



County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

2018 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

Salvatore Colangelo
Mount Vernon District

Stephen McLaughlin
Chairman
Providence District

Michael Thompson, Jr.
Springfield District

Gary Flather
Sully District

Katherine Quinn
Member-At-Large

Douglas Phung
Diversity-At-Large

Town Representatives:

Jeffrey E. Stein
Town of Clifton

Charles Williams
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

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 December 19, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District
James Elder, Hunter Mill District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District, Alternate
Lisa Mickey, Lee District
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District
Gary Flather, Sully District
Douglas Phung, Diversity-At- Large
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large
Jon Samson, Member-At-Large, Alternate
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council
Suzy Willemssen, Fast Pitch Softball Council
Rebecca Frece, Slow Pitch Softball Council, Alternate
Chuck Pruitt, Volleyball Council

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Chris Leonard, Neighborhood and Community Services
Karen Avvisato, Neighborhood and Community Services
Mark Martino, Neighborhood and Community Services
Jason Shelton, Neighborhood and Community Services
Dan Sutherland, Fairfax County Park Authority

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Salvatore Colangelo, Mount Vernon District
Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton
Charles Williams, Town of Herndon
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
Steve Bergstrom, Basketball Council
Mark Meana, Football Council
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council
Carl Coan, Slow Pitch Softball Council
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs
Bill Curran, Fairfax County School Board

GUESTS:

None

MEETING OPENING

Mr. McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present.

PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

Chris Young from INOVA gave a presentation regarding concussions. He highlighted concussion education training opportunities available for athletes, coaches and parents that is provided by INOVA. He also encouraged the Council to visit the new INOVA Fairfax clinic.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The November 14 minutes were approved

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

None

SPORTS TOURISM TASK FORCE

The interim report from the Task Force was distributed to the Council. Mr. Leonard explained that the field tournament policy was being looked at, as currently it is not conducive to hosting national tournaments. The field allocation policy committee met to review potential changes to the tournament scheduling section of the field allocation policy.

The next steps are to share the interim report with the Economic Advisory Commission, Fairfax County Park Authority Board, FCPS School Board and then the Task Force will reconvene in mid-late February.

Mr. Flather stated that the report was very detailed and contained a lot of information. He asked the Council to provide feedback after reviewing the report and stated that the focus is still on community-use time.

Mr. Thompson explained that the County was in the process of hiring a consultant to look at sports tourism opportunities and what facilities would make sense for the County.

Mr. Hahne explained that Fauquier County was developing a field complex that would have 8 rectangular fields and 4 diamond fields. He will send the information to the Council. Mr. Hahne also inquired if the report was able to measure the indirect and direct impact per individual? Mr. Thompson stated that there are economic models in the report and that FCPA, FCPS, etc. universally agreed to using a specific model that is in the report.



He also explained that the Task Force spent a good amount of time reviewing fiscal models. Mr. Hahne inquired if the Task Force looked at the fiscal impact of keeping local teams at home for these tournaments? Mr. Thompson replied that it was difficult to calculate, however, the high school State Jamboree hosted by Fairfax County high schools was mentioned as a positive example.

FCPS FIELD CANCELLATIONS

Mr. Flather handed out a list of notes regarding issues with FCPS. The Council had a discussion regarding the issues and it was decided that the Council pick a School Board meeting to attend to bring up the issues the community is experiencing. Mr. McLaughlin also stated that he would draft a letter for the Council to send to the FCPS Superintendent regarding the issues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

SPORTS REPORT OUTS

Fast Pitch Softball

Ms. Willemssen reported that the softball council had their committee meeting on November 19. Ms. Willemssen was nominated as the chair and Ryan Buchanan was nominated as the alternate. She thanked Mr. Martino for attending the meeting and explaining the new sports-specific by-laws.

Slow Pitch Softball

Ms. Frece stated that their field evaluations were complete and plan to meet with the Fairfax County Park Authority to review.

Ultimate Frisbee

Mr. Phung reported that the tournament he applied for in May 2019 has been scheduled and secured. He also stated that they are currently training at the South Run Field House.

Volleyball

Mr. Pruitt reported that the Chantilly HS girls' volleyball team won the state tournament. He also thanked Mr. Thompson and Mr. Martino for attending the volleyball council meeting to review the sports-specific by-laws. Mr. Pruitt also inquired about the friend of the gym program status? NCS replied that all they have heard from FCPS is the program is currently under review. Mr. Pruitt closed with stating that he fully supports the issues Mr. Flather brought up to the Council.



Baseball

Mr. Hahne stated that the baseball community was looking at synthetic turf and had polled several organizations. This fall baseball lost 41% of their games due to inclement weather. Mr. Hahne explained that there are Title IX issues with turfing school diamond fields and he will work closely with Ms. Willemsen as they look at potential options. Mr. Thompson stated that there were Title IX issues with FCPS fields as well.

MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM GOVERNING BODIESFairfax County Public Schools

None

Fairfax County Park Authority

Mr. Sutherland had nothing of note to report but reminded the Council to reach out to the Park Authority with any issues that arise. Mr. Thompson stated that there has been a change in attitude with the schools that affects use of facilities. The need for facilities contained in the current Need Assessment report will increase if less time and space is available at FCPS sites. Mr. Thompson also reported that the baseball complex is still moving forward.

Neighborhood and Community Services

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully,

Barbara R. Lowrey
Secretary

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

