



County of Fairfax, Virginia

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

FAIRFAX COUNTY ATHLETIC COUNCIL MINUTES

February 16, 2022

MEETING HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

LINK TO VIDEO OF THE MEETING:

[Fairfax County Athletic Council Meeting](#)

[Recording - Feb. 16, 2022 - YouTube](#)

2022 Council Members

Magisterial Representatives:

Marcia M. Pape Daniels

Braddock District

Gregory Beckwith

Dranesville District

Jeremy Lee

Hunter Mill District

Lisa MicKey

Secretary

Lee District

Barbara R. Lowrey

Mason District

Lester Munson

Mount Vernon District

Stephen McLaughlin,

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

Sam Althoff

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

Kurt Louis

Park Authority

Megan McLaughlin

School Board

William Curran

Fairfax County Public Schools

Executive Agency:

Lloyd Tucker

Director

Neighborhood and Community Services

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marcia Pape Daniels, Braddock District
Mark O'Meara, Braddock District, Alternate
Gregory Beckwith, Dranesville District
Lisa Mickey, Lee District
Bill Bright, Lee District, Alternate
Barbara Lowrey, Mason District
Lester Munson, Mount Vernon District
Bob Kirk, Mount Vernon District, Alternate
Stephen McLaughlin, Providence District
Michael Thompson Jr., Springfield District
Eric Sohn, Diversity-At-Large, Alternate
Katherine Quinn, Member-At-Large
Annmarie Swope, Member-At-Large, Alternate
Roland Taylor, Town of Herndon
Mark Meana, Football Council
Mary Ann Wagner, Lacrosse Council
Lula Bauer, Soccer Council
Trish Moxie, Soccer Council, Alternate
Rob Baily, Volleyball Council
Hillary Richardson, Women's Sports Programs, Alternate

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Lloyd Tucker, Director, Neighborhood and Community Services
Keisha Dotson, Division Director, Neighborhood and Community Services
Karen Avvisato, Athletic Services Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services
Jason Shelton, Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services
Michael Thompson Jr., Fairfax County Park Authority Board
Kurt Louis, Director of Park Operations Division, Fairfax County Park Authority
Bill Curran, Director of Student Activities, Fairfax County Public Schools
Paul Hatcher, Director of Administrative Services, Fairfax County Public Schools
Vicki Garner, Coordinator of Community Use, Fairfax County Public Schools

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brian Luwis, Dranesville District, Alternate
Jeremy Lee, Hunter Mill District
Harold Leff, Hunter Mill District, Alternate
Kelly Ego-Osuala, Providence District, Alternate
Mark Heilbrun, Springfield District, Alternate
Marc Fernandes, Diversity-At-Large
Gary Flather, Sully District
Mark Abbott, Sully District, Alternate
Jeff Stein, Town of Clifton
Sam Althoff, Town of Vienna
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
Ted Hollingsworth, Football Council, Alternate
Dave Paddock, Lacrosse Council, Alternate
Christine Idip, Slow Pitch Softball, Alternate
Jenni Cantwell, Women's Sports Programs

MEETING OPENING

Ms. Bauer called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 virtual meeting on January 19 were approved

CHAIRMAN REPORT

Ms. Bauer had nothing to report

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Mr. Shelton stated that the committee met briefly on Thursday February 10. The committee is awaiting next steps after NCS Leadership meets with FCPS Leadership on Thursday February 17 regarding communication and processes.

REPORTS BY SPORTS REPRESENTATIVES

Football

Mr. Meana had nothing to report

Lacrosse

Ms. Wagner reported that they are gearing up for the spring lacrosse season and hoping for good weather.

Soccer

Ms. Moxie stated that everyone is excited to get the spring soccer season underway. Soccer registration numbers are looking good, especially in the under-5 age groups.

Ms. Bauer thanked NCS and FCPA for getting the synthetic turf field closures out in a timely manner every day so that organizations can get the word out to their coaches and teams.

Volleyball

Mr. Baily reported that volleyball is gearing up for spring season. They have seen an increase in boys' volleyball participation and would like to meet with Bill Curran regarding the future of boys' volleyball in Fairfax County.

Ms. Swope reported that several local organizations are participating in the Capital Classic in Washington, D.C. this weekend.



STATUS REPORT FROM COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

FCPS

Mr. Curran reported that FCPS is wrapping up the winter sports season and post-season. Mr. Curran will report at the next meeting how all the local high schools finished during the winter sports season.

Mr. Curran explained that spring sports start Monday February 21. FCPS did remove the vaccination requirement based on low transmission rates and conversations with the Health Department. FCPS has discontinued COVID-19 testing as well. There are no mask requirements for outdoor sports, however masks must still be worn indoors at FCPS facilities for those not engaged in physical activity. Mr. Curran thanked the community for adhering to masking requirements.

Mr. Curran brought to Council's attention an issue with boys' soccer. Mr. Curran has heard from several principals, coaches and DSAs that there is a local organization requiring that all their participants must forgo the high school soccer season to participate with this organization. The organization does have a waiver available if the players receive financial aid from a school or is accepted to a private school to play soccer. Both waivers exclude students at public schools. Mr. Curran explained this policy is having a significant impact on several high schools. Asking adolescents to choose and potentially miss out on high school experience is not right.

Mr. Curran inquired if organizations that have this policy in place can be prohibited from using FCPS high school fields.

Mr. Meana strongly opposed this organization's policy that forces students to choose between an organization and their high school team.

Ms. Pape inquired if there was any precedent for limiting an organization's use on FCPS or FCPA fields? Mr. Curran said individuals and teams have been not allowed to use FCPS facilities, but he was not sure if it included FCPA fields as well.

Ms. Avvisato doesn't believe this type of policy is isolated to this specific organization or sport. She wondered how we would be able to find all the organizations/sports that have this policy.

Mr. Thompson suggested adding language to field allocation policy that will disqualify organizations from becoming a Certified Athletic Organization if they have this type of policy.

Mr. Munson stated that the Athletic Council is an advisory body to the BOS and School Board, and we should recommend they act against this organization via a Civil Rights suit because they are discriminating against public school children.

Mr. Kirk inquired how this organization's policy aligns with the County's One Fairfax Policy.

Mr. McLaughlin proposed the following resolution: The Fairfax County Athletic Council passes a resolution objecting strongly to any organization that restricts participation in high school athletics and recommends that clubs that restrict participation not be allowed to use Fairfax County Public School facilities. Mr. Beckwith seconded the resolution and the resolution passed unanimously.

Ms. Garner thanked everyone for their patience the last 2 years because of COVID-19 related issues. Ms. Garner explained FCPS has had a lot of staff out with COVID-19 which has left some schools short staffed. FCPS Community Use is looking forward to meeting with their NCS colleagues regarding communication and processes.



FCPA

Mr. Louis reported that staff are getting fields ready for the spring season. FCPA now has a dedicated team to synthetic turf maintenance for the high school synthetic fields. Mr. Louis shared the following athletic field improvements with the Council:

Year	Park	Field	Type of Work	Status
2021	Patriot Park North	All Fields	Re-development of the entire park: lighted synthetic fields ((4) 90's and (2) 50/70's), restrooms, shelter, playground, and parking areas	Approximately 30% Complete July 1, 2021 - Winter 2022
	Winterset Varsity	1	Renovation of Police Administration Building will close field; Irrigation will be installed before reopening of field	Fall 2021 - Summer 2024
2022	Alabama Drive	1	Replacing backstop	Spring 2022
	Cunningham	1	Replacing backstop and dugout fencing; adding bleacher pad and ADA access trail	Spring/Summer 2022
	Franconia	4	Installing fencing behind goal on synthetic field	Spring 2022
	Franklin Farm	1	Replacing dome backstop	Spring 2022
	Great Falls Nike	4	Resurfacing	Summer 2022
	Greenbriar	All Grass Fields	Irrigation is being replaced; infields will be renovated at the same time	Winter/Spring 2021/2022
	Reston North	1 and 2	Replacing dome backstops	Spring 2022
	Rolling Valley West	1	Replacing backstop and sideline fencing	Spring 2022
2023	Scotts Run(?)	1	New Lighted Synthetic - 180' x 220'	Winter 2023/2024

Mr. Louis stated that field users may see recycling cans in some parks. FCPA in partnership with Solid Waste did a pilot test of 5 locations for recycling. Phase 1 of this recycling effort will focus on heavily used facilities which include athletic fields. Users will see recycling cans next to trash cans in the parks. Mr. Louis encouraged the Council to get the word out to their users to remind them to please use the recycling cans.

NCS

Ms. Avisato reminded the Council that this years Champions of Character ceremony will be virtual. NCS Community Outreach Specialist, Chris Pulley has done a wonderful job putting the ceremony together, as well as the Champions of Character subcommittee.

NCS will also verify if future meetings will continue to be virtual or in-person.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Quinn reminded the Council of The Aspen Institute's Project Play Summit being held on May 4, 2022, at Audi Field.

The Project Play Summit, the nation's premier event for leaders building healthy children and communities through sports, is back IN PERSON for the first time in three years. We hope you will join us on May 4, 2022, at Audi Field in Washington, the home of MLS club D.C. United. We are assembling an exciting lineup of sessions and speakers, including:

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





The global pandemic has presented immense challenges. Yet amid the disruption, the value of sports and physical activity has been made clear. We've also seen incredible fortitude, innovation and historic opportunity emerge that can build better models for youth in community, club, and school sports. Join the best room in sports as we convene leaders from across the Project Play network, share lessons learned from the pandemic, celebrate exemplars and successes, and chart next steps in building young lives through sports.

- **How your organization can access unprecedented new federal funding**
- **How to revitalize your community's in-town recreation league**
- **How to reimagine high school sports — as Title IX did 50 years ago**
- **How organizations are using the Children's Bill of Rights in Sports to shape grantmaking, develop public messaging, and improve program delivery**

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lisa MicKey, Secretary

