

Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

Thursday, July 23, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft TEAMS

Time: 6:00pm-7:00pm

Approval of Minutes

- January 23, 2020
- February 27, 2020

New Business

- General DPR Update and COVID Response Presentation- Greg Anselene, Manager of Sports Leagues and Field Management
- SC outreach to Sports Groups

Public Comment

Upcoming Meetings:

- August 27, 2020

Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 27, 2020
Aurora Hills Community Center
Time: 7:00pm-9:00 PM

Commission Members Present:

Shirley Brothwell, Chair
Steve Severn
Jessica Paska
Megan Sheckles
George Thompson
Nancy Sharkey
Ryan Schaefer

John Mingus
David Tornquist
Kristi Sawert
John Bacon

Commission Members Absent:

Sherry Kohan
Dave Maher

Drew Murray
Justin Wilt

County/APS Staff:

Ryan Amato, DPR- Acting Staff liaison
Marco Rivero, DPR-PRC Staff Liaison

Guests

Jane Rudolph, DPR
Rebecca Schmitt, DPR
Peter Lusk, DPR
Diane Probus, DPR

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

Individual Commission business tabled until next meeting

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 - Opening Remarks made by Sports Commission chair- Shirley Brothwell
 - Round table introduction of Sports Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission
- FY21 Budget and Capital Improvement Presentation- Jane Rudolph, DPR
 - County manager released budget on Tuesday 2/25
 - Proposed 2021 DPR Budget-\$49,207,342
 - \$10 million in revenue from Boeing donation, used to offset increased cost from Long Bridge Park Aquatics and Fitness center opening

- Field Utilization Review Presentation- Peter Lusk, DPR
 - Defining field allocation and defining the variables that impact allocation.
 - Work to determine what are the actual number of hours available and how many of those hours are actually being scheduled.
 - Community engagement meeting on March 23 (7pm at Walter Reed CC) to collect data to help define usable/available hours.
- Review of Projects Presentation- Marco Rivero, DPR
 - National Landing
 - Commission expressed need to ensure recreation space is available throughout the Crystal City and Pentagon City area as development begins to take place and area undergoes change.
 - Lee Highway
 - Commissions expressed need to determine the role of SC and PRC in the Lee Highway project. How can our goal/mission be served in this process?
- Equity Conversation
 - Equity Resolution presented by Peter Lusk, DPR
 - Commission Chairs proposed questions to the commissions
 - What does equity mean to the SC and PRC constituents?
 - What can the commissions do to advance equity or the equity conversation?
 - Guiding questions- who benefits? who is burdened? who is missing? how do we know?
 - Commission raised issue of who does equity apply? (Racial/ethnic, socioeconomic, geographic location, gender, etc.) His belief is that it should focus on race/ethnicity. Consensus is that the focus is on race/ethnicity and other areas will fall out through the process.
 - believes that data available through sports can be very helpful to this conversation. Who is participating, how long are they participating, participants remaining together- where are they from, how long do participants from different areas remain together, etc.
 - indicated that in her experience, schools with lower participation in one program tend to have lower participation in others. Participation based on location is similar regardless of the program. Feels a great initiative is to meet these participants where they are.
 - Issue raised that drop-in activity is a valuable component for some groups and need to ensure that use is captured in equity conversation.
 - Issue raised that there is a huge racial/ethnic/socioeconomic disparity between children who possess life-saving aquatic skills and those susceptible to drowning. For APS students participating in their week long aquatic skill program, they receive a pre-test prior to start of program to place them accordingly for the program. Students from lower socioeconomic test much worse. (Participants from the schools with lowest fee lunch program average 19 of 34 skills on pre-test. Students from highest free lunch participation average less than 5 skills)

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Sherry Kohan
Dave Maher

County/APS Staff:

Greg Anselene, DPR
Debbie DeFranco, APS

Guests

Steve Finn - Parks and Recreation Commission
Mark Lincoln- Parks and Recreation Commission

Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

[7:00pm-7:10pm]

Motion to approve December 19, 2019, meeting minutes as amended, with adding the DPR Letter to Arlington Travel Baseball as part of the minutes. Motion was discussed seconded, and approved. No abstentions.

New Business

- **Baseball conversation follow up**
 - Discussion on the meeting, how it went and opportunities for improvement of processes when the commission takes a vote. Concern specifically about the 3rd Motion and precluding people's ability to speak

- Megan Sheckles and Jessica Paska- Underserved youth; differently-abled; Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families ; Out of School Time Commission

Old Business

- **Charter**
 - Board Liaison is not ready to move forward and has asked for another month
- **Annual Report and Workplan**
 - Discussion and review of the annual report and workplan.
 - Motion to adopt was seconded and approved
- **Aquatics Committee Letter**
 - Review of draft letter of the Sports Commission's response to the Aquatic Committee letter.
 - Discussion about the relationship with the Aquatics Committee. Is the aquatics committee a joint committee or subsidiary? What are the options of the Sports Commission when receiving a letter from the Aquatics Committee to the County Board? 3 Options include Send without comment, send with comment, don't send
 - - Motion to adopt letter and send with the Aquatics Committee letter, seconded, 1 opposed, all others in favor. Motion approved
- **Annual Operations/Agendas**
 - Discussion and review of proposed meetings and agendas for 2020.
- **Review of Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities**
 - Discussion and allocation of remaining commissioner roles
 - Request to have commissioner roles and responsibilities listed on the website

Commission Member Reports (8:45pm-9pm)

- **Aquatics Committee Update**
 - Aquatics Committee is hosting its annual public form on March 18
 - Report on the APS Elementary School Water Safety Program, its impacts and specifically the impact in life saving learn to swim classes at schools with higher rates of free and reduced lunches.
- **PSMP Post Implementation Update**

Public Comment

- None

Adjorn

(9:00pm)

Matt de Ferranti County Board Liaison

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- Some Commission members indicated they felt uncomfortable that a decision was needed. Clarified that a decision was not mandatory
- Question was asked about how ATB and their trial year is tracked.
- **Commission recommendations on posting of ATB letter**
 - DPR had requested if the letter could be placed on the Sports Commission Website. Proposal was that it is placed in the positions and initiatives section of the webpage. Historically that had only been documents authored by the Sports Commission.
 - Sports Commission requested that the letter be added to the December meeting minutes.
- **Commission Operations Procedures**
 - Review of Roberts Rules of Order including how to handle a motion, making amendments and the options within a motion. Options include move to amend; substitute motion, postpone, limit the debate, and close the debate.
- **DPR SafeSport Update- Greg Anselene, DPR**
 - Following the incident at Barcroft Sports and Fitness Center in Fall 2019, DPR is taking multiple steps to include
 - Administration of the Stewards of Children Training to all DPR employees
 - Administration of the Mandatory Reporter training to all DPR employees
 - Crisis communications workshops for staff
 - DPR is also currently developing a SafeSport webpage to provide resources to parents, coaches, and young athletes. Most of the information on the SafeSport webpage is free
 - DPR suggests that organizations comply with any request from their parent organization
 - Potential option to include safeSport requirements as part of any future MOA's with leagues.
 - Discussion about how to define a coach? What is the threshold between a parent helping out at one practice vs. a coach.
 - Question asking if DPR would be open to sharing the website as we roll it out. DPR plans to come back this spring for further discussion.
- **Synthetic Turf Public Health Letter**
 - Information and questions that was brought forth by a community member through the Arlington Education Matters webpage. The letter brought forth concerns about the plastic blades of grass and the backing to synthetic turf.
 - Review of draft letter to Dr. Rueben K. Varghese Health Director and Division Chief of the Public Health Division
 - Discussion of any changes to the letter and a motion to pass send a letter as amended. Motion Seconded and vote passed unanimously.
- **Commissioner Representation Responsibilities**
 - Discussion of Commissioner responsibilities for each assigned sport or area
 - Volunteers to present in March are:
 - John Mingus- Soccer, and lacrosse
 - Steve Severn- Softball and field hockey

- Megan Sheckles and Jessica Paska- Underserved youth; differently-abled; Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth, and Families ; Out of School Time Commission

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Matt de Ferranti County Board Liaison

Attest:

Greg Anselene

Greg Anselene, Staff Liaison

DRAFT

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- Major changes in budget:
- Staff costs- 3.2 million (Long Bridge and Lubber Run), conversion of part time staff to permanent staff (community center, roving monitors, historical interpretation programmer), addition of Community Engagement Programmer
- Increase to tree maintenance funding- \$250,000
- Increase for capital improvement maintenance- \$137,000
- Outdoor rental fees increased 25% (projected \$115,000 in revenue)
- Questions and discussion from the commission include:
 - Outdoor rentals are made by lower income individuals and how does this decision impact the equity goal?
 - What is the cost of parking at Lubber Run? Peter Lusk indicated that the first four hours will be free and then charged hourly after that
 - How does projected revenue match with projected expenditures at Long Bridge Aquatic center and how much tax support will be dedicated to cost? Jane Rudolph responded that they have those numbers and will produce a report to members at a later date. DPR projections are based on a four-year projection, revenue is not expected at opening.
 - How does membership costs at Long Bridge compare to the St. James complex in Springfield VA?
- DPR dedicated to fee reductions. 2,400+ household eligible for reductions, 3,000+ members taking advantage of fee reductions in FY 2019. DPR looking to rebrand the statement to "not allow fees to be a barrier" in promoting fee reduction program. Increased hours for fee reduction registration in FY 20, with goal of expanding hours in FY21 with opening of Lubber Run Community Center
- DPR director working session with the county board on April 10 to discuss the FY21 budget. Explained that this is only related to the operating budget. CIP sessions will begin in March, with proposed CIP released in May.
 - Question asked if DPR had any proposed items for FY21 budget that were not included in county manager's proposed budget. Jane Rudolph responded that while some of the dollar amounts were less than requested, all requests were accepted.
 - While increased funding and staff positions are supported in budget, we are still short of the totals in 2008.
- 2028 CIP Overview
 - three program categories- Maintenance Capital (FY19-20 only), Master Plans, Synthetic Turf Program
 - explanation of funding sources
 - Question asked how to improve land acquisition. Jane Rudolph encouraged commissions to write and request additional land acquisition funding.
 - Concern expressed that Nature Centers are not receiving the same funding as Recreation Centers
- Public Spaces Master Plan Implementation Process Overview-
 - Review of implementation committee and timeline
 - DPR has applied and expected to be accepted into Biophilic City Network

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- Fee reductions are an important offering to help address some equity issues, however this only address those who are coming in the door. How do we help those not involved in programs?
- For some activities, the barrier is access to facilities. (IE Pool access) Interest in socioeconomic, racial data for participants in DPR aquatic programs at the introduction level. Early introduction is key to skill development.
- Conversation brought to a close and indicated this is an area for possible collaboration between the commissions.
- Commission called for a request for DPR data moving forward.

Adjorn

(9:20pm)

Matt de Ferranti County Board Liaison

Attest:

Greg Anselene

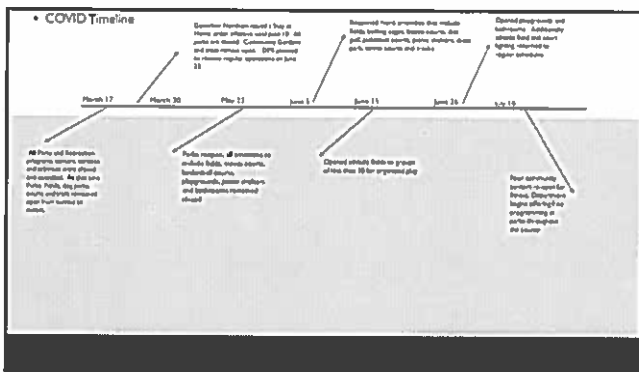
Greg Anselene, Staff Liaison

SPORTS COMMISSION MEETING

THURSDAY, JUL 23, 2020
 4:00PM - 5:00PM
 MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING

DPR PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Department of Parks and Recreation & COVID-19
- Department of Parks and Recreation FY21 Budget Outlook
- Capital Projects Update
- Lubber Run Community Center
- Long Bridge Aquatics Center



RETURN TO PLAY

- In March DPR began working with all partner organizations to create Return to Play Guidelines. Consistent guidelines among all sports leagues are:
 - Screening participants prior to the start of any activity
 - Social distancing
 - Masks for coaches and parents. Masks for players while not playing
- Arlington Aquatics Club (AAC) and Gymnastics Clubs have returned to practicing.
 - Safe Returns Developed and posted for all participants.
 - Following USAG and USA Swim guidelines for safe procedures

FALL SEASON PREPARATIONS

- Registration currently open for youth NFL Flag Football and Adult Softball leagues
- Registration for Fall outdoor Enjoy Arlington Programs begins August 12
 - DPR is not offering registration for indoor programming in August
 - Indoor classes will be re-evaluated in early fall.
- Continued collaboration with partner sports organizations
- Four Community Centers are currently open on a modified schedule: Langston-Brown, Thomas Jefferson, Fairlington, and Madison.
 - Community Center use is for fitness centers and gymnastics.
 - Arlington MS Community Center will continue to serve as a walk-up testing site through fall 2020.

PROGRAMS IN THE PARK

- To introduce citizens back into the park's DPR has offered over 170 free programs during the month of July
- Programs include:
 - Bocce, 55+ Line Dancing in the Park, Fitness Workouts for Teens, Preschool Playdates, Family Kickball etc.
- Will be continuing programs in August!
 - Don't forget to sign up!



Programs in the Park!

FISCAL YEAR 2021 BUDGET UPDATE

- On Thursday, April 30, the County Board adopted the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Operating Budget, which was revised to reflect shifts in projected revenue based on the COVID-19 pandemic. Several proposed amendments to the originally proposed FY 2021 Budget were reviewed, including the funding needed to open Luther Ann Community Center and Long Bridge Avenue 6 Public Center. As a result, the centers will open again in fall 2020 on a greatly reduced schedule.
- The FY 2021 Adopted Budget also includes \$275,000 in new funding for Luther Ann Community Center and Park for maintenance and operations of the existing outdoor courts, as well as related utility and maintenance for the interior of the building while it remains closed. This is a \$1.2 million change from the original FY 2021 Proposed Budget request of approximately \$1.9 million to open and operate the facility.
- The opening of Luther Ann Community Center and Long Bridge Avenue 6 Public Center is delayed until sometime after July 2021 - which is the start of the new fiscal year of FY 2022.
- The FY 2021 budget will be revisited frequently throughout the fiscal year as the County continues to monitor revenue projections and the long-term impacts of COVID-19.

VIRGINIA HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE (VHSL)

On July 17, VHSL will vote on options for the fall season.

- Option 1 - Leave all sports in current season. Only golf and cross country - both low and moderate contact rate sports - would be allowed as play. Football, field hockey, volleyball, and cheer - all high risk sports - would be canceled.
- Option 2 - Switch fall and spring seasons. Track and field, tennis, soccer, basketball, and softball - all low and moderate contact rate sports - would be allowed to play in the fall.
- Option 3 - Delay all VHSL sports and adopt the Condensed Interscholastic Plan. The season alignment would be winter sports from Dec. 1 - Feb. 28 with the first contest date on Dec. 28. All sports begin Feb. 13 - Play 1 with the first contest date on March 1, and spring sports April 13 - June 26 with the first contest date on April 26.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

Jervis Dean Park

- The County Board adopted a one-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) in July that commits to the previously approved funding for Phase I improvements to Jervis Dean Park.
- Some construction work has started on the park. Hazardous material abatement has finished, and demolition has been completed on the building at 3514 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Once complete, WETA will move their parking that is currently located within the area of the future playground to this new parcel, making way for construction of the playground.
- Additional utility disconnections are being coordinated with utility companies, and DPR is pursuing final approvals and permits for the remainder of the park.
- Heavy construction on the remainder of the park is expected to start in late summer/early fall and last approximately 14 months.
- The final plans for the Phase I improvements can be viewed [HERE](#).

Gunston Park Projects

Rectangle Synthetic Field Turf Replacement

- Field now closed and demolition has begun
- Expected completion date is end of August



Gunston Bubble Replacement

- Expected start date is early Fall
- Expected completion date is 1st Quarter 2021

LUBBER RUN COMMUNITY CENTER



- Construction on the new Lubber Run Community Center & Park is nearly complete.
- DPR is targeting a late-summer opening of the park.
- The new facilities include four indoor pickleball courts, 4 outdoor pickleball courts, indoor and outdoor volleyball and basketball courts, open space, a playground, and multi-purpose rooms.

LONG BRIDGE AQUATICS AND FITNESS CENTER



- Work continues on the Long Bridge Aquatics & Fitness Center.
- Construction is anticipated to be complete in early 2021.
- The new facility will include a 50-meter competition pool, 1-meter, 3-meter, and 5-meter diving, a leisure pool with a water slide, community rooms, and an 8,000 sq. fitness center.

FOR DISCUSSION