

City of Fairfax  
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
Thursday, March 11, 2010  
Green Acres Center, Room 110

Meeting Minutes  
Prepared by Gary Sidor

Roll

Present:

Joseph Harmon  
James Ogletree  
Gary Sidor  
Harry Wilbur  
Paul Cunningham  
Mace Carpenter  
Toby Sorensen  
Don Lederer  
Jane Albro  
Mike Slawski

Brian Knapp

Mike McCarty (staff)  
Edwin Rivera (staff)

Absent:

Esther Nasjleti  
Zinta Rodgers-Rickert

Call to Order

7:00 PM

Adoption of the Agenda

After motions by Wilbur and Carpenter, the agenda was approved unanimously

Approval of the January 2010 monthly meeting

(The February 2010 monthly meeting was canceled)

After motions by Wilbur and Lederer, the January 2010 minutes were approved

Matters of the Officers:

Chair (Joseph Harmon)

- Announced the PRAB/School Board annual joint meeting would be on May 13 at 6:00 PM at the Green Acres center.
- Solicited nominations for Trails Day annual PRAB Service Award
- Reported that the Fairfax Little League snack bar at Thaiss Park was recently damaged, incurring approximately \$350 to \$400 in damages.

Vice-Chair (Esther Nasjleti) – not present

Secretary (Gary Sidor, acting) – no report

#### Parks and Recreation Department Report

- Announced aggressive construction plans to make up for weather-related delays
  - Providence Elementary School fields project – expected May delivery
  - Providence Park tennis court project – expected April/May delivery
  - Community Center – early construction progressing on schedule
- Announced Parks and Recreation Department FY11 budget presentation will be made to the Mayor and City Council on Wednesday March 17, 2010 at 6:00 PM
- Announced the new Chick-fil-A Egg Hunt free family event will be held on Friday April 2, 2010 at Fairfax High School beginning at 10:00 AM
- Reported that the new summer camp phased registration process for returning families had received positive feedback
- Discussed change orders (upgrades) for the Community Center, respective of the perceived surplus project savings
- Previewed draft budget presentation prepared for the March 17 M/CC meeting
  - Highlighted the ‘doing more with less’ theme
  - Highlighted the increase in mandatory projects, leaving a diminishing proportion for discretionary costs, programs, and initiatives

#### Business

##### Park Steward Report (Wilbur)

###### Ratcliffe Park

- Feedback indicates the mother’s love the park, citing the shade cover and trees, the size, and the play equipment
- Observed an abundance of trash present
- Recommended that the concrete pads under the t-ball field bleachers be addressed
- Observed the basketball court was popular and in satisfactory condition (small amount of paint on one of the backboards)
- Asked for significance of the park plaque honoring “Bramwell M. Kielsingard”
- Recommended that the picnic tables be refurbished or replaced
- Observed that the play area sandbox was not in good shape
- Reported that the trees on Sager Avenue were in poor shape and questioned if removal was imminent

###### Kitty Pozer Garden

- Observed that the boxwoods were in poor shape
- Observed that the property fence and green screen border with the adjacent shops was in poor shape
- Recommended that the wood benches on the parcel’s east side be replaced

- o Recommended that the parcel plaques be better coordinated around the Rotary clock
- o Recommended that this parcel be considered by PRAB for a future clean up event

Park Steward April Report: Sorensen

Trails Subcommittee Update (Ogletree)

Functional Fitness for Kids

Moving forward without partnerships with Pacers or See Mommy

Run

Proposal by Girl Scout Colleen Duda for an endorsed eco-showcase, which is part of her Girl Scout Gold Medal achievement.

Park and Trails Naming Policy Update: no action due to a M/CC agenda item deferral

Community Center Update

Additional information about community center potential staffing needs (specifically, the staff time needed for the set-up and take-down of special events)

Community Appearance Committee Joint Meeting Updates

Positive feedback; resulted in support for the Adopt-A-Sport program for City parks

Community Garden and "Get Fit Fairfax" Programs Updates

- Guidelines ("Rules and Responsibilities") drafted by small group of stakeholders
- After motions by Wilbur and Knapp, the following recommendation was adopted by majority vote: *"The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommends moving forward with a community gardens proposal with a phased approach, including one initial garden in the City of Fairfax - and that location be at the City Hall complex."*
- Discussion on the "Get Fit Fairfax" proposal was limited

Legacy Program Update and Kick-Off Event Discussion

- Update on an event to be held at the Army-Navy Country Club on October 4, 2010 (assisted by Carpenter)
- Presentation of the Legacy brochure
- Discussion of amenities including artwork, lighting, and the purchasing of a piano, as well as potential benefactors, including the Pickett Road "tank farm"

### Ashby Pond Improvements

Discussion included the dredging of the pond and the planning of a raised deck area and walkway, a \$318,000 grant relating to storm water management, and the unique potential for this site – a natural interpretive area experience (with the assistance of signage)

### Matters of the Members (including only members that had comments or questions)

Joseph Harmon

Introduced potential nominees for the PRAB Service Award

- Armistice Turtora
- Pat Rodio
- The American Legion

Don Lederer

Reminded members of an upcoming flea market fundraiser for the Independence Day Celebration Committee

Jane Albro

Reported that the Senior Center's flea market did well, reported about a digital scanner for picture conversion/preservation, and informed members about an April 24 antique appraisal event

Mike Slawski

Thanked Mike McCarty for assistance with setting up a School Dude account

Brian Knapp

Acknowledged the role of the rotating acting PRAB Secretaries, raised the issue of the improvements to the parking lot at Van Dyck Park being moved to FY12 CIP budget, and made an appeal for surplus community center funds to be used for this project

Paul Cunningham

Re-emphasized the upcoming Independence Day Celebration Committee flea market

Mace Carpenter

Fairfax High School may have \$70,000 to invest to improve its JV field. It is being considered. Fairfax Little League will consider investment based on the High Schools decision and availability of funding.

Adjournment

After motions by Wilbur and Lederer, the motion to adjourn at 9:31 PM was approved unanimously