

**City of Alexandria, Virginia  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Regular Meeting**

**Lee Center**

**Thursday, September 18, 2025  
7 p.m.**

**Commission Members**

**Present:** Dana Colarulli, Chair (District II); David Brennan, (District III); Stuart Fox, Secretary (District I). Jeffrey Miller (District I); Geoffrey Goode (District II); Katy Matthews, Vice Chair (District III); Joseph Fray (District II); Paul Komelasky (District I).

**Absent:** Asa Orrin-Brown (District III)

**RPCA Staff:** Jack Browand, Deputy Director, Park Services; Laura Durham, Deputy Director, Recreation Services; Beth Znidersic, Division Chief, Park Services; Lindsay Burneson, Division Chief; Diane Ruggiero, Deputy Director, Office of the Arts.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dana Colarulli, Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

**Michael Foley** – Mr. Foley addressed the commission regarding equitable access to athletic fields in the City. He noted that one entity currently occupies approximately 80% of available field space, with many of the participants coming from outside of Alexandria. He also pointed out that the City’s sport affiliate policy has not been updated since 2014. Mr. Foley requested that the affiliate agreement be revised to ensure residents are provided fair and equitable access to the City’s sports fields.

**Vince Root** – Mr. Root addressed the commission on behalf of Alexandria Little League. He highlighted ongoing concerns with the field lights at Frank Mann and Luckett Field, as well as the overall shortage of field space. He expressed enthusiasm for the anticipated reopening of the fields at Hensley Park. In addition, he raised concerns regarding drainage issues and grass maintenance at Luckett, Stephenson, Brenman, and Witter fields.

**Dane Lauritzen** – Mr. Lauritzen addressed the commission regarding the waterfront flood mitigation project and proposed pump station. He emphasized the significant damage flooding can cause in Old Town and expressed strong support for the pump station and all efforts aimed at preventing major flooding in the area.

**III. COMMISSIONER REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a. RPCA Staff Updates**

Jack Browand gave the following updates:

- Holmes Run Trail – Three portions of the trail are now open. The last portion will open in September of 2026.

- Hensley Park – The lower field is now open and in use. The upper rectangular field is also open. The upper diamond field still has a few items that need to be completed.
- Eugene Simpson Park – Under construction
- George Mason – Under construction. Demo will be in 2-3 weeks.
- Annual Dog Swim – September 27
- Tons of Trucks – September 20
- Chinquapin Renovations – New pool office on pool deck allows 2 new family changing rooms. Center will re-open next week
- Minnie Howard – 1-year anniversary
- Minnie Howard Fields – RPCA and ACPS will walk the site to look at progress of the synthetic field, and new courts.
- Site See 2026 – The art commission approved the design for the next SiteSee art installation at Waterfront Park. Artist interviews are next week for North Potomac Yard Park.

## **b. Commissioner Reports**

### **District I**

**Commissioner Fox** wanted to share that Tons of Trucks is a great event and encouraged the commission to attend. The Waterfront Commission met last Tuesday and there was a lot of public feedback on the waterfront flood mitigation plan.

**Commissioner Miller** mentioned that the Potomac River Generating Station in North Old Town will start giving open house tours. Also, the bike path will be expanded north of Slaters Lane.

**Commissioner Komelasky** stated that today was the Montgomery Park Taste of Old Town event. There was a great turnout. He also gave kudos to Calvin in the RPCA sports section. He does a great job with assisting the community with fields and courts.

### **District II**

**Commission Chair Colarulli** recently visited Four Mile Run and shared excitement about the progress being made on the kayak launch project. He also mentioned that Art on the Avenue will take place in Del Ray in October and there will be promotion on the project in Colasanto Park. Lastly, recognized the challenge in encouraging performing arts in the City. We want to support non-profit organizations in the City.

**Commissioner Goode** stated that that George Mason construction project will begin soon. The kids are now taking classes on Beauregard St.

**Commissioner Fray** gave kudos to the opening of the Holmes Run Trail. He also mentioned that he enjoyed the cover of the current program guide.

### **District III**

**Commissioner Matthews** gave an update on the fields at Minnie Howard. She said that the lacrosse lines do not meet the standard for girls' lacrosse. You can play regular games, but the field cannot be used for tournaments.

**Commissioner Orrin-Brown** was not in attendance.

**Commissioner Brennan** shared that the Youth Sports Advisory Board has not met in recent months. The commission will look into having the new chair come to an upcoming meeting to discuss the affiliate policy.

**Student Members:** Commission seats are currently vacant. Commission Chair Colarulli encouraged other members to refer students that would be interested in serving the community.

## **IV. ACTION ITEMS**

### **a. Approval of Meeting Minutes – July 17, 2025**

**ACTION:** FY26.9.18.25A

**Motion:** Commissioner Matthews moved, and Commissioner Fox seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

## **V. ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

### **a. Old Town Pool Replacement Update**

Jack Browand, RPCA, and Qiaoqie Yu, Department of Project Implementation, gave a presentation on the Old Town Pool replacement project. The presentation can be found here: [https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2025-09/prc\\_otp\\_public\\_meeting\\_9-18-25.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2025-09/prc_otp_public_meeting_9-18-25.pdf)

### **b. Waterfront Plan Implementation Update – Flood Mitigation**

Matt Landes, Department of Project Implementation, gave an update on the Waterfront Plan implementation. The presentation can be found here: [https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2025-09/2025-09-18\\_wfi\\_present\\_prc\\_web.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/sites/default/files/2025-09/2025-09-18_wfi_present_prc_web.pdf)

- Resident Paul Beckerman briefly addressed the commission, requesting that 1 Prince Street be considered as a potential location for the flood mitigation pumps. He noted that the site appears technically feasible, would protect the park area, and has remained vacant for the past six years despite being privately owned.

## **VI. NEXT MEETING**

October 16, 2025 – Mount Vernon Recreation Center

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** FY25.9.18.25B

**Motion:** Commissioner Matthews moved, and Commissioner Komelasky seconded the motion to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

*These minutes are intended to serve as a summary of the meeting and do not represent a verbatim transcript. A complete audio recording of the meeting is available upon request.*