

City of Alexandria, Virginia
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Regular Meeting

Douglas MacArthur Elementary School ~ 1101 Janney's Lane
Wednesday, October 25, 2023
7p.m.

P&RC Members

Present: Dana Colarulli, Vice Chair (District II); Stuart Fox (District I); Jeffrey Miller (District I); David Brennan (District III); Geoffrey Goode (District II); Phillip Voorhees (District III)

Absent: Rania Shuster (student member); Tookie Organek (student member); Steve Beggs, Chair (District II); Katy Matthews, Secretary (District III)

RPCA Staff: James Spengler, RPCA Director, Tiffany Marbury, Executive Assistant; Jack Browand, Deputy Director, Park Services; Laura Durham, Deputy Director, Recreation Services; Beth Znidersic, Division Chief, Park Services.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dana Colarulli, Acting Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:20p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Miranda, PTSA representative for Alexandria City High School, relayed the concern of student parking tickets that are issued in Chinguapin Park Circle. Multiple students have received tickets with \$40 fines for parking in the circle. Tickets are issued due to students not having parking passes or parking in No Parking areas.

RPCA will work with T&ES to evaluate signage in the circle and replace any signs that require maintenance. RPCA will also reach out to Parking Enforcement to determine if there are any other reoccurring violations that students should be aware of. Students with permits are allowed to park in Chinguapin's parking lot if there are no available spaces in the circle. This requires a temporary pass provided by Chinguapin staff. RPCA will help spread awareness of that option.

III. COMMISSIONER REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISTRICT I: **Stuart Fox** stated that the Waterfront Commission had a meeting last week. They discussed the Old Town BISS. It is the replacement bid for Old Town business improvement. They are looking for 60% of landlords to endorse the bid. **Jeffrey Miller** did not have an update.

DISTRICT II: **Dana Colarulli** gave an update on the condition of Steve Beggs. Earlier this month, Steve had a suspected seizure and serious fall. He suffered a coma and was

transported to a traumatic brain injury facility in Texas. While he is in a coma, he has been responsive. **Stephen Beggs** was not in attendance. **Geoffrey Goode** did not have an update.

DISTRICT III: **Katy Matthews** was not in attendance. **Phillip Voorhees** did not have an update. **David Brennan** reported that the Youth Sports Affiliate group did meet recently and discussed the need for better lights and fields around the City. They also discussed what their mission should be and focused on equity and access. A concern that was discussed was access to the rink at Hammond. ACPS manages the rink and someone from RPCA will try to get answers.

STUDENT MEMBERS: **Tookie Organek** and **Rania Shuster** was not in attendance.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

a. Approval of June 16, Meeting Minutes

ACTION: FY24.10.25.23A

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

b. FY2025 Budget Priorities Recommendation Letter

ACTION: FY24.10.25.23B

Motion: Stuart Fox moved, and Dana Colarulli seconded the motion to draft the Budget Priorities Recommendation letter to include the following 6 priorities. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

1. Ensure availability of fields and open space.
2. Investing in new facilities.
3. Increasing RPCA Maintenance Budget.
4. Stay competitive in supporting administrative needs.
5. Explore creative, non-traditional opportunities as a supplement to generate revenue.
6. Continue to address Waterfront flooding.

V. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

a. Staff Reports – *Commissioner Questions*

Division updates (staff reports) posted at:

https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2023-10/PRC_CombinedReports_10.25.23.pdf

b. Park Services Budget History

James Spengler gave a presentation on Park Services Budget History. The presentation can be found here: https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2023-11/Park%20Services%20Challenges_PRC_102523.pdf

VI. NEXT MEETING

November 16, 2023 – Patrick Henry Recreation Center ~ 4653 Taney Ave.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: FY24.10.25.23C

Motion: Stuart Fox moved, and Dana Colarulli seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:15pm.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.