



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

## 2017 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**  
Mason District

**Salvatore Colangelo**  
Mount Vernon District

**Stephen McLaughlin,**  
Vice Chairman  
Providence District

**Michael Thompson, Jr.**  
Springfield District

**Gary Flather**  
Sully District

**Katherine Quinn**  
Member-At-Large

**Clement Chan**  
Diversity-At-Large

### Town Representatives:

**Jeffrey E. Stein**  
Town of Clifton

**Nichole Lopes**  
Town of Herndon

**Sam Althoff**  
Town of Vienna

### Sports-Specific Representatives:

**Rob Hahne**  
Chairman  
Baseball Council

**Suzy Willemssen**  
Fast Pitch Softball Council

**Carl A. S. Coan, III**  
Adult Softball Council

**Dave Vennergrund**  
Basketball Council

**Mark Meana,**  
Football Council

**Mary Ann Wagner**  
Lacrosse Council

**Lula Bauer**  
Soccer Council

**Chuck Pruitt**  
Volleyball Council

**Jenni Cantwell**  
Secretary  
Women's Sports

### Non-Voting Members:

**Michael Thompson**  
Park Authority

**Todd Brown**  
Park Authority

**Tom Wilson**  
School Board

**William Curran**  
Fairfax County Public Schools

### Executive Agency:

**Christopher A. Leonard**  
Director  
Neighborhood and Community Services

## FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

### MINUTES

September 20, 2017

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District  
William Horrigan, Dranesville Alternate  
James Elder, Hunter Mill District  
Lisa Mickey, Lee District  
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District  
Clarke Gray, Providence District Alternate  
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District  
Gary Flather, Sully District  
Mark Abbott, Sully District Alternate  
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large  
Nichole Lopes, Town of Herndon  
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council  
Suzy Willemssen, Fast Pitch Softball Council  
Mark Meana, Football Council  
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council  
Rebecca Frece, Slow Pitch Softball Council Alternate  
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council Alternate  
Chuck Pruitt, Volleyball Council  
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs

### COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Bill Curran, Fairfax County School Board  
Todd Brown, Fairfax County Park Authority  
Christopher Leonard, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Karen Avvisato, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Mark Martino, Neighborhood and Community Services  
Jason Shelton, Neighborhood and Community Services

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District  
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District  
Salvatore Colangelo, Mount Vernon District  
Clement Chan, Diversity-At-Large  
Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton  
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna  
Dave Vennergrund, Basketball Council Alternate  
Carl Coan, Slow Pitch Softball Council  
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council  
Sarah Allen, Neighborhood and Community Services

### GUESTS:

None

## MEETING OPENING

Mr. Hahne called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

## PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

None

## CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None

## ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The July 19, 2017 minutes were approved.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Hahne reminded everyone that Champions of Character is Monday October 16. Light refreshments will be served starting at 6 pm and the ceremony will begin at 7pm.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Fairfax County Sports Tourism Task Force

Mr. Flather reported that the task force was started with a motion from Supervisor Herry to the Board of Supervisors to discuss the economic impact of sports tourism and outline the investments and policy changes required. Supervisor Herry would like to have the tasks completed in 6 months. Mr. Flather highlighted the key components of the first meeting:

1. Identify and document potential tournament facilities and what impact they will have on the community. The Park Authority will take the lead on this.
2. Evaluate and recommend what economic impact model will be used. Eric Kulczycky at Visit Fairfax will take the lead on this.
3. Identify and document community sports needs and impacts
4. Identify possible funding and fiscal operation or policy changes that may be needed.

Supervisor Herry is expecting a report on items 1 and 2 at the next meeting, October 26, 2017.

Mr. Thompson shared that the Park Authority does not receive funding for, or revenue from the tournaments. The revenue goes into the turf replacement fund. If it is decided that sports tourism is a priority to the County, general fund dollars must be provided to staff to operate the tournaments.



By-Laws Committee

Mr. Martino reported that he, Ms. Allen and Ms. Avvisato met with the County attorney to go over edits, formatting and language of the sports specific by-laws. The changes have been made and the by-laws are back with the County attorney for approval before they are brought back to the by-laws committee.

**SPORTS REPORT OUTS**Soccer

Ms. Moxie gave a shout out to NCS for keeping monitors and police present at problem areas. She also gave a shout out to the Park Authority for painting the new buildout lines for U9/U10 soccer.

Football

Mr. Meana reported that football kicked off. He also discussed the article "Study Shows Playing Football before age 12 can lead to mood and behavior issues" by Rick Maese.

Slow Pitch Softball

Ms. Frece asked for clarification of the Park Authority smoking policy on athletic fields. Mr. Thompson explained that "no smoking" is encouraged, but the policy does not prohibit smoking.

Fast Pitch -Softball

Ms. Willemsen commended the softball community on giving back to the community. 9/11 Responders Cup raised money for the 9/11 responders fund. The Hannah Graham tournament hosted by Mclean Magic raised money for the foundations that were set up by Hannah Graham's family.

Volleyball

None

Lacrosse

Ms. Wagner reported that fall lacrosse is just getting started.

Basketball

None

Baseball

Mr. Hahne reported that a "Baseball Think Tank" has been established. It consists of current and former high school head coaches. The main objectives will be education of coaches and to help grow and promote the game of baseball. They will meet quarterly.



## **MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM GOVERNING BODIES**

### Fairfax County Public Schools

Mr. Curran reported that the name change process is underway for Jeb Stuart High School. Public meetings have been held. The name change will impact the athletic facilities due to changing the labeling on the field and gym surfaces. This will probably be done over the summer to limit the impact. The new name has not been chosen at this point. The School Board will vote on September 21<sup>st</sup>. All information is available on the FCPS web-site.

Fall season is off to a great start. This is the first season in new district/region.

Mr. Curran explained that Dr. Brabrand does not want to keep the activities fee in the next budget so he will push the School Board for removal. Information has starting going home regarding this year's activity fee. AP/IB testing fee has been implemented. The first 6 tests are free and then students will pay for each test.

FCPS is looking to standardize artificial turf maintenance. A line item will be added to this year's budget.

### Fairfax County Park Authority

Mr. Brown reported that the summer replacement projects at Poplar Tree, Lake Fairfax, South Run and Braddock Park are complete and fields are open.

The Park Authority Master Plan is out for public comment. Mr. Thompson encouraged everyone to look at the plan.

Mr. Thompson followed up on the Tyson's question regarding the 2 small fields being counted as one large field. While the policy will allow this, the 2 fields in question are larger fields and are being undercounted. The Park Authority is trying to avoid the small field/large field count and are asking companies to work together and build larger fields to fulfil the proffer requirement.

Mr. Thompson announced that the Washington Nationals Showcase field at Mason District Park is complete and has been named "Pudge Rodriguez" field. This field was renovated with a partnership between the Nationals Dream Foundation and the Fairfax County Park Authority.

Mr. Thompson announced a Professional Rugby team is looking at moving to the DC area. The team's games would be played at the new DC United Stadium, but the team is looking at South Run Rec Center as its training facility.

### Neighborhood and Community Services

Mr. Leonard reported that Fairfax County is part of the National EPA Study on crumb rubber. The EPA was here in August and wanted user information on EC Lawrence Park and South Run field house. The information was provided to the EPA. The EPA took samples from both fields and talked to the users. The County is very engaged with the EPA in regards to the study.

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



Mr. Martino reported that Bready Park in Herndon is open. Monitors, school security and police at the field hot spots has been working well. We are adjusting coverage as needed. Light switch installation is underway. We are working with Mr. Curran in regards to winter gym space. We have several high schools that are requesting time in elementary school gyms for various high school groups. We are working to minimize the impact to community use.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Thompson passed out an article: "Why families stretch their budgets for high-priced youth sports." He also reported that the privately funded sports facility "St. James" had its ground breaking. This will be a 435,000-square foot complex off Backlick Road in the old Washington Gas building. Planned opening is Fall 2018.

Ms. Lopes reported that she has been to Ireland and Colorado talking to the heads of International Rugby and USA Rugby about bring rugby to Fairfax County once Laurel Hills is built. Current US Rugby team is looking for a new home and once ground is broken on Laurel Hill Fairfax County would be the #1 spot for re-location. Mr. Thompson reminded everyone that as of right now the formal process has not yet started on the Laurel Hill project.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully,



Jenni R. Cantwell  
Secretary

