



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chairman and Members
Park Authority Board

VIA: Kirk W. Kincannon, Director

FROM: Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer

DATE: July 7, 2016

Agenda

**Park Authority Awards Committee
Wednesday, July 13, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.**

Rooms 106/107 – Herrity Building

Chairman: Anthony J. Vellucci

Vice Chair: Maggie Godbold

Members: Faisal Khan; Frank S. Vajda; Edward R. Batten, Sr.

1. Review of 2016 applications and selection of Recommended Awardees for the Elly Doyle Park Service Awards, Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award, and Mayo Stuntz Cultural Award.

*Enclosures

Application Summaries



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Park Authority Awards Committee
July 13, 2016

The Awards Committee will consider the list of nominees for all categories of the Elly Doyle Awards, as well as the Mayo Stuntz Cultural Stewardship Award and the Sally Ormsby Environmental Stewardship Award. These recommendations will be presented to the by the full Park Authority Board at a subsequent meeting for review and approval.

This November, all the awardees, including our Outstanding Volunteers selected by park service peers and the Eakin winners chosen by the Foundation Board of Directors, will be honored at the annual awards program slated for the Waterford facility.

This year's nominees represent a diverse group of volunteers from around the park system, as well as a varied number of nominators. Numerous studies have shown how valuable volunteer recognition is in maintaining and growing volunteer programs. Thanks to the Fairfax County Park Foundation which co-sponsors the event and also presents the Eakin Philanthropy Awards, we are able to say thank-you to these wonderful individuals and organizations in a meaningful way.

2016 Award Nomination Summaries

Elly Doyle Nominations

1. Nominee: Sal Soliz

- **Nominator:** S. Woodruff Bentley Sr., Volunteer Coordinator, Twin Lakes Golf Course
- **Summary:** Mr. Soliz has been a volunteer at Twin Lakes since 2003. Has been Monday afternoon Play Manager since 2008. He manages six shift members and makes sure the team is always helping golfers quickly and with a friendly attitude. He goes the extra mile by volunteering to assist for special events, etc.

2. Nominee: Fernando Mendez

- **Nominator:** Ken A. Quincy, Park Board Member, Providence District
- **Summary:** Mr. Mendez is a long time member of Friends of Nottoway Park. He has helped out with the Nottoway Easter Egg Hunt, summer concerts and especially with IMA. He oversees the Nottoway Garden plot and has worked to fix problems with stormwater and erosion, fallen trees and other problems. He has, as in past years, volunteered to be part of the Bond Green Team.
- **Extras:** He has an email endorsement from Providence Supervisor Linda Smyth.

3. Nominee: Michael Mescher

- **Nominator:** Barbara Ziman, Outreach Coordinator, Sully Historic Site
- **Summary:** Mr. Mescher is a Civil War historian and reenactor who has been a volunteer interpreter at Sully for more than 20 years. He also gives expertise to EC Lawrence Park and Green Spring Gardens. He is a popular re-enactor during Sully's Civil War Weekend and conducts the "musket drill" with children. He volunteers at Sully's summer camps and the Candlelight tours. Mike's continued dedication to education, interpretation and preservation make him a sought-after personality for Civil War events.

4. Nominee: Friends of Riverbend Park

- **Nominator:** Hon. John Foust
- **Summary:** This small but active organization has donated \$150,000+ to Riverbend Park since 2007. This year the group has funded six college-level interns at the park. The park's fishing programs benefit from the \$15,000 fishing boat donated by FORB in 2015. Field trip scholarships, a snow-plow, canoes, a telescope, new exhibit cases and office furniture are some of the other items donated by the organization in recent years. FORB also takes an active role in community discussions about park funding and master planning.

5. Nominee: Brian Gritte

- **Nominator:** Debbie Lodato
- **Summary:** Brian volunteers for the Volunteer Program in Park Services. He has been very beneficial to the program, most recently helping to coordinate the transition to the new Volunteer Management Software. He inputs statistical data, attends meetings, takes minutes, and does other office work. He recently prepared surveys for over 200 different performances in our summer concert series. He has been an invaluable resource.

6. Nominee: Farmers Markets Managers

- **Nominator:** Chelsea Roseberry
- **Summary:** There are 11 Market Managers made up of 17 volunteers, who cumulatively serve over 3,000 hours per year. They oversee on-site operations, enforce market policies, and ensure the farmers markets run smoothly. They are the Farmers Markets community liaisons.
- **Extras:** Photos
- **This group received a previous Elly Doyle Special Recognition Award**

7. Nominee: Northern Virginia Mineral Club (Jim Kostka)

- **Nominator:** Susan Becker, Riverbend Park
- **Summary:** This group donated hundreds of rocks to our nature centers – rocks that are \$20 or more per specimen. This supports FCPA's mission of earth science education. Some samples are rare. Each rock is a tangible piece of earth's history. The groups also donated educational posters that convey the science behind the rocks. Last year, the sites conducted over 40 programs using the materials.

8. Nominee: Spring Hill Au Pair Volunteers

- **Nominator:** Shawna Levins, Spring Hill RECenter
- **Summary:** During the 2015-16 season, 28 Spring Hill Au Pairs from 11 countries contributed 3,336 volunteer hours to FCPA, worth \$87,036 of savings to FCPA. They have helped maintain the RECenter, served as translators, provided admin support, removed litter and invasive species from the grounds, and helped with special events to name a few. The au pairs have "incredible character, versatility, a hard work ethic and a tremendous amount of drive."
- **Extras:** letter of endorsement from John Foust, articles about the program, a Stewardship Virginia Certificate of Appreciation, many photos

9. Nominee: Wesley Palmer

- **Nominator:** Peter Kim, Greendale Golf Course
- **Summary:** Wesley has volunteer at Greendale Golf Course for three years as a starter, tee starter, marshal and helping with special events. He is very flexible, covering more than his shift – even a double shift -- to ensure customer service is maintained. He is problem-solver, dealing with unexpected situations very professionally

10. Nominee: Mary Jane Medeiros

- **Nominator:** Mary Olien, Green Spring Gardens
- **Summary:** Creative leadership has been the cornerstone of Mary Jane Medeiros' contributions to Green Spring Gardens, For seven years, she has helped GSG grow, as a Master Gardener and as a member of the Friends of Green Spring (FROGS), always seeking fun and effective ways to accomplish a task. With the Green Spring Master Gardeners, she has organized and led many projects and activities, such as co-founding the GSMG newsletter; leading tours as a docent, and co-chairing the Networking Section. Mary Jane joined the FROGS Board in 2013 and within a few years offered her leadership skills as President, using excellent communication strategies to accomplish goals.

11. Nominee: Elden Wright

- **Nominator:** S. Woodruff Bentley Sr., Twin Lakes Golf Course
- **Summary:** Mr. Wright currently volunteers as one of the Wednesday morning starters, but has held a lot of positions since the year 2000. He handles golfers with great courtesy and helpfulness. He puts in extra time to help staff and golfers and he substitutes often for other absent volunteers.

Student Honoree Nominations

1. Nominee: Jennifer Lee

- **Nominator:** Jane Lee
- **Summary:** Jennifer is five years old and volunteered with her mother at an Accotink Creek Watershed cleanup. She recognized several girls from her school and it turned out they were in Girl Scouts. Jennifer is interested in joining the Girl Scouts in the fall and looks forward to participating in more clean-up efforts.
- **Extras:** picture of Jennifer

2. Nominee: Will MacDonald

- **Nominator:** Suzanne Holland
- **Summary:** Will has made great contributions to the Hidden Oaks Nature Centers live animal exhibit care, the programs at the nature center and to the outdoor play area. He won Hidden Oaks' annual Acorn award, Heart of Oak Champion Volunteer Award and the Gold President's Volunteer Service Award for volunteering 270 hours in 2015, surpassing every other Hidden Oaks' volunteer.
- **Extras:** Photos of Will

3. Nominee: Ian A. Anspaugh

- **Nominator:** Jean Anspaugh
- **Summary:** Since fifth grade, Ian has volunteered at E.C. Lawrence Park in Chantilly. He started out taking care of the display animals, but moved on to presenting to the public and representing the park at SpringFest. He took classes about conservation, ecology, park management and the care of animals, and brought that knowledge back to EC Lawrence. Now a rising senior, Ian also built a storage shed for firewood at the park as part of his Eagle Scout project.
- **Extras:** A thank-you email from Debbie Lodato. A letter of support from Anthony Bulmer, Naturalist Historian Senior Interpreter at EC Lawrence. Photos of Ian.

Mayo Stuntz Cultural Stewardship Award

- **Nominee:** Mary Lipsey
- **Summary:** Ms. Mary Lipsey, a noted historian, educator and author has made meaningful and long-lasting contributions toward the understanding, preservation education and interpretation of history in Fairfax County and neighboring jurisdictions.
 - She is co-founder and first president of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association.
 - She is an active member of the Friends of Lake Accotink Park where she has conducted several tours highlighting Civil War history that are today located in a park.

- She is a published author, documenting Fairfax County residents' contributions to history, including a biography of Dr. William Wallace Whitney Christmas.
- She is also a Braddock District History Commissioner and member of the Fairfax County History Commission.

Sally Ormsby Award

Nominee: Kris Unger

- **Nominator:** Tony Vellucci
- **Summary:** Kris Unger is a true volunteer leader, dedicated organizer, educator, and consistent and indefatigable champion of our environment for this and future generations. For over 15 years, his leadership and participation have benefitted a wide-ranging variety of community groups whose actions embody the spirit and values of stewardship and have resulted in tangible benefits for the environment. The community groups include:
 - Friends of Accotink Creek
 - Fairfax County Restoration Project
 - Fairfax County African American Historical Society
 - Choose Clean Water
 - Lands and Waters
 - Inspiring Connections Outdoors
 - Sierra Club

Around Fairfax County, as well as neighboring jurisdictions, at any given time he may be found:

- Directing the activities of one or more environmental groups
- Battling invasive wisteria in the Accotink Gorge
- Planting native habitats and gardens in schools and parks
- Promoting and installing vernal pools
- Leading nature walks along streams
- Providing students with instruction in water quality monitoring
- Guiding outings that permit less-privileged children and youth to experience nature and the outdoors
- Grant writing in support of local volunteer groups

Nominee: Harry Glasgow

- **Nominator:** Karen Sheffield
- **Summary:** For a quarter century, Harry's involvement in Fairfax County's environmental stewardship exploded into a myriad of organizations and took on leadership roles as Board Member, advocate, and educator.
 - Environmental Policies and Directives:
 - served as the vice-chair Fairfax County Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Exceptions Review Committee

- Soil and Water Conservation District's representative, Harry was a member of the Fairfax County Tree Commission from 2006-12.
 - Harry lobbied and gained approval from the BOS to transfer the land where the champion swamp chestnut oaks reside to the FCPA.
 - Harry served for seven years on the Fairfax County Park Authority board
 - The Northern Virginia Conservation Trust named Harry Conservationist of the Year.
 - Advocacy
 - Harry works tirelessly to advocate for the preservation and protection of the County's rich natural resources.
 - He was a strong advocate and supporter of the Huntley Meadows wetland restoration project
 - The Federation of Friends was co-spearheaded by Harry
 - Harry's ardent commitment to the Fairfax County Park Foundation is exemplified by his significant personal financial contributions and membership on the board.
 - Education
 - an environmental education volunteer leader at Huntley Meadows Park
 - was a member of the Green Spring Master Gardeners and served on the committee that developed its annual Eco Savvy Gardening training program
 - Many other projects that connect people to the natural world around them.
- **Extras:**
 1. Contributors to Harry Glasgow's nomination
 2. Known List of Awards and Recognitions for Harry Glasgow for Work Related to Fairfax County
 3. List of Known Organizations Harry was/is Active in Related to Fairfax County: