

Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 31, 2018

Langston-Brown CC, MPR

Time: 6:45-8:45 PM

Commission Members Present:

Shirley Brothwell, Chair
David Tornquist
Sherry Kohan (Phone)

Janet Eichers
John Bacon
Patricia Trapanese

Commission Members Absent:

Steve Severn
Jessica Paska
Drew Murray

Corey Simples
Justin Wilt

County/APS Staff:

Josh Colman, SC Liaison
Bernadette Grullon, DPR

Lisa Grandle, DPR

Please note: Agenda items may not be in chronological order.

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

[7:00pm]

Deferred until next meeting.

Old Business

4MRV Update

[8:19-8:23pm]

Shirley gave an update and overview of 4MRV, including information on past meetings/votes/steps forward.

Sports Commission submitted two letters- one to the Planning Commission and one to the County Board. Overall points were similar, slightly different tone between two letters. Acknowledgement of history of the park was a well-received point.

Board voted in favor of Concept 1 (Sports Commissions preferred outcome) 5-0.

New Business

CIP and Project Update- Lisa Grandle and Bernadette Grullon, DPR

[7:01-7:56pm]

Full presentation and overview of Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Project Updates- specifically focused on Local Parks and Recreation Programs.

Project Update

- Overview of accomplished/completed projects from Parks Maintenance Capital, Synthetic Turf, Neighborhood Conservation, Master Plans, and Land Acquisition.
- Status update on current projects, including several synthetic turf replacements.
 - Gunston Diamond Field- anticipated to go before the Board in July for construction approval.
 - Stratford park- planning on heavy usage moving forward.
- Discussion on the best time for the Sports Commission to get involved in a project- a lot of it depends on the type of project. A capital maintenance project is a replace/renovate, so less meetings/involvement. This ties into the County's public engagement strategy.

CIP Update

- Overview of comments received prior to the CIP being completed. Top comments focused on schools, maintenance of assets, metro, pedestrian safety, and fiscal responsibility.
 - Over 4,000 comments from over 3,000 respondents.
- Park and Recreation Priorities
 - Synthetic Turf Replacement program continues- \$30 million for program.
 - Upper TJ and Kenmore fields added to list as new synthetic turf fields.
 - One additional TBD field.
 - No money for lights at Williamsburg
 - \$81 million for major capital maintenance
 - Land Acquisition- no new money proposed for land acquisition (has traditionally been about \$3 million). Current balance of \$3.5 million will be used, but no additional money for land acquisition.
- Major Future Projects/Issues
 - Synthetic Field Replacement- actual replacement will be more of a challenge when we are completing three replacements in a single year.
 - Boathouse- some movement on this, more information to come.
 - Quincy Park- re-envisioning of the Quincy Park and Central Library- major project to come.
- Timeline of Upcoming CIP Information

- Online Feedback Form is currently live through Friday, June 29
- Board Work Session on June 12
- Public Hearing on June 27
- Adoption scheduled for July 14

Aquatics Committee Letter on Career Center

[7:56-8:18pm]

Aquatics Committee ready to send letter on Career Center project.

- Committee is in favor as having as many sport amenities as possible- should be equal to all other school amenities.
- Arguments about busing students to other schools- Aquatics Committee set out an argument that it's just not feasible.
- There's now also frustration with the design.
- Discussions on a smaller field space- would just be a practice field (not enough space to make it a regulation field).
- If it were to happen, where would a pool go? It would be part of a later design phase (part of a multi-layer garage with different amenities).
- Opposing groups- some pushing for comprehensive high school with full amenities, some pushing for busing the kids for amenities, others want to abandon comprehensive high school (turn into a choice high school).
- Additional discussion on Patrick Henry and how that elementary school would be handled.
- Sports Commission discussion on writing a letter in favor of full amenities. John will work on letter to bring to next SC meeting.

Commission Recruitment and Transparency

[8:23-8:30pm]

Katie Cristol and John Vihstadt had invited commissions to come to a session about how commissions are set up, how they are trained, etc. Conversation focused on what could be done to improve commissions.

Discussion on the "Big Ideas Roundtable". Shirley is facilitating a meeting on June 4th- it's about growth in Arlington- what defines Arlington, what are some of the central characteristics.

Mid-Year Check on Annual Plan

[8:31-8:50pm]

Review of Sports Commission annual plan.

- Good start and accomplishments on the Underserved Populations plan.
- Some progress on improving the commissions network- better work with Park and Recreation Commission.
- Some progress on Continued Commission Work
 - 4MRV has been successful.
 - JFAC is off the radar screen at this time.
 - POPS- following timetable/project closely.
 - PFRC Membership- asked for membership, was denied. SC then asked for compromise position- to ensure it was added to project groups- also hasn't happened. Shirley will go back to Christian on this.
- Advocacy Groups are slowly moving forward.
- Outreach to Board and Senior Leadership has improved. There is a cost to this- a lot of outside work to do this.
- Suggestions for this year or next year:
 - Sports Commission should create a sign-up sheet to divide and conquer a lot of this work.
 - Find additional ways to get other members in front of the Board.
 - Possibly create "tracking Board agendas and upcoming info" as a role?

Agenda Items

[8:50-8:55pm]

Sports Commission members are encouraged to submit potential agenda items to Shirley. Group can have input on what is being talked about.

Plans for June meeting- Futsal conversation, Career Center follow up, CIP.

Meeting ends 8:55pm

Christian Dorsey, County Board Liaison

Attest:

Josh Colman

Josh Colman, Staff Liaison

DRAFT