

Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 24, 2019

Langston Brown Community Center, Seniors Room

Time: 7:00pm-9:00pm

Approval of Minutes

- July 25, 2019
- September 26, 2019

New Business

- Charter
- Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities
- Annual Operations
 - Agenda Creations
 - Work Plan
 - Calendar

Commission Member Reports

- Commission workshop report- John Bacon and Megan Sheckles
- New commission orientation report

Public Comment

Upcoming Meetings:

- Bluemont Park-Upper Bluemont Park Conceptual Design Community Meeting, Tuesday, October 29 7pm-8:30pm at Ashlawn Elementary Multipurpose Room
- BLPC/PFRC Career Center Expansion Meeting, Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 7pm at the Career Center.
- JFAC Visioning Committee Meeting- Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 7pm at Bozman Govt. Center Cherry/Dogwood Rooms (Lobby Level)
- November Sports Commission Meeting- Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at Langston Brown CC

Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 25, 2019
Aurora Hills Community Center
Time: 6:30pm-9:00 PM

Commission Members Present:

Shirley Brothwell, Chair
Justin Wilt, Vice-Chair
Steve Severn
George Thompson
Kristi Sawert
David Tournquist
Jessica Paska

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

Commission Members Absent:

Matthew Galan
Sherry Kohan

County/APS Staff:

Greg Anselene, DPR
Peter Lusk, DPR

Guests

Steve Finn - Parks and Recreation Commission
Sergio Enriquez – Parks and Recreation Commission
Mark Lincoln – Parks and Recreation Commission
JP Cooney- Arlington Babe Ruth
Adam Rasmussen - Arlington Little League
Lizzy Stell- Arlington Soccer Association
Scott Dalton – Arlington Youth Lacrosse
Rebecca McSweeney - Youth Ultimate League of Arlington

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

[6:35-6:45]

Motion to approve June 2019 meeting minutes as amended, seconded, and approved

New Business

[6:45-9:35]

- **Introductions of Sports Commission and guests**

 - **DPR Field allocation and scheduling presentation. Greg Anselene, Manager of Sports Leagues and Field Management; Peter Lusk, Athletic and Facility Services Division Chief**
 - **Current Field Scheduling Process, Peter Lusk, Athletic and Facility Services Division Chief**
 - Announced that the Public Space Master Plan had been approved with the help of community input as well as input from the sports leagues and organizations
 - County is currently working on a county webpage that will show all field calendars with plans of calendars being updated two times a day (based on issued permits)
 - Coaches will be able to export their calendars
 - **Field Allocation Guidelines, Greg Anselene, Manager of Sports Leagues and Field Management**
 - Briefly covered the 2016 allocation recommendation guidelines for the allocation of fields
 - Outcomes
 - Tier Priority system: Who receives spaces and why
 - Developmental Sport Process
 - Recognition of the changes in youth sports trends
 - Introduction to sports that do not already exist, but interest exists (i.e. youth field hockey)
 - Defined Weekly Activities
 - Competitive vs. Recreational
 - Defined seasons
 - Timeline will be created for submission of requested permits
 - Will meet yearly with organizations prior to season to discuss allocation of fields
 - Based on usage of previous leagues
-
- **Partner organization scheduling practices and experiences**
 - **Arlington Youth Lacrosse Club, Scott Dalton**
 - **Problem (Field Space): Lack of field space for the large number of athletes & growth to follow**
 - Two teams on one football field
 - Only 1 ½ hours for athletes young to old
 - **Solutions (Field Space)**
 - Asked County for assistance
 - Shifted to 1-hour workouts
 - Conducted non-game drills beforehand and cool down in parking lot
 - Meetings with commissioner to divide field space equally, coordinating age groups
 - Deal with space internally and sends out notices when there are cancellations
 - **Ultimate Solution for field space: Partnered with Marymount to use fields during preseason**

- Problems (Scheduling)
 - Scheduled based on qualifications of referees
 - Solution (Scheduling)
 - Moved some games in-house
 - Can play three games at a time in-house
- **Baseball, Adam Rasmussen**
 - Problems (Field Space)
 - Level of field does not match the age groups
 - Two major leagues (House & Travel)
 - Specific organizations get their own fields
 - Volunteer coaches left to coach late at night
 - Not enough field space during the week
 - Solutions (Field Space)
 - Insight into fields available by having joint allocation (Google Form & sheets to schedule fields)
 - Designated scheduler to send coaches to fill out form to receive field space
 - Provides DPR with a grid on which of their teams have designated fields
 - Give Back program- Fields are given back when coaches cancel their field space
 - Make-up slots are used as practice fields when not used for makeup games
- **Arlington Babe Ruth Youth Baseball, JP Cooney**
 - Problem
 - Lead by all volunteers
 - Unable to contact volunteers soon enough to allocate field times
 - Volunteers are responsible for field maintenance (work full time jobs during the week)
 - Field maintenance is backed up due to weather that volunteers cannot get to
 - Solution
 - Partner with Little League
- **Arlington Soccer Association, Lizzy Stell**
 - Solution (Field Space and Scheduling)
 - Maximize locations with same age and levels
 - Promote a Give Back program to give unused field space to DPR
 - Schedule more teams on field with same ages and genders to deal with rain outs
 - Start a recreational program, Tuesday nights, 8-12 teams with professional coach to show how to utilize smaller spaces
 - Cancel practices for make-up games
 - Shorten practices for more games
 - Use a scheduling system for scheduling field use

- **Arlington Girls Softball, Dave Lansing**
 - **Problems:**
 - Spring season- space only available during the week on high school fields where high schools have precedence over field space
 - Lack of communication between organization and APS on updates with field space schedules
 - **Solutions**
 - Getting schedules earlier from DPR
 - Increase volunteers to get fields ready for weekends
 - Add a week at the end of season for makeup games but depends on weather
- **Youth Ultimate League of Arlington, Rebecca**
 - **Problem**
 - Space and time restricted
 - Better promotion of sports to acquire more participants from south Arlington County
 - **Solutions**
 - Coaches give availability and set schedules
 - Start practices and/or games earlier (majority of athletes are younger)
 - Place multiple teams on a field
 - Gives space back to DPR that is unused
 - Fully scheduled seasons, no makeups
 - Young adults with flexible schedules as coaches + parent volunteers
- **Group Exercise**
 - **Have you heard anything this evening that could maximize scheduling efficiency from individual sports leagues?**
 - Safely conduct warm-ups and cool downs off fields
 - Encourage coaches to have joint practices on larger fields
 - Clinics for coaches on either team need to be trained on how to share space
 - 15-20-minute overlap for practices
 - Ability to communicate/find coaches to share fields with
 - Google Sheets form to use for updating communication on field space
 - Recruit volunteer parent to coach in the absence of a coach
 - Holding parents responsible for updating coaches in a timely fashion of any events, vacations, etc. coming up
 - An alert system to inform volunteers of requests or changes
 - Communication App for Teams to communicate with one another
 - More batting cages for hitting and pitching to free more field space
 - Lightning alert system instead of the discretion of referees and umpires
 - A system for coaches to see what fields are being used by specific sports
 - **What steps can be taken to achieve maximum scheduling efficiency in the DPR field inventory?**

- Schedule overlapping practices
- Same gender/age to practice together. Added benefits: more practice space, end practices with scrimmages; need to find paired coach
- Transparent, shared data on field usage and reliable “give back” program to show coaches where space is available
- Better communication
- **In your opinion, how can the Field Allocation Guidelines be tweaked to achieve maximum efficiency?**
 - Constant communication to coaches that unused fields need to be reported so that they can be used efficiently; needs sufficient warning so that fields can be reused
 - No need for coaches at formal practices, there are still things that can be done on the field
 - Knowing ahead of time that some fields are designated for makeups
 - Find ways to ensure game goes forward even if team is short a few players
 - Google form to be used to send alerts to volunteers of request and changes
 - Apps to help aid in communication with teams, parents (TeamSnap)
 - Increase # of batting cages for batting and pitching to free field space
 - Install a more scientific way of detecting lightning
- **In your opinion, what data should be collected to effectively analyze capacity and field utilization?**
 - Estimated # of users per field
 - # of field hours needed for maintenance
 - Resting hours out-of-season
 - Weather resting hours
- **How do we capture multiple teams on fields (field density)?**
 - Defining appropriately
 - Lighting a field helps more than turfing, especially early in spring and later in fall (more in fall due to weather)
 - Defining hours
 - Need new lighted fields in addition to turf
- **How do we measure “prime time” when we don’t always get all hours at large (HS) Fields?**
 - Need to know how many hours being lost of field time
- **How to measure impact of turf: Compare use of B6 to HS fields**
 - Matching field division to field use/permit; is it feasible?
 - Capture rainouts and show the loss on capacity
 - Have leagues provide estimates of number of users per field

DRAFT

Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 26, 2019
Langston Brown Community Center
Time: 7:00pm-9:00 PM

Commission Members Present:

Shirley Brothwell, Chair
Justin Wilt, Vice-Chair
Steve Severn
George Thompson
Kristi Sawert
David Tornquist
Jessica Paska

Dave Maher
Drew Murray
John Mingus
Sherry Kohan

Commission Members Absent:

Matthew Galan
Megan Sheckles
John Bacon
Nancy Sharkey

County/APS Staff:

Greg Anselene, DPR
Peter Lusk, DPR

Guests

Steve Finn - Parks and Recreation Commission
Michelle Gregory, DHS
Abby Raphael, Destination 2027 Co-Chairs
Tricia Rodgers, Destination 2027 Co-Chairs
Reuben K. Varghese, MD., M.P.H. Health Director and Chief, Public Health

New Business

[7pm-8:45pm]

- **Safe Sport Discussion; Peter Lusk, Athletic and Facility Services Division Chief**
 - DPR was notified by Arlington County Police Dept on Friday, September 13 of an arrest of a Barcroft Sports and Fitness Employee for Sexual Assault of a minor.
 - Incident occurred in late July or early August and only know of 1 event at this time.
 - County Wide Review is taking place.
 - Questions from the commission included:
 - Are facility staff trained and required to follow same procedures as program staff?

- Should all leagues in Arlington combine resources and standardize training and administration of Safe Sport?
- **Destination 2027 Presentation, Abby Raphael, Tricia Rodgers**
 - Disparities exist in Arlington, This matters, and this is not ok
 - 50% of individual's health is influenced by community conditions. Conditions include Environment, neighborhood, education, social connections, economy, housing and healthcare
 - 10 year life expectancy disparity for people living in North Rosslyn and Aurora Highlands compared to people living in Buckingham
 - 10% of all children in Arlington is living in poverty.
 - Important to look at all groups not just race. LBQT, Disabled, ethnicity
 - On September 21, Arlington County Board passed the Equity Resolution
 - Directs the County Manager to: Use equity approach in developing budget/CIP, and ensure that each department applies and equity framework to one line of business
 - Commission discussed barriers for participants and the work that the sports community is already doing. Great examples are:
 - ASA Real Madrid Program, Girls for Goals, Babe Ruth's Never let fees be a barrier
 - Discussion of Aquatics and the cuts in the APS Aquatics in Schools program. What are the demographics and rates of drownings/near drownings. National rates of the socioeconomic disparities in drownings.
 - How can the Sports Commission use its power?
 - Awareness, share the disparities, identify the appropriate audience
- **Commissioner Updates**
 - **Kristi Sawert- Aquatics Committee**
 - MS Dive Program is being cancelled
 - Quincy Parking project has been delayed for a few years
 - Career Center Field is in jeopardy due to budget cuts of the project.
 - fields (field density)?
 - How do we measure "prime time" when we don't always get all hours at large (HS) Fields?
 - How to measure impact of turf: Compare use of B6 to HS fields

Matt de Ferranti County Board Liaison

Attest:

Greg Anselene

Greg Anselene, Staff Liaison

DRAFT

Arlington Sports Commission

2020 Allocation of Constituent Representation

Constituent (Sports)	Commissioner Representing
Youth soccer (travel and rec), flag football	
Youth lacrosse, ultimate frisbee, tackle football	
Youth baseball (travel and rec)	
Youth softball, youth field hockey	
Swim/dive (recreation, competition)	
Gymnastics	
Track, x-country, trail activities	
Court sports (tennis, pickleball)	
Indoor sports (basketball, volleyball, ball hockey)	
Constituent (Groups)	
Park and Recreation Commission Liaison	
Aquatics Committee Liaison	
Underserved youth; differently-abled	
Community Drop-In (fields, gymnasiums, courts)	
Affiliate leagues, team sports	
Individual sports	
Recreation sports (including social leagues)	
Travel sports	
College programs (GWU, Marymount)	
Adult and senior sports	
New sports; not-covered groups	