



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, Executive Director

FROM: Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer

DATE: February 6, 2020

Agenda

Committee of the Whole
Wednesday, February 12, 2020 – 5:15 p.m.
Boardroom – Herrity Building
Chairman: William G. Bouie
Vice Chair: Ken Quincy

1. Understanding the Freedom of Speech in County Parks (with presentation) – Information*
2. Closed Session

*Enclosures



If accommodations and/or alternative formats are needed, please call (703) 324-8563. TTY (703) 803-3354

Committee Agenda Item
February 12, 2020

INFORMATION – 1

Understanding the Freedom of Speech in County Parks

The First Amendment of the United States Constitution protects the free speech rights of all citizens. Parks, in particular, have historically offered a place where those rights are exercised and have been protected. Thus, a variety of activities are allowed in the parks: solicitation, distribution of brochures and literature, posting of signs, picketing, and demonstrations. The Park Authority cannot restrict any of these activities based on the content of the speech, but it may regulate the time, place, and manner in which they are conducted to prevent the interruption of activities or events, to preserve safety, and prevent damage to public property. This presentation will provide the Board with a better understanding of the complexity of these issues and how to balance these competing interests.

ENCLOSE DOCUMENTS:

None

STAFF:

Kirk W. Kincannon, Executive Director
Aimee L. Vosper, Deputy Director/CBD
Sara Baldwin, Deputy Director/COO
Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer
Cynthia Bailey, Deputy County Attorney
Sara Silverman, Assistant County Attorney

Committee Agenda Item
February 12, 2020

CLOSED SESSION

- a) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body, pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711 (A)(7).