

**Fairfax City Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Meeting minutes from June 10, 2010**

**Meeting Attendees:**

- Joe Harmon (chair)
- Esther Nasjleti (vice chair)
- James Ogletree
- Jane Albro
- Donald Lederer
- Mike Slawski
- Harry Wilbur
- Paul Cunningham
- Brian Knapp
- Jon Buttram
- Mace Carpenter
- Mike McCarty (Director, Parks and Recreation Department)

**Absent Members**

- Zinta Rodgers
- Gary Sidor

**Note:**

The board received a tour of the construction site for the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center from Mike McCarty. Mike outlined the location and purpose of each room of the facility and answered PRAB member questions.

**Approved items:**

- Agenda for the June meeting approved
- Minutes from the previous meeting (May) approved

**Business Items:**

-The board held a discussion of the draft documents presented by Mike McCarty for the Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center (SCSCC). These draft documents provided an overview of the SCSCC vision, mission, concepts, areas of focus, steps for implementation, and a proposed fee and facility use policy. Some of these topics had already been reviewed and commented upon by the Commission on the Arts (COA). PRAB members agreed to form a subcommittee to review and comment upon the proposed policies. This subcommittee will consist of Joseph Harmon, Esther Nasjleti, and Brian Knapp, and will provide a draft document of comments/proposed changes to PRAB in July.

-Harry Wilbur will request the COA to present an overview of their mission and the Art in the Park program to the PRAB at the July meeting (a joint meeting between PRAB and COA). PRAB will provide an overview of its mission to COA at the July meeting, as well.

-Mike McCarty informed PRAB that he had passed to City Council the PRAB recommendations regarding a naming policy in the city (recommendations reached at an earlier PRAB meeting).

-PRAB officer elections will be held in July.

### **June PRAB Report and discussion**

-Mike McCarty presented the June PRAB report.

-Mace Carpenter commented on contractor estimates for future work at Providence Elementary baseball fields. Approval of project work and potential costs are TBD.

-Asphalt has been laid at Providence Park tennis court and building materials have been removed from the parking lot.

-Thaiss Park will have six pine trees removed in order to improve sight lines for cars on Pickett Road.

-The city is seeking a donor to provide funding for fencing at the two community garden plot sites approved by City Council. Brian Knapp suggested we use the intervening time for construction to organize a group of volunteers that can manage one or both of the gardens.

-The Stafford family donated \$6,000 for Stafford Drive Park for benches. The family has also requested permission from the city to create a paved path from the park to the back of the restaurants owned by the family (the family is not requesting city funds for this work- only permission to pay for the work themselves).

-The board held a discussion of parking plans at the SCSCC. Van Dyck Park parking areas will serve as overflow parking for the SCSCC.

-Mike McCarty's staff is creating a video to be considered in the competition finals between the country's park authorities.

-Bicycle groups in the city are researching the challenges associated with bicycling from George Mason University to the Vienna Metro station as part of their efforts to improve bicycling opportunities for city residents.

-An increase in the facilities fees at Fairfax County schools for weekend use will affect certain programs. Mike McCarty mentioned that he is aware of discussions within Fairfax County to implement a per person fee for activities at Fairfax County facilities/schools beginning in January, 2011.

-Council recently discussed in a work session the progress achieved with the Legacy for Fairfax Council. The endowment framework is being created now, according to Mike McCarty

-James Ogletree reported on the success of the annual Trails Day in the city. 155 runners participated in the footrace, and there was a good turnout for the post-race cleanup effort.

### **End of Meeting Business**

#### **Stakeholder updates:**

-Community Appearance Committee reported that one tree was pruned

- School Board representative reported multiple athletic state championships, scholarships, and academic awards were won by local students recently.
- The Senior Center recently received new carpeting and flooring. The cafeteria is being remodeled. Two new flat screen television sets will be purchased for the exercise room with income from fund raisers.

**End of Stakeholder updates**

**Matters of the members:**

- Mace Carpenter addressed some maintenance and funding issues with the baseball fields for Little League. The dedication of the new field at Providence Elementary School will be held on September 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Harry Wilbur suggested all PRAB members should attend the farewell to City Council member Rasmussen and welcome new City Council members.

**End of meeting**