

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Ellen M. Bozman Government Center, 2100 Clarendon Blvd.

Room 311 on the 3rd Floor

AGENDA

Chairman's Introduction and Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes (7:00-7:05)

- Commission consideration of December 18, 2018 minutes

Public Comment (7:05-7:15)

** Park and Recreation Commission public comment is open to all with a 3-minute limit per person.*

Long Bridge Park Fees Update [Pete Lusk, DPR] (7:15-7:35)

2019 Plan of Action for the Park and Recreation Commission [Bill Ross, Chair] (7:35-8:15)

Staff Report (8:15-8:20)

Commission Member Reports (8:20-8:25)

- 26th Street North and Old Dominion Drive Site Master Planning Task Force (David Howell)
- 55+ (TBD)
- Alcova Heights (Colt Gregory)
- APS (Jim Meikle)
- Bike Element MTP (Steve Finn)
 - *The Bike Element Working Group did not meet in December. Currently, it appears the Bike Element Master Transportation Plan Update will go to the County Board with a Request to Advertise at the February 23 meeting with approval in either March or April. Public comment ends January 22. The presentations to all committees and commissions is complete, to include a pop-up presentation to the Civic Federation in December.*
- Budget/CIP (Duke Banks/Caroline Haynes)
- Civic Federation (Duke Banks)

At a Special Meeting of the Civic Federation on January 8th, a resolution concerning the methodology of the Level of Service as used in the Public Spaces Master Plan was considered and voted upon. Bill Ross, Chair of the PRC, has forwarded to the Commissioners copies of the Resolution that was adopted by a vote of 66-17-3.

This is a significant vote total in the Civic Federation exceeding the “yes” vote total of the Land Acquisition resolution which recommended 3 acres per year for a goal of 30 acres for the next ten years. That resolution passed by a vote of 63-1-1. It is important to note that the goal of 30 acres over ten years is embedded in the draft PSMP.

To help the PRC Commissioners better understand the backdrop of the resolution the following information is provided.

1. Initial request to provide overview of Public Spaces Master Plan.

- On October 5th Irena Lazic of DPR approached the Civic Federation requesting 15-20 minutes to give a presentation at our November meeting concerning the Public Spaces Master Plan.*
- On October 2nd Elizabeth Carriger of the Public Art Project Manager requesting to make a brief presentation to CivFed at our December meeting.*
- In consultation with our acting Chair of the Board of Directors of CivFed we responded on October 11th to both with the following message:*

Dear Ms. Iazic and Carriga,

We recently received requests from both of you to make presentations at the Civic Federation.

Irena requested 15-20 minutes at our November 13th meeting to discuss updating the Public Spaces Master Plan, a sub-element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Elizabeth requested time at our December 4th meeting to give a brief presentation on updating the Public Arts Master Plan as a sub-element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Unfortunately for both dates our calendars are already booked, and we cannot honor the requests.

Instead, we suggest that we explore a possible future program in 2019 whereby both of you consider helping us formulate a program possibly with our Park and Recreation Committee, concerning the challenges Arlington faces in providing open spaces within the context of anticipated population increases being projected along with added density.

Likewise, if you have time sensitive information you would like to share with our membership consider writing a max 1,000-word article that we could publish in our Newsletter. Newsletter deadlines for the November issue is November 1, and November 22 for the December issue

Please let us know if this is feasible on both your parts, and if you will consider writing an article for the Newsletter.

Look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Best,

*Duke Banks, President
Arlington Civic Federation*

*cc: Lois Koontz, Acting Chair - ACCF Board of Directors
Kit Norland, Acting Chair - ACCF Parks and Recreation Committee*

- *As noted in the message we provided an opportunity for DPR to insert an article in our Newsletter, which DPR provided, and we inserted.*
2. *Concern by some that the CivFed request to the PSMP Advisory Committee was too limited to the very narrow focus of the Level of Service analysis.*
 - *It must be emphasized that the request was made to address the Level of Service issue because this is what the resolution was all about. **The resolution was not about the PSMP.***
 - *Those raising the concern do not appreciate CivFeds ‘bottom up’ approach concerning how resolutions are presented at CivFed. Any delegate or alternate from a member organization can present a resolution that must be given due consideration. The President forwards the resolution to appropriate committees for review. In this case the resolution was forwarded to four CivFed committees, none which suggested that this resolution could not be considered without reviewing the entire PSMP.*
 - *It is important to note that the committees noted that there have been dozens of presentations concerning the PSMP, but none concerning the LOS methodology.*
 3. *Other issues concerning who would represent the County and civility.*
 - *In putting the program together, we had several email exchanges concerning who would participate on behalf of the County plus the need for civility.*
 - *As mentioned last month we also received some questionable emails that several of members of our Board of Directors felt were inappropriate and presenting misleading information to the general public.*
 - *Attached please find copy of my comments at the meeting that addresses some of these concerns plus a civility statement that I promised to staff and Board Chair Dorsey. The section highlighted in yellow is specifically because of the inappropriate emails we received.*

- *Also included is a Supporting Document that was provided to CivFed delegates and alternates which present background information in support of the resolution, plus the presentation provided by proponents.*
- Crystal City Review Commission (Kevin Rachlin)
- Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC) (Bill Ross)
- Lee Highway President's Group (Cindy Krech/Julie Mullen)
 - *On January 30th, between 7 and 10 PM, at the Washington and Lee High School is the first meeting of the Lee Highway Planning group. Details of the meeting will be in the next report in February.*
- Long Bridge Fees Working Group (*Provided by former PRC member, Andrea Walker*)
 - *Long Bridge fees working group is subset of the Long Bridge planning committee. The proposed fees, discussed below, must be approved by LB planning which is scheduled for Jan 31. The fee schedule then goes to the County Board for approval in Feb.*
 - *Note:*
 - *No reciprocity of passes w/APS because of incompatibility of computer systems. But limited reciprocity w/55+. For example, LB annual pass can be used in place of 55+ gold fitness pass, but not vice versa. (No way to limit use to fitness and not pool.)*
 - *Fees (and reciprocity) will be revisited once operational data (2 years after pool opening?) is in hand.*
 - *LB is a DPR project and will be administered as such; no APS involvement.*
 - *Fees (presumably just the "term" passes discussed below) are eligible for sliding-scale reduction (25%-75%) based on income.*
 - *Long Bridge Working Group Recommendations:*
 - A. *Two types of passes:*
 - 1) *"Swipe" passes, which are per visit and most popular per last summer's statistical survey of Arlington residents and*
 - 2) *"Term (?)", i.e., 6-month, "Indoor-Season" (think school year) and annual. Note: Group decided against a monthly pass and opted instead for 25 visit pass.*
 - B. *Fees:*
 - 1) *Swipe: Daily (\$5-\$9-\$6—child, adult, senior); 10-visit (\$45, \$81, \$54 or 1 free visit), 25-visit (\$110, \$198, \$132 or 3 free visits)*
 - 2) *Term: 6-month (\$200-\$360-\$240—child, adult, senior—based on 40 visits); Indoor season (\$275-\$495-\$330—based on 55 visits); annual (\$350-\$630-\$420—based on 70 visits)*
 - 3) *Other: Family daily--\$25; "Matinee" (low-user timeframe--10-2? Seniors and lunchtime workers?) -- \$5*

4) *Surcharge for non-residents: 25% for day pass; 30% for repeat pass*

- *Basic agreement for Crystal City BID rep's recommendation that those who work in Arlington (and their families) pay the resident fee.*
- *All fees were benchmarked against APS and other jurisdictions. The swipe passes compared favorably w/other jurisdictions. The "term" passes, no. Alexandria was cheaper w/APS being cheapest of all. But LB's unrestricted hours and amenities (1, 3, 5-meter diving options, lazy river, fitness rooms, etc.—plus parking) must be considered.*
- Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Haynes/Howell)
- Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (TBD)
- Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC)
 - Arlington Education Center Reuse (Sergio Enriquez)
 - *The Joint Building Level Planning Committee and Public Review Committee met on December 19, 2018 regarding the Education Center Reuse Project. In the meeting, the project parameters and updates were conveyed by APS staff. Part of APS' staff presentation encompassed educational specifications, defining base project scope and alternates as well as proposed schematic design options.*
 - *During the schematic design options, the contracting staff detailed and asked members to vote on two transportation alternatives that involve three various of transportation modes (vehicular, pedestrian, and cyclists). Many members did not feel comfortable voting on the options minutes after receiving the presentation. They felt like further consideration and providing feedback to their groups was necessary. Therefore, it was decided to postpone the vote to a future date.*
 - *Furthermore, another vote was performed during the meeting, which encompassed design appearance of window shapes of the building. Staff provided three alternatives for site and building design. Votes were casted (by raise of hands) and they were able to get majority vote on one design.*
 - *In terms of PRC's involvement, the plaza and roof terrace improvements are part of the "base scope." I asked if lights were planned to be added to the multi-use space and if so, if they would follow push button timers for these lights, as modeled in similar multi-use spaces in parks. The answer was that they were not sure of it yet.*
 - *During the public comment period, there were some residents who voiced their opinions against the transportation models as it would hinder safety of cyclists. These points were taken by staff.*
- Plan for Our Places and Spaces (Caroline Haynes)
- Open Data Advisory Group (Duke Banks)

- Site Plan Review Committee (Bill Ross)
 - 600 N. Glebe Rd. – Harris Teeter Site (Bill Ross)
 - PenPlace Phase I (Shruti Kuppa)
 - *No updates*
 - Best Western Site (Shruti Kuppa)
 - *No updates*
 - American Legion/APAH (Shruti Kuppa)
 - *The January 7th meeting was the last scheduled meeting for this project before it goes to the full planning commission for review and discussion. Echoing public comment, there was a strong emphasis on preserving the current community value. Although there is no green/open space designated on this site, greenery in the form of planters and boundary markers were proposed by the applicant. Moving forward, the project will further contend with transportation flow issues in order to meet the needs of the neighborhood.*
 - Market Common Clarendon (Bill Ross)
- Sports Commission (Steve Finn)
 - *On December 20, 2018, the ASC met. The first topic was the ASC's proposed letter on the Pops process. The primary issue for the letter and the ASC was defending fields, primarily diamond fields, from assertions by community groups that the fields are underutilized or of lesser priority than open space. The ASC discussed the impact of certain documents provided community groups via FOIA requests and the misperceptions created by, or inapt use of, these documents. The ASC believes that field resources in the County are barely keeping pace with current and future demand and that repurposing of fields will impair the sports activities in the community. The other topics discussed, was follow-up of the Aquatics Committee's request for a change to O&M Fee Cost Recovery. The ASC believed this request from the Aquatics Committee represents a departure from past practice and requires further study and input, not least whether this change will impact other sports fee arrangements in the County.*
- Urban Forestry Commission (David Howell)
 - *The December UFC meeting had four primary agenda items. Caroline Haynes provided a summary of the history of the POPS process. At the time of the meeting, the comment period was closed, but additional comments from the Commission can be sent to the advisory group. Dean Amel, the UFC representative for the Commission (ex-officio) to the POPS process, gave an overview of the plan. A discussion followed regarding field lighting specifications, quantifying nature, the E2C2 letter on the process, prioritizing preserving natural areas, biophilic cities, green walls, mountain biking, in-fill and site plan development. Commissioner Keane volunteered to write up comments on behalf of the Commission, to reflect the discussion.*

- *Mr. Verweij asked the Commission for suggestions on the shape of a potential composition of the steering committee for the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan update. The Chair expressed concern about the lack of the words “urban forestry” in the title of the update. The commission expressed a preference for an expedient process, with a committee of around 6-10 members, and to use a contractor to facilitate meetings.*
- *Chair Nora Palmatier discussed the importance to the board of the letters drafted by the Commission. Reference was also made to the 2014 Advisory Group Handbook that underscores how advisory groups set the tone for “civic participation” and provide the venue for “constructive engagement on issues that matter for all Arlingtonians.”*

Other Business (8:25-8:45)

- Letters to the County Board
 - Best Western Site
 - American Legion/APAH
- POPS PRC Comments Letter (Continued Discussion)
- Update/Status on 2018 Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award

Next Meeting: February 26, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Park and Recreation Commission 2019 Meeting Schedule

The Park and Recreation Commission meets at 7:00pm typically on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings are generally held in a Conference Room (see schedule below) on the 3rd floor (Room 311) at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard (above Courthouse Metro Station). Free parking is available in the garage after 5:00 PM.

UPCOMING 2019 COMMISSION MEETING DATES	
Meeting Date	Meeting Room
Tuesday, January 22, 2019	Room 311 (3 rd floor)
Tuesday, February 26, 2019	Azalea Room (Lobby Level)
Tuesday, March 26, 2019	Room 311 (3 rd floor)
Tuesday, April 23, 2019*	Room 311 (3 rd floor)*
Tuesday, May 28, 2019*	Room 311 (3 rd floor)*
Tuesday, June 25, 2019*	Room 311 (3 rd floor)*
Tuesday, July 23, 2019	Room 311 (3 rd floor)
Tuesday, August 20, 2019 or Tuesday, August 27, 2019	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Tuesday, September 24, 2019	Room 311 (3 rd floor)
Tuesday, October 22, 2019	Room 311 (3 rd floor)
Tuesday, November 19, 2019	Azalea Room (Lobby Level)
Tuesday, December 17, 2019	Azalea Room (Lobby Level)

**Joint Park and Recreation Commission and Sports Commission meeting may occur on these dates and in a different location (to be determined).*