# Fairfax County Park Authority Board Meeting February 24, 2016

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. at 12055 Government Center Parkway, Room 941, Fairfax, Virginia.

#### **Board Members:**

William G. Bouie, Chairman Ken Quincy, Vice Chair Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary Walter Alcorn\* Edward R. Batten, Sr.\* Mary Cortina Maggie Godbold Linwood Gorham Faisal Khan Frank S. Vajda Anthony J. Vellucci Grace Han Wolf\*

#### Absent\*

Guests: Joyce Quay

## **Staff Present:**

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director Aimee Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD Judy Pedersen, PIO David Bowden Todd Johnson Barbara Nugent Cindy Walsh Peter Furey Janet Burns Mike Baird Sousan Tavallai Steve Lewis Nick Duray John Berlin **Brian** Laws Nicole Marko Carrie Kreitler

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

| SPEAKER: | 1) | Tom Kennedy, FOAMRC | SUBJECT: Need for Bond Funding for |
|----------|----|---------------------|------------------------------------|
|          |    |                     | Improvements at Audrey Moore       |
|          |    |                     | RECenter                           |
|          | 2) | Barbara Aigen       | Need for Bond Funding for          |
|          |    |                     | Improvements at Audrey Moore       |
|          |    |                     | RECenter                           |
|          | 3) | Keith Peyton        | Need for Bond Funding for          |
|          |    |                     | Improvements at Audrey Moore       |
|          |    |                     | RECenter                           |

## **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

ADMIN-1 Resolution Honoring Jouce Quay upon Her Retirement from the Fairfax County Park Authority

## **APPROVED AND SIGNED MARCH 9, 2016**

Mr. Quincy made a motion to approve the resolution honoring Joyce Quay upon her retirement from the Park Authority Board; seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried. The motion carried unanimously by all members present; Ms. Wolf and Messrs. Batten and Alcorn were absent.

# ADMIN-2 Adoption of Minutes – February 4 and February 10, 2016, Park Authority Board Meetings

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approved the minutes of the February 4 and February 10, 2016, Park Authority Board meetings; seconded by Mr. Quincy. The motion carried by all members present. Ms. Wolf and Messrs. Batten and Alcorn were absent.

# **ACTION ITEM**

A-1 <u>Scope Approval – Burke Road/Liberty Bell Court to Burke Station Park Trail Springfield</u> <u>District</u>)

Mr. Thompson made a motion to approve the project scope to design and permit 2,800 linear feet of 8' wide asphalt trail and two stream crossings in the Pohick Stream Valley Park near Burke Station Park; seconded by Ms. Cortina. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Wolf and Messrs. Batten and Alcorn were absent.

## **INFORMATIO ITEM**

I-1 <u>Planning and Development Division – Quarterly Project Status Report</u> No action was necessary.

## **CHAIRMAN'S MATTERS:**

• Mr. Bouie stated that the County Executive released the initial budget. He noted that Parks and Libraries were combined in the percentage allocation rather than separating them out, for a total of 1.3% of the overall budget.

There has been a lot of discussion concerning parks and the need for additional support. He believes the Board of Supervisors, the County Executive, and the Department of Management and Budget are in agreement that they need to work more toward that goal.

Mr. Bouie attended a meeting on Friday, February 19, with Chairman Bulova, the County Executive, Kirk Kincannon, Aimee Vosper, and a few others relating to concerns about our cultural resources, how to manage them, and how to protect them. Parks made its concerns known. It was a very good discussion that took place over a couple of hours. Mr. Bouie feels that the discussion was taken to heart and that Parks should see some results soon. Staff provided a great presentation.

Mr. Bouie will talk about this in his remarks to during the Board of Supervisors' budget hearings, highlighting the things discussed among the Park Authority Board with regard to housing those artifacts.

# **DIRECTOR'S MATTERS:**

• Staff and the Board of Directors of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District recognized Mike McCaffrey as their 2015 Cooperator of the Year award winner on Tuesday, February 23.

Mr. McCaffrey joins an impressive list of individuals who have received this award since 1980.

As one of his protégés, Laura Grape, Soil & Water's Executive Director, was more than pleased to have the opportunity to recognize Mike's efforts in the Envirothon program and his daily engagements of Fairfax County's residents in developing awareness and caring for our shared natural resources.

• FCPA Golf participated in the Washington Golf Show at the Dulles Expo Center, February 5-7. With 15,000 area golfers in attendance, the event proved to be a success in spreading awareness about the FCPA golf enterprises' diverse offerings as well as serving as an excellent platform to reach out to current and potential customers. The Park Authority's exhibit featured our newly designed golf display, literature about our seven courses and their offerings for all ages and interests, two electronic e-news sign up stations, prize wheel including coupons for all courses, updates and upgrade displays and last but not least, the OptiShot golf simulator for attendees to take a virtual swing on one of their favorite courses.

Staff from all courses were on-site and instrumental in helping to build new relationships, serve as course ambassadors, engage and inform thousands of attendees and assist with all tasks at hand. Their efforts yielded 400 e-news subscription sign ups, countless conversations introducing and answering questions about our golf program to both new and returning golfers, the opportunity to spread the word about our tee time reservation transition and spring pass sale, as well as a wealth of positive feedback and recommendations to consider in the future. This year's participation in the Golf Show was masterfully spearheaded and led by Roberta Korzen, Golf Enterprise Marketing Specialist.

• The third annual Pirate Fest will be held on April 16 at Lake Fairfax Park. With new and expanded entertainment, activities and vendors, Pirate Fest is becoming a well-known regional event for family fun, amusement and education. A local brewer is being sought to host the beer garden which is the most notable addition this year.

• The Planning Commission's CIP Workshop and Public Hearing is scheduled for March 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Auditorium. Ken Quincy will speak on behalf of the Park Authority Board.

The Board of Supervisors' public hearings on the budget will take place on the following dates:

April 5 hearings will begin at 4 p.m. April 6 and 7 hearingd will begin at 1 p.m.

Anyone interested in speaking on behalf of the board at either public hearing should coordinate with the chairman and contact Barbara Gorski to register you for the date and time best for you. We will do our best to get the date and time preferred. The Park Foundation has had several speakers sign up to provide testimony.

- At the last board meeting Mr. Vellucci raised a question concerning the public comment protocol. Judy Pedersen provided details and reported that the Board of Supervisors does not follow-up in anyway. She indicated that if there was action to follow up on, staff does just that and she provided examples.
- Long term archaeology volunteer, Charles "CK" Gailey passed away suddenly on Monday, February 22. CK volunteered first with County Archaeology and then with Cultural Resources for well more than 20 years and was active into 2014. He volunteered both in the field and in the laboratory and spent countless hours updating our archaeological GIS layers. He assisted with digitizing and georeferencing the historic aerial photographs for use in GIS. He logged more volunteer hours than any other archaeology volunteer before or since. CK served more than 30 years in the United States Army and was a proud member of the 101st Airborne Division. He will be buried at Arlington Cemetery later in the spring. Staff thanks CK for his contributions to Cultural Resources.

## **BOARD MATTERS:**

- Mr. Vajda had nothing to report.
- Ms. Wolf was absent.
- Mr. Vellucci thanked Kirk Kincannon and Planning and Development staff for meeting with him and Supervisor Cook on February 18 to talk about the 2016 Bond. It was fruitful in that the discussion was about the spend rate and how much Parks gets to spend each year. Mr. Vellucci recommended that all members of the board speak with their Supervisors on this topic.

Mr. Vellucci had a meeting with DPWES regarding Royal Lake and the mussel rescue party. DPWES is checking with the state to determine what can be done in consideration of the environmental rules.

On April 2 there is a Park Authority clean-up of forest and stream land in the Braddock District by several Friends groups.

The Friends of Oak Hill Park will hold its meeting on Monday, February 29.

The kick-off meeting for the Lake Accotink Park Master Plan revision will be held on March 14.

- Mr. Alcorn was absent.
- Ms. Cortina congratulated Mike McCaffrey for recognition by Soil & Water. It is welldeserved. Ms. Cortina stated that he is one of the unsung heroes. He has cultivated a number of leaders, one of which was on the School Board last term. These people go through his nature program and come out as true leaders in the community.

Parks often does not often have programs for this area. She is proud of what he has done and truly exemplifies leadership. As she has often stated, it doesn't matter where one is in the organization, one can become a leader.

Ms. Cortina thanked Mr. McCaffrey for all he has done.

Mr. Vellucci added that for the past two years Mr. McCaffrey has brought volunteers with snakes and turtles to the campfire at the last two nights of Braddock Nights at Royal Lake. They put on an outdoor exhibition. He deserves credit for what he has done.

Ms. Cortina also called attention to the opening letter in the spring issue of Parktakes called "Growing Up Parks." The letter was written by Addie Walsh. The letter really moved Mary. She found a kinship because she feels that she has grown up Parks. She never gave it much thought until she became a board member as to how much of her formative years were spent in parks. Everyone should realize the impact Parks has on our lives whether it's a RECenter, a nature center, sports team, nature walk. It has a big impact on our lives and she encouraged everyone to read it.

She reminded everyone that the Federation of Friends meeting will take place on Saturday, February 27, at Historic Huntley beginning at 9:30 a.m. She thanked staff who has been working to pull the meeting together.

Minutes

She thanked Chairman Bouie, Kirk Kincannon, and Aimee Vosper for presenting and carrying the torch for the cultural needs to the county leadership.

• Mr. Thompson reminded everyone that there is an informal open house and meeting on Thursday, February 25, at Fairview Elementary School at which information will be available regarding the Burke Lake Golf Course Clubhouse replacement and driving range expansion. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and is hosted by Supervisor Herrity. Information will also be shared about the sewers.

Mr. Thompson thanked staff for participating in a meeting held by Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS) with approximately 100 different sports groups. Many of the groups are interested in doing improvements and have no idea about the Mastenbrook Grant Program. Because there is a lot of turnover in the sports groups run by volunteers, Mike encouraged Parks to work with NCS once a year, or every other year, to provide information and make them aware of the grant program.

• Mr. Quincy reported that he, Dave Bowden and staff will meet with Supervisor Smyth on Thursday, February 25, to discuss the 2016 Bond.

Mr. Quincy reported that he has seen more and more in the news about the synthetic turf field issue, but so far nothing new has been reported. It has been making the national news, so Parks may be getting questions about it. Judy Pedersen indicated that information was posted on the website and Bill Bouie reminded everyone to refer folks to the Health Department.

- Mr. Khan had nothing to report.
- Mr. Gorham reported that thanks to Dave Bowden he was honored to be in the presence of Ann Smith on Tuesday, February 23, at lunch. It was once more opportunity to say thank you for her generous contribution of the soccer field at Grist Mill Park.
- Ms. Godbold and Sandy Stallman will meet with Supervisor Smith on Monday, February 29, regarding the 2016 Bond.
- Mr. Bouie thanked Cindy McNeal for coming out and experiencing her first meeting in Reston. She did really well and was well-armed with all the information that needed to be communicated.

Mr. Bouie is looking forward to a meeting on Thursday, February 25, with Mr. Vajda, Dave Bowden, and the Washington Nationals, and potentially Parks' first partnership with them.

Mr. Bouie publically thanked Supervisor Gross on behalf of the Park Authority Board for stepping out in the last board meeting and talking about the importance of parks, what they mean in the county, and the need for increased funding.

Mr. Bouie stated that the Park Authority Board received an updated Committee Assignment list on his behalf via email. He asked if there were any issues with the assignments.

Mr. Vellucci noted that he had concerns with the initial list provided to the board, but spoke with the chairman, who took his comments and made changes to the list. He thanked the chairman.

There being no other discussion, Mr. Quincy made a motion to ratify the 2016 Committee Assignment list as updated; seconded by Ms. Cortina. The motion carried by all members present; Ms. Wolf and Messrs. Batten and Alcorn were absent.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and without objection Mr. Bouie called the meeting to a close at 8:13 p.m.

Michael W. Thompson, Jr., Secretary

Minutes Approved at Meeting on March 9, 2016

Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

Park Authority Board Minutes prepared by

Barbara J. Gorski, Administrative Assistant