

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MEETING**

**Minutes      DATE: April 19, 2007**

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Members present:

David Bauer, James Ogletree, Joseph Harmon, Gary Sidor, Brian Knapp, Esther Nasjleti, Zinta Rodgers

Absent: Molly Grimsly, Amy Craig, Art Little

Staff present:

Michael McCarty, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Karen Bixler, Senior Coordinator

Members of the Public Present

Tom Faulkner, volunteer for the Senior Center

1) Meeting called to Order      Time: 7:00pm

2) Approval of Minutes:

Approved

3) Presentation on Senior Center and Senior Programs

- a. Karen Bixler and Tom Faulkner gave a detailed report on the history, statistics, operations, and future goals of the Senior Center and Senior Programs.
- b. Director McCarty commented on the tremendous work that Karen has done to grow the senior programs and that she's an incredibly valuable asset to the Parks and Recreation Department and City. PRAB members concurred with enthusiasm.
- c. Report submitted.

4) Old Business:

- a. Update on Stafford West and Providence Park
  1. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB of the public hearing on Tuesday, April 24 at 7:00pm at City Hall. Chairman Knapp encouraged all members of PRAB to attend.
  2. Chairman Knapp asked for approval from PRAB to send a final letter of support to the Council prior to the public hearing. PRAB approved.

- b. Update on Trails Day
  - 1. Mr. Harmon informed PRAB of the schedule of Events for June 2, 2007.
  - 2. The next and last Trails Day sub-committee meeting will be May 3, at 7:00 pm at the Auld Shebeen.
  - 3. Press releases have been distributed.
  - 4. Mr. Harmon will be updating the [www.fairfaxtrailsday.com](http://www.fairfaxtrailsday.com) website.
  - 5. Mrs. Nasjleti updated PRAB on the booth vendors.
- c. Update on Budget
  - 1. Chairman Knapp reported that the budget passed and the Youth/Teen Coordinator survived. The Van Dyck Concept Plan, Two Bridges and \$40,000 for Ratcliffe Park also survived. The sprayground never made it into the Capital Budget and the Strategic Plan was removed by Council.
  - 2. Chairman Knapp also reported that First Fairfax was not discussed and not part of the approved FY08 budget.
  - 3. Director McCarty gave some brief comments on the importance of what the Department received in this budget process.
- d. Update on Park Rules and Regulations Sub-Committee:
  - 1. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that the Sub Committee held a meeting to outline the process for review and revision of the park rules. Each Sub-Committee member and the Director were assigned tasks and will meet once a month to accomplish the committees goals. The committee anticipates a draft of revisions to PRAB in the Fall.
  - 2. Chairman Knapp asked all members of PRAB to review the rules binder they were given and submit comments and suggestions to the Sub-Committee.
- e. School Use Agreement Update
  - 1. Chairman Knapp informed PRAB that a number of revisions were made to the School Use Agreement and Stalnaker Field Agreement.
  - 2. Chairman Knapp asked PRAB members to review the agreements and submit any comments to him by Monday, April 23, 2007.
  - 3. The agreement will be discussed at the joint School Board/PRAB meeting on May 7.

CHAIRMAN KNAPP LEFT THE MEETING FOR THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING AND TURNED THE GAVEL OVER TO MR. HARMON AT 8:21PM.

5) New Business:

- a. Fairfax Boulevard Update
  - 1. Director McCarty updated PRAB on the Fairfax Blvd. Master Plan process and presentation.
  - 2. Director McCarty informed PRAB that many residents and business owners identified trails, greenways, green technology, water

preservation, walking and biking paths, gathering space, parks, and a community center as priorities (mentioned numerous times).

3. Director McCarty encouraged PRAB to use a similar public input process for the Concept Plan for Van Dyck and the future Strategic Plan.
4. Ms. Nasjleti also attended the presentation and was impressed but stressed concern over how the Plan would be implemented.
5. The next presentation from the consultant is due to Council in June.

b. Re-Cap of May Meeting Dates

1. The next meeting is a joint meeting with the School Board at 6 pm at City Hall on May 7, 2007.
2. The next official PRAB meeting is Thursday, May 10 at 7 pm at Green Acres.

6) Update from Director of Parks and Recreation:

a. Director McCarty updated PRAB on the following:

1. \$10,000 donation from FPYC to be used to help sod Draper 1 Field
2. Little League Parade
3. Mosby Woods Block Captain's presentation
4. Cambridge Station presentation
5. Ratcliffe Park still in engineering stage
6. Ashby Road Conservatory Area sign being made
7. Training of all Parks and Recreation staff on the new registration and reservation software
8. Spotlight on the Arts
9. Cancellation of activities on April 20 in recognition of State day of mourning for Virginia Tech.
10. Go Skate Day Event in partnership with the Surf Shop for June 21, 22 and 23 at Van Dyck Park
11. Movies Under the Moon event on June 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 at Van Dyck Park

7) Members Time:

- a. Ms. Nasjleti – handed out ribbons in memory of those lost at Virginia Tech to all PRAB members
- b. Ms. Rodgers informed PRAB of her efforts to research the potential of a Dog Park in the City, statistics on safety, and the potential for a petition calling for a Dog Park. Mrs. Rodgers anticipates more to be completed next year.
- c. Mr. Ogletree informed PRAB of the Community Gardens article in the Washington Post and recommended that PRAB and Parks and Recreation consider implementing one. Director McCarty has already received requests and agreed it would be a good idea.

8) Adjournment at 9:07 pm.