



County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

2019 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

Vacant
Mount Vernon District

Stephen McLaughlin,
Chairman
Providence District

Michael Thompson, Jr.
Springfield District

Gary Flather
Sully District

Katherine Quinn
Member-At-Large

Vacant
Diversity-At-Large

Town Representatives:

Jeffrey E. Stein
Town of Clifton

Roland Taylor
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

Thomas Wilson
School Board

William Curran
Fairfax County Public Schools

Executive Agency:

Christopher A. Leonard
Director
Neighborhood and Community Services

FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL

MINUTES

June 19, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

James Elder, Hunter Mill District
Lisa Mickey, Lee District
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District
Gary Flather, Sully District
Mark Abbott, Sully District, Alternate
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large
Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton
Roland Taylor, Town of Herndon
Rob Hahne, Baseball Council
Steve Bergstrom, Basketball Council
Suzy Willemssen, Fast Pitch Softball Council
Rebecca Frece, Slow Pitch Softball Council, Alternate
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council, Alternate

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Chris Leonard, Neighborhood and Community Services
Keisha Dotson, Neighborhood and Community Services
Karen Avvisato, Neighborhood and Community Services
Mark Martino, Neighborhood and Community Services
Jason Shelton, Neighborhood and Community Services
Todd Brown, Fairfax County Park Authority
Bill Curran, Fairfax County Public Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
Mark Meana, Football Council
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council
Carl Coan, Slow Pitch Softball Council
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council
Chuck Pruitt, Volleyball Council
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Program

GUESTS:

Tim D. Nank
Eric Kulczycky

MEETING OPENING

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

PRESENTATIONS TO COUNCIL

None

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

The April 17 minutes were approved

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. McLaughlin hoped everyone has enjoyed their summer so far and had nothing of note to report.

ELECTIONS

The three incumbent executive member all expressed interest in serving another term.

Chairman: Stephen McLaughlin
Vice Chairman: Jenni Cantwell
Secretary: Barbary Lowrey

No other nominees were put forward by the Council. The three current incumbents were put to a vote and were all elected for another term.

SPORTS TOURISM TASK FORCE

Mr. Leonard updated the Council on the progress of the Sports Tourism Task Force. The Task Force is meeting with a consultant, Conventions Sports & Leisure, that was contracted to look at sports tourism opportunities in Fairfax County. A PowerPoint was distributed of the main topics that will be discussed with the consultant. The consultant will also provide what they need from the Park Authority, NCS and user groups. Mr. Leonard urged the Council to be responsive and informative if the consultant reaches out.

Mr. Leonard also provided an overview and the executive summary of the proposed indoor ski facility, Alpine X. Mr. Leonard explained the Task Force wanted to find something that brought people to the area that was unique.



Mr. Kulczycky is excited about the opportunities for tourism to the County not only in tax revenue, but jobs as well. Mr. Kulczycky reported that Visit Fairfax has worked with Conventions Sports & Leisure in the past and they are a great and easy company to work with.

Mr. Thompson stated that the ski facility will have a hotel built on site. This will keep people in Fairfax County instead of having to go outside the County to find hotel accommodations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Avvisato stated that the Steering Committee would meet in July or September depending on member availability.

SPORTS REPORT OUTS

Basketball: Mr. Bergstrom stated he had nothing to report

Slow Pitch Softball: Ms. Frece reported that the rain has been hit or miss for the spring season.

Ms. Frece also reported an incident at Braddock Park on Memorial Day weekend. Each year there is a charity youth baseball tournament that uses Braddock Park Memorial Day weekend. Softball was scheduled to use Braddock Park the Friday before Memorial Day weekend for make-up games. Early Friday evening, participants from the baseball tournament arrived at Braddock Park to prep the fields for the weekend's tournaments even though they were not permitted on Friday evening. The softball coordinator was on site and displayed the field permits and the softball games were able to finish.

Ms. Frece also requested assistance from the Park Authority with field maintenance the Tuesday after the baseball tournament due to the extensive wear and tear from the weekend's play.

Fast Pitch Softball: Ms. Willemssen congratulated South County HS on winning the softball state championship in 17 innings.

She also reminded the Council of the charity softball clinic and tournament where all proceeds go to Children's National Hospital. The tournament started with 17 teams and is now up to 72 teams. Ms. Willemssen also wanted to thank Mr. Brown for help with field maintenance at Wakefield Park and NCS for help securing fields. She also reported that the weather has been hit or miss.

Baseball: Mr. Hahne reported that little league Babe Ruth and all-star seasons are starting up



MATTERS OF INTEREST FROM GOVERNING BODIES

FCPS

Mr. Curran reported that the state championships hosted in Richmond were severely delayed. Several local high schools made trips to Richmond without playing. The Richmond area high schools do not have many turf fields which caused significant delays and cancellations. Fairfax County hosted the State Jubilee for over 12 years. Even when Fairfax had grass fields there were never delays of more than a day. This year's events send a message to the rest of the state about feasibility of hosting the state tournament. Fairfax County is the only jurisdiction with an infrastructure of its kinds.

Mr. Curran reported the following state championship winners from local high schools.

Baseball: Lake Braddock champion; Westfield runner-up

Softball: South County HS champion

Boys Lacrosse: Madison HS champion; Robinson SS runner-up

Girls Lacrosse: Langley HS champion; Madison HS runner-up

Boys Soccer: South Lakes HS champion

Boys Tennis: Chantilly HS champion; Thomas Jefferson HS runner-up

Girls Tennis: Marshall HS champion

No championships in track and field and very few individual champions

Mr. Curran stated FCPS and FCPA are almost done with planning for Justice Park and Ossian Park softball field upgrades. These fields are park fields but are utilized by Justice HS and Annandale HS.

Mr. Curran echoed Mr. Leonard that there is a lot of School Board member turnover in November. He thinks it is a good idea to put a presentation together to educate the new School Board members of what the Council does and how athletics in Fairfax County work at all levels.

In closing Mr. Curran reported that fall high school sports begin on August 5.



FCPA

Mr. Brown gave an update on the projects occurring this summer.

Larry Graves Park Conversion to Turf: June 24-September

Greenbriar Park RF #5 Turf Replacement: June 24-End of July

Nottoway Park 60 #5 Turf Replacement: June 24-End of July

Lee District Park RF #4 Turf Replacement: Early July-August

Quantum Field: Ribbon cutting on Saturday. Still working on punch list items before field is released to the Park Authority

Nottoway Park 60 #1 Conversion to Turf: Early July-Labor Day

Mr. Brown also reported to the Council on the County mandate of no mow areas. Being the largest landowner, this affects the Park Authority greatly. The Park Authority has reviewed all parks and some athletic areas may be affected. Mr. Brown explained these are not athletic fields themselves, but areas that may be used for warm-ups or scrimmages that aren't designated as athletic fields in master plans. Mr. Brown stated he is prepared to come back to the Council and present maps that show impacted areas.

NCS

Ms. Avvisato stated that fall field permits will be sent out in early July. She urged the Council to connect with staff if there are any questions or concerns. There are several schools out of services, new and emerging groups and two new turf fields added to the inventory.

Mr. Martino informed the Council that Brian Garvey, the DSA at Justice HS was kind enough to host part of the NCS Culmore Soccer Camp this summer. The Culmore Soccer Camp is a free soccer camp that is usually held at Baileys ES during the summer. Unfortunately, the field at Baileys ES is getting resurfaced this summer. Justice HS being the only other alternative in the area has been more than accommodating in ensuring that the camp could continue this summer.

Mr. Flather inquired if NCS could send out the most up to date Design and Construction matrix that shows what schools will be out for renovation. Ms. Avvisato responded that they would share the document with user groups.

Mr. Bergstrom inquired on the result of the drafted letter to send to FCPS regarding the issues with community use. Mr. Leonard responded saying that staff has met with Mr. Platenberg with FCPS and he is aware of the issues. There has been some restructuring and process changes that will hopefully have a positive impact. Mr. Bergstrom asked how progress is measured? Mr. Martino explained that NCS has started tracking all FCPS cancellations that cancel community use and is sending the list to FCPS weekly.



NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully,

Barbara R. Lowrey, Secretary

