned in the fall, with 3 sites for each meet. Meets are 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. with the 1st meet being 9/30 and then 10/14, 10/21 and 10/28. FCPS will identify the spring sites by November 1 and inform NCS.





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The Council inquired about using high school stadium fields to make up for time they were canceled due to the cross country meets. FCPS is willing to work with NCS and the user groups to try to free up stadium time on Saturday mornings.

The Council had concern with the potential impact to youth organizations in the County that currently offer these sports. Children will have to choose between after-school middle school sports and youth organization. Some organizations may stop offering certain sports because of lack of participation. What happens if the after-school middle school sports program funding goes away, and these organizations don't offer these sports in the future?

Communications with Fairfax County Partners – FCPS, FCPA, NCS and Community Users

Mr. Flather and the Council are extremely frustrated with the FCPS cancelations this fall. Mr. Flather explained the committee was created about 2 years ago and it seems the community users are in no better position with the cancelations. Communication has improved between FCPS and NCS, however the cancelations remain an issue. FCPS changed the deadlines for schools to get their events in based on the NCS scheduling seasons and that is still not happening.

Ms. Bauer and Mr. Flather have reached out to Ms. Megan McLaughlin, the School Board representative for the Athletic Council. She agrees there is an issue and has initiated a meeting with NCS, FCPS and community users to discuss the issues and hopefully move forward with some solutions.

Mr. Hahne echoed Mr. Flather's concerns and listed items that need to happen moving forward:

1. NCS needs to be the advocate for community users, not FCPS.
2. Notice 8420 deadline accountability (late school events must go to community users to clear space)
3. Council representatives need to attend high school DSA meetings bi-annually.
4. Community users are held to standard, needs to be reciprocal with FCPS.

Mr. Taylor inquired about the training FCPS did with the schools on entering school events on time. Ms. Garner confirmed that new principals were trained on the impact of cancelations to community use. All staff that have access to FSDirect were also retrained on how to cancel NCS events when necessary and the importance of entering school events before permits are issued by NCS. Ms. Garner stated that the PTA events are a lot of the events causing cancelations. Community use had done multiple trainings with the PTA groups. The issue is PTAs elect their new committee in July, however they do not have the ability to organize and get their events in by the deadline. Community use is going to review events for every elementary PTA for the past 2 years and remind schools to enter events that they don't see on the calendar that they have had historically.

Stephen A. McLaughlin Fairfax County Champions of Character

Mr. Martino was pleased to announce that nominations for all categories for each magisterial district have been received and the committee has selected the winners. Official invitations for the ceremony on October 17 will be sent to the Council. Mr. Martino reminded the Council that Mr. McLaughlin's family will be in attendance and will receive an award as well.





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REPORTS BY SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES

Baseball

Mr. Hahne praised the hard work of everyone involved in the Patriot Park North complex. The complex hosted 29 events in its first year and has 31 events planned for year 2. Mr. Hahne reminded the Council of the Capital One Park baseball field that is free for community use. The field will also be host to Georgetown University and Marymount College baseball games. Additional information on the field can be found at [Capital One Park \(capitalonecenter.com\)](http://Capital One Park (capitalonecenter.com))

Football

Mr. Meana reported that the Fairfax County Youth Football League season started last weekend. The referee situation is currently adequate, and the season has started off positively. Mr. Meana has also noticed the Washington Commanders football team has been sincerely reaching out to the community to try to mend the relationship between the team and community.

Soccer

Ms. Bauer stated that the Soccer Council is interested in looking at participation numbers for the past few years as she has received several reports that soccer participation is high across the County. Ms. Bauer reported that school cancellations have had an impact this fall, especially the short notice cancellations. Ms. Bauer explained to the Council that the Soccer Council is working on a better process to give back unused space so that NCS may reallocate to other groups.

Volleyball

Mr. Baily reported that Reston Hoops Volleyball is planning their inaugural fall season. They have Coed 4th-6th grade and girls and boy's 7th-8th grade. Mr. Baily explained that full net systems have been installed at Aldrin ES and there are planning discussions regarding doing a similar installation at Dogwood ES.

Mr. Bailey stated that boys' club volleyball tryouts start next weekend and boys elementary and middle school league is kicking off matches this weekend. There are currently 6 elementary school and 10 middle school teams participating.

Mr. Baily explained that high school boys' volleyball kicked off last weekend. There are 48 teams this season which is up from 35 teams' last fall. Boys are forming interest clubs at high schools and 14 of the 25 high schools have formed interest clubs and the remaining should be complete by the end of October. Mr. Baily is continuing to work with Dr. Reid and the School Board to keep moving boys' high school volleyball to a varsity sport.

STATUS REPORT FROM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

FCPS

None





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FCPA

Ms. Eckert shared the following FCPA projects with the Council.

Year	Park	Field	Type of Work	Status
2022	Winterset Varsity	1	Renovation of Police Administration Building will close field; Irrigation will be installed before reopening of field	Spring 2022 - Fall 2024
2023	Braddock	Batting Cages	Repairs to net support pole and new netting	Complete
	Cunningham	All Fields	Irrigation Replacement	Complete
	Lewinsville	2 and 3	Synthetic Turf Replacement	Complete
	Scotts Run	1	New Lighted Synthetic - 180' x 220'	Winter 2023/2024
	South Run District	All Fields	Irrigation Replacement	Complete
	Wakefield	1-4; 7-8	Softball Diamond Field Improvement Projects (Dugouts, Bullpens, Infield Renovations, Irrigation, Fencing, Improve Outfield Turf/Drainage, Bleacher Pads, Lighting Field #1)	Spring 2024
2024	Rolling Valley West	1 & 3	Irrigation Replacement	Summer 2024
	Loisdale	1	Synthetic Turf Replacement	Summer 2024
	Sully Highlands	1 & 2	Synthetic Turf Replacement	Summer 2024
	EC Lawrence	2 & 3	Synthetic Turf Replacement	Summer 2024
	Ken Lawrence	1 & 2	Synthetic Turf Replacement	Summer 2024

NCS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lisa MicKey, Secretary

