

**Fairfax County Park Authority
Board Meeting
February 11, 2015**

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax, Virginia.

Board Members:

William G. Bouie, Chairman
Ken Quincy, Vice Chair
Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary
Harold L. Strickland, Treasurer
Edward R. Batten, Sr.
Mary Cortina
Linwood Gorham
Faisal Khan
Michael Thompson, Jr.
Frank S. Vajda
Anthony J. Vellucci
Grace Han Wolf* arrived late

Staff Present:

Kirk Kincannon, Director
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Barbara Gorski
Judy Pedersen, PIO
Deborah Babcock-Daley
Barbara Nugent
Todd Johnson
Cindy Walsh
John Lehman
Brian Williams
John Zeigler

Guests:

PUBLIC COMMENT: Two speakers were present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Bouie announced that Action Item A-4 Authorization to Advertise Notice and Hold a Public Hearing Regarding the Conveyance of the Reston Town Green Property was added to the agenda as discussed in the Planning and Development Committee meeting held prior to the Board meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM

ADMIN-1 Adoption of Minutes, January 28, 2015, Park Authority Board Meeting
Mr. Messrs. Quincy and Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2015, Park Authority Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Vajda. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

ACTION ITEMS

A-1 The Turner Farm Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Turner Farm Events (Dranesville District)

APPROVED AND SIGNED FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve a Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request from Turner Farm Events in the amount of \$7,500 for a parking expansion design concept for The Turner Farm Park; seconded by Ms. Quintana. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

A-2 Idylwood Park – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Falls Church Kiwanis Little League (Providence District)

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve a Mastenbrook volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program request from Falls Church Kiwanis Little League in the amount of \$11,417.17 to renovate infield and install fencing on field 3 at Idylwood Park; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

A-3 Colvin Run Mill Historic site – Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program Request – Friends of Colvin Run Mill (Dranesville District)

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve a Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Fund Grant Program request from the Friends of Colvin Run Mill in the amount of \$1,600 to purchase flour barrels for display purposes at Colvin Run Mill Historic Site; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

A-4 Authorization to Advertise Notice and Hold a Public Hearing Regarding the Conveyance of the Reston Town Green Property (Hunter Mill District)

Mr. Quincy made a motion to authorize the advertisement notice and to hold a public hearing regarding the conveyance of the Reston Towne Green property in the Hunter Mill District to the Board of Supervisors, Fairfax County. The public hearing is tentatively scheduled for April 8, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. in the Herrity Building; seconded by Ms. Quintana. The motion carried; Ms. Wolf was absent.

INFORMATION ITEMS

I-1 Infrastructure Overview - Amusements

No action was necessary.

I-2 FY 2014 – FY 2018 Strategic Plan Implementation Plan

No action was necessary.

CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS:

- Mr. Bouie stated that he was very excited about the public hearing for the Reston Town Green adding that hopefully that will be a fantastic development that will allow the Park Authority to negotiate some proffers. Those proffers are in demand since a RECenter does not exist in that part of the county.

- Mr. Bouie thanked Mr. Quincy for spending three hours on Tuesday evening addressing a committee from Leadership Fairfax that was charged with putting together a program around parks, arts, and culture. The program will be held sometime in May. Mr. Quincy gave them a Parks 101 session. As much as these folks are involved in the community it was surprising how much they did not know. The six members, all longtime residents of Fairfax County, knew nothing about Huntley Meadows Park.

They asked what one thing is considered the crown jewel of park system. Messrs. Bouie and Quincy stated it would be Huntley Meadows, Clemyjontri Park, and Chessie's Big Backyard.

Parks still has a lot of communicating to do with folks that Parks thinks are informed about the things Parks does and how all these things are integrated into a single park system.

- Mr. Bouie reported that he will have dinner with the Park Foundation Board Chairman, Bruce McLeod in two weeks to discuss the agenda items for the joint retreat.

DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:

- Mr. Kincannon reminded the Board that the County Executive will announce the Proposed FY16 Budget on Tuesday, February 17. The dates for the public hearing are April 7, 8, and 9 in the Government Center Board Auditorium. He will be working with Chairman Bouie and any other Board members that would like to speak on behalf of the Park Authority.
- The Federation of Friends meeting will take place on Saturday, February 21, at Frying Pan Farm Park, 9-11:30 a.m. Kirk will be attending, but will leave to participate in the Jennings Toyota synthetic turf field ribbon cutting at Loisdale Park at 11 a.m.
- Mr. Bouie extended congratulations to Stella Koch, Chairman of EQAC and announced that she is retiring on February 13 from her job. Stella was just voted in as the new Chairman of NOVA Parks (NVRPA). The Park Authority will be working very closely with her in her role at NOVA Parks.

BOARD MATTERS:

- Mr. Vajda reported that the Green Spring Gardens master plan amendment kick-off was held on January 29. Over 50 people turned out for the meeting.

He thanked Ms. Cortina for helping him represent the Board at that meeting. He thanked Ms. Stallman and Ms. Hooper who did a marvelous job presenting the program. Ms. Stallman did a fabulous job encouraging folks to speak when they thought they had nothing to say. There was a lot of interest in preserving the trees on the recent addition of land rather than turning it into a parking lot.

- Grace Wolf invited everyone to the Great Falls Grange dedication on Saturday, March 7, at 10 a.m. The Grange is now ADA compliant.
- Mr. Vellucci announced that the Friends of Audrey Moore RECenter kicked off on February 5. He thanked Ms. Nugent, Mr. Cadwallader, and Ms. Quintana for their presence. About 36 people attended; 6-8 were from the Mason District. The group will continue to meet to figure out what type of structure they would like to have.

He thanked Tom Kennedy for pulling this together.

- Mr. Thompson thanked staff for everything they have done and will do at a meeting on February 12 regarding the Burke Lake Park driving range. While Parks has some constraints regarding the public/private process, it has received a number of emails and questions. He stated that he appreciates staff efforts not only in responding to the citizens, but also to Supervisor Herrity's office.
- Mr. Strickland indicated that he looked at Chairman Bulova's State of the County, 2015. He not only looked at what was presented at the last Park Board meeting. He looked at Mr. Kincannon's, Mr. Bouie's, and the At-large Members ability to influence Chairman Bulova so that she put Parks third, following Transportation and Development. A lot of folks look at Parks now; it wasn't that long ago that Parks wasn't even at the table. Chairman Bulova now speaks to the importance of open space and green space in planning for the future. She said that residents place a high priority on spending a lot of time in their parks. When the County Chairman says those things in her State of the County address that's good. He thanked staff and the At-large members for speaking with Chairman Bulova and making that happen.
- Ms. Quintana reported that she and Ms. Cortina met with the director and staff regarding the Strategic Plan. She is very excited about the direction staff is moving in and in direct response to a lot of comments that were gathered from the Board over the past year or so. Mr. Kincannon is working with staff to reestablish how Parks reports taking a closer look at goals and how Parks measures its success.

They also had a discussion with Ms. Pedersen about how Parks really starts to tell its story over a period of a year prior to the next budget cycle.

The meeting provided a good opportunity to talk, plan, and strategize. She said that they are looking forward to what the director and staff bring forward. They put Mr. Kincannon on an assertive timeline, wanting to see something happen sooner than later. It can be difficult trying to get all the different pieces together to begin to really think and behave more like a business. This brings the Financial Sustainability Plan into place as well as Stewardship and all the other issues into alignment.

Ms. Quintana thanked Mr. Kincannon and staff for all the great work they had done.

Ms. Quintana stated that she had shared with staff some of her comments and take-aways from the Fee meeting, some of which were reflected in the minutes of January 28. She added that she appreciates that staff has heard and has had some other discussions.

Ms. Quintana thanked Ms. Lepold for coming out to speak. As a working mother, she appreciates that it takes away time out of one's life and away from one's family to come and advocate for an issue. While she had some concerns about the way it was presented, she does appreciate Ms. Lepold coming here and working with the Braddock District member to put this to committee for the processes that are in place in order to address it, not to circumvent the process previously engaged when the photography fee initially adopted.

Ms. Quintana thanked Mr. Vellucci for allowing her to attend the organizational meeting for the Friends of Audrey Moore RECenter. She said that she spoke to the members present that she didn't want people to be concerned. Braddock District in particular is overly represented, probably the most represented district on the Park Board. She didn't want anybody to be under the impression that they were not well-represented, nor available to them to contact those representatives if they needed something. She wanted them to understand that while Friends Groups are a great opportunity for people to come together over ideas and to coalesce what they stand for and what they want to see accomplished it is certainly not a requirement that that happens. Parks has a process in place that includes them. She wanted to be sure that people understood that while Friends Groups are a great tool to use sometimes depending upon the issue, the Park Board is here to be contacted and it will represent their interest if that is what they need. Certainly as a Braddock District resident, she is very interested.

It was a great meeting and she appreciates staff taking time out of their lives to attend another meeting to answer questions. Ms. Nugent did a good job responding to some of the concerns.

Someone approached Ms. Quintana following the meeting about the market share loss, particularly concerning the child care issue. Ms. Quintana did speak with Ms. Baldwin about the issue. Parks needs to take a step back and do an assessment to figure out if Audrey Moore RECenter is losing some of its customer base due to the lack of child care.

Ms. Quintana added that she is looking forward to all the ribbon cuttings and openings in the coming weeks.

- Mr. Quincy underscored Mr. Bouie's comments about their meeting with Leadership Fairfax. It was a very enthusiastic group, a subset of Leadership Fairfax. Their focus was Providence. The attendees were taking copious notes. He thanked Mr. Bouie for giving them a thorough education on the Park Authority. Mr. Quincy was somewhat surprised what they didn't know and was quite surprised that they knew virtually nothing about Tysons. It was a very

beneficial meeting. It pointed out that there is a facet of the community that Parks is not reaching.

Mr. Quincy met a few weeks ago with Planning Commission Ken Lawrence, who is probably Parks' strongest ally, about some concerns he had about Tysons. Mr. Kincannon and staff had a telephone conference with Mr. Lawrence earlier in the day about his concerns.

Mr. Kincannon added that the meeting was to reconfirm the commitment Parks has for Tysons.

Mr. Quincy commented that he is getting a lot of compliments in his own neighborhood about Spring Hill RECenter. It has been a success thanks to staff and Ms. Wolf.

On the news Mr. Quincy had heard about a new plant based ingredient to replace the rubber ingredient for synthetic turf. Mr. Kincannon added that staff is already researching it. The product contains cork and other materials, such as coconut fibers.

- Mr. Khan reported that he and Mr. Quincy have a meeting scheduled with an after school specialist at Luther Jackson Middle School on Wednesday, February 18, regarding the program they are starting for cricket. Faisal is hoping they can finalize the details and move forward.
- Mr. Gorham thanked staff that represented Parks well at Supervisor Hyland's Town Hall meeting. Supervisor Hyland announced at that meeting that he would not seek reelection stating that he did not think he would at the end of the next four years would still be at his best and that he owed it to the citizens to be at his best. Mr. Gorham later told Supervisor Hyland that he would have to slide a long way not to be the best Mount Vernon magisterial representative. Linwood wished he would run, but he respects his decision.
- Mr. Batten thanked Messrs. Bouie and Quincy for letting people know that there is a Huntley Meadows Park. Mr. Bouie interjected, and a Lee District Park with Chessie's Big Backyard, and giving opportunities for all, and the opportunity to serve on the Park Foundation Board.

Mr. Batten said that Mr. Bouie's last comment was the most important. Mr. Batten referenced a note from the Park Foundation stating, "As referenced in the message accompanying the December Monthly Report, January was a fruitful month for the Park Foundation with gifts in excess of \$70,000.

"The FCPF staff and board directors look forward to partnering with individuals and organizations to attract continued support."

Addressing the Board Mr. Batten stated that anything they do to enrich and enhance the effort of Park Foundation is immediately reflected in what happens in the Park Authority. He encouraged the Board to get the Foundation more candidates for its Board.

On February 21 at 11 a.m. there is a ribbon cutting ceremony at Loisdale Park and will be dedicating a new synthetic turf field that was part of a proffer made by Jennings Toyota to the sum of \$1.1M. Everyone is invited and hopes that any and all that are able will attend.

- Ms. Cortina acknowledged the important role friends groups play in supporting the Park Authority and involving residents in their parks. She thanked staff for meeting to discuss strategic approaches to supporting these partners in preparation for the Federation of Friends meeting at Frying Pan Park on Saturday, February 21.

She also thanked Ms. Lepold who provided public comments on the photography fees. Mary said it was not that long ago that she protested an issue in her community and Chairman Bulova encouraged citizens to be part of the solution. It's important to listen to input from citizens and involve them in their government.

Ms. Cortina attended the Green Spring Gardens Master Planning meeting and commended Mr. Vajda on his opening remarks, and thanked the large contingent of Park Authority staff who attended. She acknowledged park planning staff, who did an excellent job conducting the meeting. The meeting was held in the Park Lawn Elementary School cafeteria, and she noticed a large poster on the wall titled, "What I am Thankful For" where students had written in Arabic, Spanish, and many other languages. This poster is a reminder of the diversity in Fairfax County. While Green Spring Gardens is a countywide horticulture park, the other parks nearby are Pinecrest Golf Course down the street, and a baseball field that adjoins school property. Mary asks whether our facilities match the needs of the children and families who live in this community and to keep in mind the diversity of our community.

- Mr. Thompson added that he wanted to publicly thank Supervisor Hyland who is a very gracious man and who continues to look out for his community and has been a big help to his community and to Fairfax County.
- Mr. Vellucci asked that the members at-large notify the district representatives if they coordinate something in their respective districts. There have been issues with that before on this board and he wanted to be sure that it is out there.

Secondly, based on earlier comments, the minutes of the January 28 meeting captured a lot of what was said, but did not necessarily capture the emotion. He met with Mr. Bouie afterward and expressed concerns that he had. There is a situation where a certain member has made an allegation of inappropriate conduct on the part of another member. He asked Mr. Bouie to convene a special committee for a Board inquiry because he wants a resolution on this matter.

Mr. Bouie stated that the Board will have a Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled in the next two weeks, before or after the Board meeting to discuss such matters and bring a resolution. Mr. Bouie indicated that he would bring more information to the Board during the course of the next two weeks.

CLOSED SESSION

At 8:23 p.m. Ms. Quintana made a motion to recess and convene in closed session for discussion and consideration of matters enumerated in Virginia Code Section (§) 2.2-3711 and listed in the agenda for this meeting as follows:

- a) Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(3).

Seconded by Mr. Mr. Quincy. The motion carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Ms. Quintana MOVED the Park Authority Board certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Virginia Code 2.2-3712 and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Board; seconded by Mr. Vajda. The motion carried unanimously.

C-1 Add Property Located in the Dranesville District to the Work Plan

Ms. Wolf made a motion to add property located in the Dranesville District to the Work Plan; seconded by Ms. Cortina. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection Mr. Bouie adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Kala Leggett Quintana, Secretary

[SIGNATURES CONTINUE ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

APPROVED AND SIGNED FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Minutes

-9-

February 11, 2014

Minutes Approved at Meeting
on February 25, 2015

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant

APPROVED AND SIGNED FEBRUARY 25, 2015