

**City of Fairfax
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)
Meeting Minutes
Sept. 9, 2010
Green Acres Center, Room 110**

PRAB Members Present

Jane Albro, Joseph Harmon, Brian Knapp, Don Lederer, Esther Nasjleti, ZintaRodgers-Rickert, Gary Sidor, Toby Sorensen, Harry Wilbur, Mike McCarty, Paul Cunningham, James Ogletree, Mace Carpenter

Members Absent

Mike Slawski

Guests

None

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

2. Approval of Minutes, Adoption of Agenda

Minutes from PRAB meeting July 8, 2010 were approved as modified. The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Matters of the Officers

Joseph Harmon - reminded all about the Golf tournament and the need to push out to our networks.

4. Parks and Recreation Dept. Report

- * **Watched the Gold Medal Video** - Awesome and very well done! KUDOS to Rachael and all involved.
- * Park Report provide highlights included: (handout provided)
 - Providence Baseball Field - Completed. Grand Opening Sept. 25 at 9:30
 - Providence Tennis Courts - should finish up in a couple of weeks and the rain garden is complete.
 - Stacey C. Sherwood Community Center - Construction on schedule with final stages mid-Nov. 2010
 - Summer Camps - received Fantastic & terrific feedback and were well attended an increase over 2009's participation too.
 - Fall Festival - is now on Facebook, scheduled for Oct. 9th - layout has been redesigned to centralize activities more in the downtown area.
 - Fall for the Books & Irish Folk Festival coming up.
 - Holiday Craft show at Fairfax HS is well on its way.

* Fairfax HS 75th Anniversary activities and Homecoming on Sept. 25, 2010 FIREWORKS

5. Legacy Program Updates and Kick-off Event:

Mayors Ball April 15, 2011 this will be a catered sit down event.

Golf Tournament has 25 paid golfers (see handout)

Brick buy deadline is November 1, 2010

Pianos have been sponsored and ordered

6. Community Center Vision Statement included in packet and reviewed additional comments should be submitted over the next couple of weeks.

7. Park Steward Reports by Jane Albro: Draper Dr. & Dale Lestina discussed (handout) Brian Knapp reminded all to keep discussion on expanding the Dale Lestina park.

and Esther Nasjleti: Fairchester Woods & Kutner Park: all in all good but Kutner tennis courts are in bad shape, and grass fields need improvement.

- Brian Knapp asked whether the City has started a formal resting and rotation of field use and Mike McCarty indicated that not as of yet but that for now there is minimum use of Providence
- Board complimented and expressed appreciation for the monthly Parks and Recreation PRAB Report and suggested that in addition to School Board, staff & Council that this report should also go to Planning Commission.

Toby Sorensen presented a Park Steward report with the following summary:

1. Country Club Hills Commons - Well-maintained and well-used by the community. The Labor Day picnic was just held there.
2. Stafford East - Could use a good walking path. I had some concern about the amount of underbrush as a possible fire hazard.
3. Stafford West - The field was beautiful and was being used by two FHS teams while I was there. One family was using the playground. It seemed like handicapped parking should be closer to the playground since it is a handicapped-accessible facility. All looked well, except that some garbage from the dumpster behind Outback had blown onto the park grounds.

8. CIP Overview updated version provided in packet - detailed discussions to be forth coming with a request that staff review and prioritize items, further discussions w/ Fairfax Little League, FPYC, and the Senior Center, and review whether there may need to be a Bond issue put forth regarding our park facilities. Explore further opportunities to partnership with neighborhoods, Rally/focus on 1 park per year, Signage/sponsorship opportunities to raise funds. Formalize a proffer list of needs.

Oct. - Discussion - detailed. Nov. -put forth Request. Dec. Planning Comm. review/visit. Feb./March City Council finalizes.

- FHS synthetic turf replacement added to CIP - synthetic field "useful life discussion took place and a discussion about how field use fees aren't going into replacement funds and yet we need to plan for replacement. With increased use there has been the added expense of a tripling in the amount of trash collected at synthetic fields.

- An independent review of all playground equipment is in process to ensure that

the equipment meets National Safety standards.

-Brian Knapp inquired about Van Dyck parking lot restriping and flow and time frame.

9. Pocket Park Update: Map included in packet - identifying the New area the City is responsible for and the area George Mason will maintain. Additional pocket park expected at end of School St. & University. Brief discussion about need further expand Name a Park/Spot program and exploring coordinating naming opportunities.

10. Stakeholder Updates:

Commission on the Arts - meeting next week.

Community Appearance Committee - no report

Fairfax Little League - T-ball will have a fall league, additional Providence field improvements needed - back stops, irrigation & the water line had been cut to utility building. Mace indicated he would solicit FXLL inputs for 5 year plan

ANCC – Mace indicated he would place posters and advertise the tournament within the club.

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA) - review of this past summer's usage -

Water parks - saw the biggest increase of use and golf was lowest but all surely due to the HEAT. Camping has also seen an increase in use.

Planning Commission - No Report

School Board - FHS 75th Anniversary Homecoming Parade & Events mentioned

Senior Center - New flat screenTVs purchased, Elections coming and open to all over 55.

Upcoming fundraiser- coupon cutting.

11. Matters of the Members

Zinta Rodgers-Rickert plans to report more regarding Dog Park plans.

Esther Nasjleti - provided all with a meeting minutes template

Harry Wilbur recommended moving top action item to the beginning of our meetings and addressing Park report later in the meeting.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32.

The Next PRAB Meeting will be Thursday, October 14, at 7pm, Green Acres Center.

Minutes prepared by Zinta Rodgers-Rickert your favorite City of Fairfax REALTOR! :)