

Arlington Aquatics Committee
Meeting Minutes - April 3, 2019
Syphax Education Center

Call to order: 7:14 pm

Attendees: Carla Fletcher; Cynthia Hilton; Marilyn Judson; Kristi Sawert; Howard Seamens

Members not in attendance: Janet Eichers; Ron Kampeas; MacKenzie Kearney; Guy Land; Ljudmila Mladenovic

Welcome, & Updates:

Carla Fletcher was appointed effective March 19, 2019.

School Board approved AC Charter; Jennifer will check/confirm action by County Board.

Moving meeting location between APS Office (2) and a Pool (1); next meeting at YT.

Approval of minutes

March 6, 2019 minutes approved as written.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Re-evaluating the Advisory Relationship between the Sports Commission (SC) and the AC (Cynthia Hilton)

- Any suggestions from the group about the collaboration with the SC; Kristi is not interested in serving unless the AC retains a full vote on the commission.
- Briefing on relationship to SC for the benefit of the new member; Matt deFerranti is the Liaison to the Sports Commission and the AC; SC is field-centric.
- Five Options to consider:
 1. Status quo - the AC retains a full voting seat on the SC
 2. Appoint someone just to liaise / report on aquatics (not vote)
 3. Has vote but only on aquatics issues
 4. Split away from SC and function as other joint committees (with cc to SC)
 5. Report only to SB and let the Board communicate to the other Board
- Circumstance: CB would have a question about all sports and our absence may result in less representation
- #4 is the most advantageous to the AC; but if the SC does something outrageous, we will not know; lack of representation on the SC may result in the appearance of not being able to work with the SC.
- There is a problem with SC in that it does not represent ALL sports. Perhaps the SC needs to re-organize.
- Howard and Marilyn suggested using #4 except that AC communications with the CB would be through the Board's AC liaison, who would then coordinate distribution and communication. Additionally, the AC will recommend that it be given charge over all aquatic sports and recreation matters in the County (e.g., crew, etc.), not just the 3 in-school pools. Finally, to ensure that there is not a proliferation of "sports-centric" commissions, the AC will recommend that the SC be split between indoor and outdoor sports. Thus, increasing the reports to the Board liaison by only one Committee voted 5-0 going forward with recommendation to establish according to option #4 as amended.

FY 2020 Budget/AC Fee Recommendations - Updates

(Cynthia Hilton)

- March 12 - CM work session with County Board
 - CB Budget includes an increase of about \$110,000 to the Annual Transfer; also collecting a first-time O&M fee from DPR registrants of between \$130,000 and \$150,000.
 - The CB thanked AC for their work and for raising the issue; there are other fees and issues that are inequitable.
 - DPR does not currently manage any of the fitness/recreation center facilities the Department uses. This will change with LBP.
 - County not able to resolve this within this budget cycle; Chair asked that Matt deFerranti to work with the AC and others make recommendations for over-arching policy about fees to ensure that, if fees are collected, that all users are paying a fair share.
- March 26 - SB work session on Facilities & Operations / Aquatics.
 - Barbara Kanninen asked if the AC recommendations were considered; Nancy VanDoren asked about the Tier 3 cuts that would affect the ES swimming program.
- April 2 Meetings with School Board and Advisory Committee Chairs & County Board Public hearing.
 - Spoke about the rationale about using the field use fees to set pool fees as they do not relate equally; using CPI to adjust the transfer because of the increase in pool space and use.
 - Neither budget addresses the two primary recommendations of the AC - to charge equal fees and to reduce the tax burden on APS.
 - AC never told why recommendations were not accepted.
- School Board will present their budget on April 11; followed by a work session with the CB on April 12.
- County Board will adopt the budget on April 23.
- APS staff has represented to the SB that if the CM Budget passes the proposed changes to aquatics, drop-in fees will be dropped back to 2018 schedule.
- Fees setting (Helena's presentations)
 - Senior age to 60 - AC supports this; Helena will recommend to Superintendent.
 - The basis for non-resident fees will reviewed to make certain that each bracket is justified. Current rates provide greater value to 3-mo. memberships than 6-mo. or 12-mo.

The AC will stay engaged with Matt deFerranti's efforts to ensure fee parity. The AC will continue to work with SB/CB members to ensure a positive outcome consistent with our recommendations.

AC Forum/Survey Updates

(Cynthia Hilton/Helena Machado)

- Forum Follow up. Draft notes were circulated to members; thanks to members for comments; and the report was finalized.
- Survey
 - At 5:15 (on April 3) there were a total of 386 questions.
 - Trending positively in the Customer Satisfaction.
 - Budget questions have a fair amount of confusion and "No Opinion". The responses seem to indicate the questions were hard to understand.

WL Pool Parking

(Howard Seamens)

- Civitan Club - The outdoor market continues to be a challenge. Howard will be trying to find someone to speak to at the Civitan Club or the County. Jen and Helena will continue to try to

reach out to staff. It happens only on the first Saturday of each month from April to November. Ed Center construction starting will further aggravate this situation.

Sports Commission Update

(Kristi Sawert)

Sports commission member asked whether the SC should comment on APS recommending cutting Crew; no action was taken. The SC chair was asked about policies/practices for members to review comments submitted on behalf of the Commission.

Pool Maintenance

(Helena Machado)

- Routine Repairs underway to YT heater; Water temperature fluctuating between 81-83.

New Business

- No new business.

Old Business

Next Meeting - May 15 or 16, 2019. Doodle poll sent. Meeting will be at YT unless otherwise noted.

Adjourn

8:57 pm