

City of Alexandria, Virginia
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting

Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center ~ 5750 Sanger Ave
Thursday, February 29, 2024
7 p.m.

P&RC Members

Present: Dana Colarulli, Chair (Acting) (District II); Katy Matthews, Secretary (District III); Jeffrey Miller (District I); Phillip Voorhees (District III); David Brennan (District III); Paul Komelasky (District I); Tookie Organek (student member); Geoffrey Goode (District II)

Absent: Steve Beggs, Chair (District II); Rania Shuster (student member); Stuart Fox (District I)

RPCA Staff: James Spengler, RPCA Director, Jack Browand, Deputy Director, Park Services; Laura Durham, Deputy Director, Recreation Services; Beth Znidarsic, Division Chief, Park Services; Judy Lo, Principal Planner, Park Services; Jose Ayala, Principal Planner, Park Services; Lucresha Murphy-Tate, PARKnership Manager.

City Staff: Nathan Imm, Principal Planner, Planning & Zoning; Nathan Randall, Principal Planner, Planning & Zoning.

I. Nature Center Tour – 6:30 p.m.

II. CALL TO ORDER

Dana Colarulli, Acting Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

IV. COMMISSIONER REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Commissioner Assignments

Commission members continued to review available assignments and express their interest in these community initiatives. Members with existing assignments gave the following updates:

DISTRICT I: Stuart Fox was not in attendance. **Jeffrey Miller** gave an update on Monumental Sports. He stated that he’s been to many meetings that cover similar topics (transportation...etc.) There was a City Council Town Hall and there were questions about the usage of the new facility. Council members want to ensure that the deal includes use for schools and recreation for City residents.

DISTRICT II: Dana Colarulli did not have an update on Zoning for Housing. **Stephen Beggs** was not in attendance. **Geoffrey Goode** did not have an update on the Alexandria West Small Area Plan. He stated that there was a work session between the school board and the City council, and George Mason was a major focus of that meeting. There is a large gap in the budget between what the school asked for and what the City Manager proposed.

DISTRICT III: Katy Matthews stated that Minnie Howard remains on schedule. Demolition began at the old Patrick Henry School site and half of the building has been removed. **Phillip Voorhees** did not have an update. **David Brennan** shared that the next Youth Sports Advisory Board meeting will be held on March 11.

STUDENT MEMBERS: Tookie Organek did not have an update, and **Rania Shuster** was not in attendance.

V. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2023

ACTION: FY24.2.29.24A

Commissioner Brennan proposed an amendment to the January minutes. The minutes state that he reported information on the CIP budget related to schools. Commissioner Goode gave that information as part of his George Mason update.

Motion: David Brennan moved, and Dana Colarulli seconded the motion to approve the amended meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

VI. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

a. Staff Report Highlights

Division updates (staff reports) are posted at:

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-02/prc_combinedreport_2.29.24.pdf

- Field lights have been turned on at Francis Hammond and Jefferson Houston.
- The bridge structure has been installed at Four Mile Run Park.
- Hensley Park is under heavy construction.
- RPCA has a workgroup dedicated to programming for Alexandria teens. This group analyzes feedback from City teens to ensure that RPCA is providing the programs and resources teens are looking for. Many recreation centers across the city will participate in Teen Appreciation Night on March 21.
- Potomac Greens Park (located on the other side of the metro) has not been accepted by the city. There is still a lot of work that needs to be done.

b. FY 2023 Annual PARKnership Report

Lucresha Murphy-Tate gave a presentation on the annual PARKnership report. The presentation can be found here: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/rpcaparknershipsannualreport2023web.pdf>

c. Hoffman CDD Update

Jose Ayala introduced Nathan Imm and Nathan Randall from Planning and Zoning. They gave an update on the Hoffman CDD. The presentation can be found here:

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/hoffman_cdd_conceptual_design_plan_-_prc_presentation_-_2-29-2024.pdf

d. Ewald Park Improvements Update

Judy Lo gave a presentation on the Ewald Park Improvements. The presentation can be found here: [https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/ewald_park_improvements_presentation_022724_prc.pdf)

[03/ewald_park_improvements_presentation_022724_prc.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/ewald_park_improvements_presentation_022724_prc.pdf)

e. FY 2025 Proposed Operating & Capital Budget Brief

James Spengler discussed the FY 2025 proposed operating budget. The presentation can be found here: [https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/fy2025_fy2034_opersting_brief_prc_2-29-24.pdf)

[03/fy2025_fy2034_opersting_brief_prc_2-29-24.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/fy2025_fy2034_opersting_brief_prc_2-29-24.pdf)

Jack Browand gave a presentation on the FY 2025 proposed CIP budget. The presentation can be found here: [https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/fy2025_fy2034_cip_brief_prc_2-29-24.pdf)

[03/fy2025_fy2034_cip_brief_prc_2-29-24.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/fy2025_fy2034_cip_brief_prc_2-29-24.pdf)

VII. NEXT MEETING

March 21, 2024 – Virtual via Microsoft Zoom

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: FY24.2.29.24B

Motion: Katy Matthews moved, and Jeffery Miller seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous vote.