

**Aquatic Committee Meeting
Washington-Lee High School
Tuesday March 20, 2018
Time: 7:00-9:00 PM**

Attendance:

Don Hesse (Chair), Marilyn Judson (Member), Janet Eichers (Member), Kristi Sawert (Member), Ron Kampeas (Member) Cynthia Hilton (Vice Chair), Mackenzie Kearney (Member), Guy Land (Member) Dee Romanek (Member), Jennifer Lainhart (DPR Liaison), Helena Machado (APS Liaison), Ljudmila Mladenovic (public), Beverly Enochs (public)

MINUTES

I. Approval of Minutes from February Meeting

Discussion and postponed approval to April meeting to correct the language regarding consensus on cost recovery criteria. Jennifer will update and send to the group in advance of April meeting.

II. Public Comment (up to 15 minutes) with response from committee as needed

Beverly Enochs attended as a parent of 2 Arlington swimmers at Wakefield and Gunston Middle, as well as AAC. Ljudmila Mladenovic also attended as parent and future committee member. As the high school season ended, she Beverly has spoken with other parents. She indicated struggles with electronic timing systems at the pools. She mentioned meets having lots of difficulty with those systems and wanted to present the challenges to the committee to determine how to engage the issue further. For instance, touch pads in disrepair, buttons don't work for every lane at every pool which in turn effects the scoreboard. At Wakefield specifically, the wall plate that connects to pads has stuff caked on as well as corrosion, Lane 1 system has failed to register for 2 years, can only utilize the button. For VHSL as well as PVS and official USA swimming preferred method is touchpad, then the button, and manual stopwatches as last resort only. Starter often doesn't work at Wakefield and Yorktown. Touchpads don't settle in place on the wall. Schools owns the equipment bought with the pool at the current industry standard. These are seen as highly visible issues for meets because they have to stop the meet often to service the equipment.

Helena gets feedback from staff that meet officials mess with the equipment and sometimes interfere with equipment. She has considered charging teams for a Colorado operator to be on site and only allowing that person to address issues and coordinate use of back-up equipment etc. She noted that the deck plates do not work and that's why they have moved to harnesses. She did purchase 4 new pads before the beginning of this year's HS season. When she has tested them, the system has worked. Beverly stated that she had requested a walk through 3 days before the meeting to ensure equipment was work and that request was denied, but issues were encountered anyway.

Comment from committee: A committee member asked if APS can support the equipment in place? Committee requests that APS develops next steps to ensure success with this equipment, and recommended that staff look at training or standard operating procedures for use of this

equipment and revise as needed. Helena will respond to the public comment after meeting with staff.

III. Brief Remarks on budget comments made to the County Board- Don Hesse

Don Hesse spoke at the MAR 13 county board budget meeting, but he is unsure what will come of it. It may drive look at the MOU between APS and DPR and it's possible that DPR will adjust fees to cover it. The Committee discussed the merits of a formula or criteria that could be used to adjust the transfer amount. Staff also wants there to be a formula to look at the transfer annually, and suggested that it may work in with agreements the county and APS make as the new LBP pool comes online. Also, staff suggested that the AC may want to look at the criteria it developed to evaluate the need for fee increases and push it further to adoption with School Board. The Committee may want to develop a cost recovery pyramid like DPR has adopted. Staff reiterated that when APS faces budget shortfalls, there is a need to use service level cuts and increases of revenue to balance the budget. School Board is the correct place to adopt cost recovery criteria for future as they vote on changes to the community swim fees.

Don will not be available to present at the 4/3/18 County Board meeting. Cynthia will cover for him.

IV. Review of Draft statement to School Board on March 22

Review of draft comment to School Board, to obtain support from committee. To clarify County Board sends money to APS to cover annual expenses. When the School Board recommends cuts or increases based on the total amount of money available to APS.

Helena will send revised statement to group. Cynthia will draft a letter tomorrow to send to group that will be sent to both School Board and County Board. The letter will stress the criteria the Aquatics Committee set for evaluating fee increases and the need to review the DPR transfer.

V. Discussion of Survey

Comment on survey and updates. All OK to send out tomorrow. Motion to send out survey and second, passes unanimously.

VI. Sports Commission Update -Janet

Janet deferred to Kristi who is on the Career Center working group. Kristi said there are people who want a choice school and others who want a neighborhood school with amenities and some who want a neighborhood school without amenities. There is discussion about a pool or library. Many people with differing opinions on the subject. There was discussion about purchasing other land to have a library. Many people support a library that is closer to Columbia Pike so that the pool can be in the Fenwick building. There was discussion about bussing to Long Bridge but Kristi did mention that she thought based on conversations that logistically that may be impossible. School Board is not involved yet. CIP is already \$130 million and \$25 million is for the project at the Ed Center. Lisa Stengle provided updates on projected number of HS seats needed and it had gone down which prompted them to consider waiting an additional CIP cycle, which Kristi and others support. Kristi's civic association and the Aquatics Committee would reject a neighborhood school without the amenities based on previous consensus agreements. Kristi said there are many who don't trust APS to follow through on things due to issues with the Fleet school. School will be built in phases but again there is mistrust that APS would follow

through on promises for later phases. Moved from calling them “amenities” to “Educational Instructional Facilities.” During Lisa Stengle’s presentation about HS students, she stated that Arlington is 400-600 seats short and they felt trailers were manageable in the interim, but most did not support this. Next meeting in April is a joint working meeting.

VII. Old Business or updates from previous agendas

No New Business

VIII. New Business

Jen offered to come forward with Long Bridge Park news at an upcoming meeting. Mackenzie and Marilyn are on the fees working group for the pool.

Upcoming Meetings:

4/17 – Wakefield

5/15 – Yorktown

9:00pm Meeting adjourned