

# **Sports Commission Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, June 27, 2019  
Langston Brown CC, Senior Room  
Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

## **Commission Members Present:**

Shirley Brothwell, Chair  
Justin Wilt, Vice-Chair  
Steve Severn  
Matthew Galan  
Kristi Sawert  
David Tournquist

Dave Maher  
Drew Murray  
John Mingus  
Megan Sheckles  
John Bacon  
Nancy Sharkey

## **Commission Members Absent:**

Jessica Paska  
Sherry Kohan  
George Thompson

## **County/APS Staff:**

Greg Anselene, DPR  
Deb DeFranco, APS

## **Guests**

Herb Levitan- (NVSO) Northern Virginia Senior Olympics  
Sergio Enriquez – Parks and Recreation Commission

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

## ***Approval of Past Meeting Minutes***

[7:00pm-7:10pm]

Motion to approve February 2019, March 2019, and April 2019 meeting minutes as amended, seconded, and approved.

## ***New Business***

[7:10 – 8:50 PM ]

- Introductions of Sports Commission and guests.

- New Sports Commission Members John Mingus, Megan Sheckles, and Nancy Sharkey were introduced.
- Guests Herb Levitan and Sergio Enriquez were introduced
- **Northern Virginia Senior Olympics, Herb Levitan**
  - Introduction of Senior Olympics. Which includes over 70 events and 800 participants. Motto is “Living healthier longer”.
  - Events for all abilities. Events include classical events (golf, volleyball, track&field etc.) as well as sit down events such as Bunko and Bridge.
  - Mr. levitan stated that of all jurisdictions, Arlington County is the most enthusiastic. Thomas Jefferson Community Center hosts many events including the Opening Ceremony
  - MR. Levitan was asked what the Sports Commission could do to help. Mr. Levitan encouraged everyone eligible to sign up and participate. Mr. Levitan also indicated that they can always use help with marketing and sponsorships.
- **DPR Presentation on Marymount University MOA, Barcroft Batting Cages and Gunston Diamond opening. Greg Anselene, Manager of Sports Leagues and Field Management**
  - Marymount University MOA
    - Provided history of the MOU that was signed in 2009. MU made \$2m capital investment in Boeing Field # 1 at Long Bridge Park. Has been making prepayments for the recent turf replacement and annual maintenance payment
    - MU received 440 hours total hours per year for NCAA Soccer and Lacrosse (Men and Women). 240 hours are prime time (5pm-10pm M-F and 9am-4pm Sat & Sun)
    - MU approached the County in 2018 to discuss updating the current agreement
    - In July the County Board will consider and Amended and Restated MOA to include:
      - 100 additional hours of non-prime time use of Boeing # 1 at Long Bridge Park.
      - Use of County Tennis Facilities, beginning Fall 2019.
      - Practices 10:00 am – 4:00 pm M-Fri at Virginia Highlands Park.
      - 2 fall matches, 16 spring matches. A maximum of 4 matches can be played in primetime. Matches can be played at locations determined by DPR to minimize impact on one location.
      - Future Softball program (potentially 2022-2023 start)
      - Permitted to practice 10am-4:00pm with games scheduled after County leagues have been scheduled.
    - DPR will continue to work with MU Baseball program.
    - Commissioner John Bacon noted concerns that the County is not getting enough back in return for this agreement. Mr. Bacon stated the county should be net-positive in the agreement

- APS Liaison Debbie DeFranco questioned that the rental fees would cover the cost of additional maintenance.
    - Commissioner Steve Severn questioned the comparison of rental fees vs. League fees and that rental fees would be just a drop in the bucket.
    - Further discussion on watering down DPR's language regarding the commitment to the softball program, maintenance concerns and the impact to the other users.
    - Commission agreed to send a letter to the County board
  - Barcroft Batting Cages:
    - Arlington Sports Foundation raised funds to help renovate the batting cages at Barcroft Park.
    - Spring 2019 DPR staff met on-site with leaders of all diamond sports leagues to discuss the renovations.
    - Project is scheduled to begin July 22-August 31
    - Project scope includes:
      - Drainage improvements, ADA access, 4 electrical outlets
      - Two cages (35'x70') with the ability to divide into 4.
      - Cement base with artificial turf to be used in all-weather
    - Commissioner Steve Severn noted that much of the money raised by the Arlington Sports Foundation came from league donations.
  - Gunston Diamond Field
    - Was due for replacement in the Maintenance section of the Capital improvement plan. These projects are funded as a 1-1 replacement of existing amenities.
    - Arlington Sports Foundation and Diamond Field Fund Committee proposed conversion to synthetic turf field at Gunston. These 2 groups provided the delta of the CIP funded project and cost of synthetic turf (\$371,000).
- **26<sup>th</sup> St. N.-Old Dominion- Overview by Greg Anselene, Manager of Sports Leagues and Field Management.**
  - September 2018 the County Board accepted a recommendation from County Manager to create a community task for to:
    - Collaborate with staff to develop a master plan for the 7.6 acres of County-owned land
    - Group held 10 meetings beginning in November 2018 and concluding in March 2019.
    - Final Report was submitted to County Board on April 11, 2019.
    - The recommendations included:
      - A plan that "relies on maximizing the use of the sloped topography to provide double access with a rooftop park space that covers a portion of the operational facilities located on a lower level that covers a portion of the operational facilities located on a lower level".
    - The Task Force's report recommended that the County Board develop a Park Master Plan, however, the County Manager or County Board have not taken a position on this report and have not given staff direction on the site's future.

- Commission discussed that based on the recommended design that based on the PSMP additional playgrounds are not needed.
- Commission discussed that rectangle field users have a need in N. Arlington
- **Officiating Challenges in sports- What can the commission do to help**
  - Commissioner Dave Maher agreed to start researching
  - Discussion of current issues with Basketball Referee contract.
  - Mid-Atlantic Officials did not make payment to all officials that worked the 2018-19 basketball season
  - Arlington County has made all payments to Mid-Atlantic. Arlington has cancelled the contract

### Commissioner Reports

- Commission Workshop Report- Delayed to July meeting
- Commissioner Kristi Sawert notified the commission of an Arlington County DES paving project- Quincy St. at W-L HS.
  - Notified the commission of plans to potentially reduce parking spaces on Quincy St.
  - Questioned the impact it will have on field and track users in addition to Pool users
  - Should the commission write a letter.
  - Commission Chair Shirley Brothwell requested staff to gather more information to share with the commission.

Adjorn  
[9:00PM]

Public Comment  
None

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Matt de Ferranti, County Board Liaison

Attest:

*Greg Anselene*

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Greg Anselene, Staff Liaison