



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

December 20, 2023

Members Present:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Mark O'Meara, Braddock District, Alternate
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District
Ian Harper, Dranesville District
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
Kelly Ego-Osuala, Providence District
Dean Shepard, Providence District, Alternate (virtual)
Gary Flather, Sully District
Charles Davis, Sully District, Alternate
Eric Sohn, Diversity-At-Large, Alternate
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large (virtual)
Roland Taylor, Town of Herndon
Tom Hanton, Town of Vienna
Mark Meana, Football Council
Ted Hollingsworth, Football Council, Alternate
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council
Rob Baily, Volleyball Council
Hillary Richardson, Women's Sports Programs, Alternate

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Lloyd Tucker, 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 (virtual)
Vicki Garner, Coordinator of Community Use, Fairfax County Public Schools (virtual)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brian Luwis, Dranesville District, Alternate
Lisa Mickey, Franconia District
Bill Bright, Franconia District, Alternate
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District
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
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council
Steve Bergstrom, Basketball Council
Stew Clark, Basketball Council, Alternate
Suzy Willemsen, Fast Pitch Softball Council
Ryan Buchanan, Fast Pitch Softball Council, Alternate
Dave Paddock, Lacrosse Council, Alternate
Christine Idip, Slow Pitch Softball, Alternate
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council, Alternate
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs

Fairfax County Athletic Council
12011 Government Center Pkwy
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.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

None

PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The meeting minutes from the November 15 Council meeting were approved.

CHAIRMAN REPORT

Ms. Bauer was pleased to introduce the new Dranesville District representative, Mr. Ian Harper, as well as the new Sully District Alternate representative Mr. Charles Davis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

After-School Middle School Sports

Mr. Flather reported that the committee met on November 9, but has not had a follow-up meeting since then. Two representatives from FCPS were able to attend, Tom Horn and Fernando Belli. FCPS is working with NCS to minimize the impact to community groups on the dates of the middle school track meets in the spring. FCPS has sent the dates to NCS, and they will verify that all the events have been put on the calendar.

Mr. Flather inquired if NCS has received all the middle school participant data from the user groups. NCS confirmed they have received middle school participant information from most of the user groups and can share it at the January meeting.

Mr. Flather stated the committee plans to have another meeting after the holidays.

Ms. Ego-Osuala stated that there have been discussions regarding changing the middle school bell schedules and that needs to be taken into consideration as well.

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

Mr. Flather reported that there was a meeting with Dr. Reid on November 21 to discuss the late cancelations after permits have been issued. Mr. Flather was disappointed that he has not received any follow-up from the meeting. NCS was to provide Megan McLaughlin with cancelation data, specifically which schools are canceling the most. Mr. Andy Mueck, Chief Operating Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools committed to meet with the regional assistant superintendents to discuss the importance of getting school events in before permits are issued and the impact the late cancelations have on the community. Mr. Mueck's three takeaways from the meeting were communication, coordination, and accountability.





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Ms. Avvisato reported that Mr. Martino and herself met with Ms. Garner and Mr. Hatcher today. Mr. Mueck, Mr. Hatcher, and Ms. Garner will all attend the meetings with the regional assistant superintendents and have already distributed a one-page overview of the ongoing discussions. Mr. Hatcher and Ms. Garner have also brought Mr. Mueck up to speed on the history of the cancelations and ideas that have been implemented so far and ideas moving forward.

Ms. Bauer stated a lot of preparation went into the meeting and was pleased to finally have a seat at the table. Ms. Bauer thanked Mr. Tucker and Ms. Avvisato for all their input and guidance. Ms. Bauer explained that the Council was created by the BOS to give the athletic community in Fairfax County a voice. The Council has done some wonderful things over the years and has a powerful voice. There have been a lot of new issues and programs, especially since the pandemic that the Council was not involved in. The committee approach hasn't been working and the Council needs a seat at the table when these discussions are occurring so they can give input for the athletic community. Mr. Flather explained an example is the communications committee that has been working for over 2 years and collected data and had numerous meetings. During that period the middle school sports program came in. Mr. Curran informed the Council of the middle school sports program, however nobody from NCS or the Council was formally invited to be a part of the discussion. The Council is a resource with years of experience and are looking to be partners and collaborate. Mr. Flather explained the Council's by-laws state that the Council reports to the BOS and if the Council isn't getting any results, the Council may need to lean on the BOS as a resource.

REPORTS BY SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES

Football

Mr. Hollingsworth reported the Fairfax County Youth Football League season concluded and it was a successful season.

Lacrosse

Ms. Wagner reported that lacrosse registration for the spring season is underway.

Soccer

Ms. Bauer reported that soccer is currently registering for spring and had a successful fall season.

Volleyball

Mr. Baily congratulated Langley High School girls' volleyball for winning the state championship. Volleyball is getting into the club season, and they continue to have conversations with Dr. Reid and Mr. Curran about making boys volleyball a varsity sport for 2024.





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STATUS REPORT FROM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

FCPA

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

Year	Park	Field	Description	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	Scotts Run	1	New Lighted Synthetic - 180' x 220'	Winter 2023/2024
	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

Ms. Eckert announced that all the Purchase Orders have been processed and there is a pre-construction meeting scheduled for January 4 for the Wakefield Park softball improvements project.

Ms. Eckert informed the Council that the Park Authority's planning and development division is compiling information in response to the September discussion on the Tysons Corner athletic fields.

NCS

Ms. Avvisato stated that Mr. Tucker and herself will meet with the Council's Executive Committee to discuss the strategic plan for the upcoming year. They will also look at what committees need to be reconvened.

Mr. Martino reported the winter gym season is underway. Mr. Martino reminded everyone that it is important to let NCS know by Wednesday if a group does not plan on using scheduled weekend gym space so FCPS can finalize custodial coverage and no custodial costs are incurred.

Ms. Avvisato reminded the Council that any paid clinics must go through either Fairfax County Park Authority or Fairfax County Public Schools community use office. NCS will distribute a reminder to all user groups about paid clinics, as well as the rules for outdoor sports using FCPS gyms.





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NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Meana stated a future agenda item needs to be synthetic turf field maintenance. High school stadium fields will be taken care of; however, the practice/community use fields may be overlooked. The Synthetic Turf Task Force did not kick off the maintenance component. The current partnership between FCPS and FCPA has been successful, however people have changed in design and construction, as well as new School Board members. Funds need to be earmarked each year for synthetic turf field maintenance instead of going year by year hoping funding is available. A presentation on the current funding and maintenance program would be helpful in formulating how the Council can help.

The Council presented Mr. Greg Beckwith, Dranesville District representative and Ms. Barbara Lowrey, Mason District representative with plaques recognizing them for their dedicated service on the Council. Council members spoke fondly of Mr. Beckwith and Ms. Lowrey for their outstanding dedication and work on the Council.

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lisa MicKey, Secretary

