

Arlington Aquatics Committee

Meeting Minutes - March 5, 2019

Syphax Education Center

Attendees

Cynthia Hilton; Marilyn Judson; Janet Eichers; Ron Kampeas; Mackenzie Kearney; Kristi Sawert; Howard Seamens

Members not in attendance

Don Hesse; Guy Land; Ljudmila Mladenovic

Approval of minutes

Minutes for Meeting held on October Feb 5, 2109 were presented and approved as written.

Public Comment:

No public comment

AC Roster Update

(Helena Machado/Jennifer Lainhart)

Helena will circulate by email the APS roster for additional corrections; staff will merge the lists.

Long Bridge Park Fees Working Group Update

(Peter Lusk)

Briefing on the process used by LBP Fee Working Group (WG).

Recreation Centers facilities are managed by DES.

Fees set on the basis of surveys based on the public will tolerate. Not cost based.

DPR excited to be directly responsible for the entire operation.

The WG recommended waiting one or two years and review data based on member use/surveys and then revisit the issue of reciprocity with APS.

Passes will be sold in other places and there is a plan to start sales sometime in mid-2020.

Parking is based on the standard TDM. Park will have 232 parking spaces based on the use permit and TDM regulations. Surface parking; metered parking except for park visitors/members. Probably 4 hours free parking as currently used at Arlington Mill and the new Lubber Run.

What are the plans for hosting a large swimming event? Possible shuttle service or use of the fields of surplus parking.

Non-residents - 25% premium for day passes; 30% for all other passes. Planning to align the fees across all fitness centers. Low use by non-residents currently at the fitness centers. Current rate for non-residents is close to 100% premium.

Will develop a child to adult rate to ensure safety.

Discussion about policies between APS and LBP regulations. To try to make navigating the rules and regulations between the two facilities. Making sure that the two organizations are not in conflict.

The group was not charged into setting rental fees. Staff will be working on policies for setting rental fees and how to manage general operations during rentals (i.e.: swim meets)

Single entry point - admission will give you full access to the building except for community rooms.

School year memberships - provides opportunity to have "winter only" memberships. "Winter membership" in use at Tuckahoe Swim Club.

Matinee fee - Pending evaluation before full implementation.

Class registrants will not be charged facility admission fees. May become an implementation challenge. No way to police that class registrants do not stay after class to use the facility.

Cost/revenue estimates are being provided by consultant. Net tax support is anticipated to be \$1.2M of \$4.25M about 25%. LBP has the potential to become a 0% tax base in a few years because it is a membership-based facility. LBP website contains some of this information in detail.

AC Cost recovery for the three pools assumes that all users have an impact in the facility.

No discussion about APS use or fees associated with this. If APS is using the park, what priority does it have? APS priority is yet to be determined and would be subject to MOU.

Lane availability for 50m course not yet discussed.

Part of the business model to try to establish corporate memberships.

Marilyn thought the process went well and enjoyed the experience. MacKenzie felt the same, it was a lot of fun.

Pete closing comment - very proud of the group's work and very productive activity. LBP website and fee working group site (<https://parks.arlingtonva.us/locations/long-bridge-park/> and <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/plans-studies/parks-open-space/long-bridge-park/>)

Sports Commission Report

(Janet Eichers)

Updates: Thanks from the chair and committee to Janet for serving as liaison to SC. She got cookies! Thanks to Kristi for willingness to accept the appointment to carry on with AC Representation. Jen will follow up with Carla Fletcher, the applicant that to be appointed to the vacant AC position.

Re-Evaluating the Advisory Relationship Between Sports Commission and the AC

County Board liaison and SC chair requests that AC look at the relationship with the SC again:

1. Seat on the table but voting only if the SC is addressing an Aquatics issue. The committee does not agree with this option.

What is the source of the tension between the two bodies?

AC is a joint committee and it is unique only because of the relationship with the SC.

2. Reverse the relationship so that AC becomes a committee of the SB and copy the County Board but no longer be a subcommittee of the SC (similar to the way the committee functioned prior to 2009)

Has the new AC charter been approved by the County? Move with the charter as is. Staff will share current MOU with the AC.

FY 2020 Budget/AC Fee Recommendations

CM and Superintendent have not adopted the AC recommendations, but:

CM has proposed to increase the Transfer by \$109,576 for a total of \$396,515; Proposed a Pool Fee to be charged to class participants - expected to generate \$130,000 to \$150,000 additional revenue to be shared with APS.

Superintendent did not change the fees proposed; pending action from the CM. The SB is expected to roll back fees to the 2018 level.

Tier 3 cuts include cutting ES swimming transportation, which would effectively end ES aquatic instruction.

If the tax rate does not change, APS will still have a shortfall.

March 20th Forum Planning Update

Survey - Send draft of questions to the committee for edits.

Publicity - Send PDF of flyer to MacKenzie.

Pool Maintenance Issues

(Helena Machado)

Major breakdown in the IPool at WL resulted in the cancellation of classes for Key (3rd graders) and weekend and Monday and Tuesday DPR Classes.

Old Business

None

New business

- Upcoming meetings
 - April 3rd Meeting at Syphax Room 402

Adjourn: 9:10