

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA  
Park and Recreation Commission**

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Thursday, January 20, 2011, 7:00 p.m.**

**Sister Cities Conference Room 1101  
City Hall - 301 King Street, Alexandria, Virginia**

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

**Commission Members:** Chairperson, Judy Guse-Noritake, Henry Brooks, Rich Brune, William Cromley, David Dexter, Ripley Forbes, Stephen (Clark) Mercer, Jeffrey Murphy, Anthony Zamora. **Excused Absence:** Bob Moir.

**RPCA Staff:** Director, James B. Spengler, Roger Blakeley, William Chesley, Jack Browand, Ron Kagawa, Laura Durham, Dana Wedeles, Robin DeShields.

**Guests:** Karl Moritz, Deputy Director Planning and Zoning, Nancy Williams, Principle Planner. Councilman Rob Krupicka, Linda Odell, Alexandria Court Services Unit, Mac Slover, RPCA Youth Sports, Bill Rivers, Secretary, Youth Sports Advisory Board. Mark Krause, David Conrath of ACPS, and Kevin Van Hise, Kimberly- Horn.

- I. Call to Order by Chair:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.; Bob Moir had an excused absence.
- II. Recognition of iMovie Mentors "Lights, Camera, Compassion!" Participants:** - Jack Browand
- Mr. Browand introduced Linda Odell, Alexandria Juvenile Court Service, Administrator of the iMovie Mentors Program. A video presentation was shown on the iMentor Program "Lights, Cameras, Compassion." For more info: go to [www.alexandriava.gov/mentor](http://www.alexandriava.gov/mentor)
  - Ms. Odell said the program was started four years ago, with a grant from the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services, and provides an opportunity for youth to create movies while learning valuable life skills. The program kicked off with a camping trip for 16 men and 16 boys at the Alexandria Police Camp, this year they had 16 graduates. Mentors and Mentees meet weekly and learn about life skills, enjoy a healthy dinner, and attend technology classes where they learn to make movies. The commitment is for one year. The event ended with a viewing at the Old Town Theatre (sold out). Funds raised go to support the program. This year two movies were made that featured recreation programs:
  - **Mentee William Alvarez and Mentor Bruce Slaughter produced a movie about water safety.** William Alvarez said he is interested in the water and likes to use water slides. He had an opportunity to meet Mr. Ralph Baird, Aquatics Director. Chinquapin offers swim lessons for all ages, as for the disabled. The classes are given by certified American Red Cross instructors. The children also, visited Great Waves Water Park on Eisenhower Ave. Mr. Alvarez said he learned a lot about waterslide rules and safety, wearing life jacket and "fun ways" of getting soaked in Alexandria. He is still learning how to swim. *Chair Noritake mentioned that she has been speaking with the Mayor about getting swimming classes for all children in the City of Alexandria; she would like to see basic swimming skills made graduation requirement for Alexandria students as it would save lives in the long run.*
  - **Mentee David Gonzales and Mentor Mark Jones created a movie about parks in Alexandria.** David Gonzales said that going to the park helps keep children out of trouble. He enjoys learning how to make movies and playing soccer with his friends. Parks are outlets for children and provide a positive place for children to go with their families for exercise, getting fresh air and being with nature. Mr. Gonzales is a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at George Washington Middle School, and attends Mt. Vernon Recreation Center after school.

- The Chair thanked the participants for coming, and noted that the P&RC has two positions for H.S. youth and invited William Alvarez and David Gonzalez to participate in the future.

### III. Presentation, Hearing and Comments on the Draft Waterfront Plan - Planning and Zoning.

Note: Item Deferred pending release of Plan.

- Karl Moritz, Deputy Director, Planning & Zoning gave a brief update on the Draft Waterfront SAP Plan. The Draft Plan is expected to be released to the public within the next two weeks. A public hearing will be held in April and public comment period will remain open for two months. **Mr. Moritz reviewed some highlights of the Plan with a special emphasis on parks and open space:** For additional information, please go to: <http://alexandriava.gov/Waterfront#Small Area Plan Update>:
- Other Practical Considerations - Mr. Moritz said a park building, parking for maintenance vehicles, restrooms, and bike parking, have all been taken into account.
- Phased implemented cost- see slide. The two main costs for redevelopment of the Waterfront are flood mitigation, and bulkhead repairs, including new walking path. The balance of improvements 12-16 million of the 30 million.
- Moritz: cost projects will be available shortly. The goal is to pay for the improvements with increased revenues derived from increases to taxes (property, meals, sales, and lodging taxes from new restaurants and hotel). There are also potential ground rents from the Beachcomber and the Strand buildings. *The Chair said regarding ground rent from the Beachcomber property: since this property was purchased with open space funds, if down the road a restaurant becomes feasible and publically desirable a that location the City should charge market-rate ground and building rent and the proceeds should go back into the open space fund. Mortiz-yes.*

#### Commissioner Questions and Comments:

- Q. Brooks - what will happen to the flagpole at the Ft. of King Street?
- R. Moritz - this has not been addressed; however it can be incorporated into the plan.
- Q. Cromley- asked if the City has considered issuing a bond referendum to obtain immediate financing.
- R. Moritz - that is an option. Early revenues will not pay for the Plan right away. The Plan is front loaded with expenses, and back loaded with benefits. Bonds are a nice way to obtain immediate revenue.
- Q. Henry Brooks- asked a question about the Box Cars at the back of Oronoco Bay Park. The rail line of the Norfolk Southern, currently services Robinson Terminal N., once this is closed it will not need to be serviced. However, they still need to service the coal steel plant. Has this been taken into account?
- R. Moritz - yes, the idea is to keep the railroad tracks in their entirety into Oronoco Bay Park.

#### • Additional Comments:

- Mr. Cromley- commented that so much of the plan refers to the history of the Waterfront, but not the future. He is concerned that the plan is not forward looking enough.
- Moritz- he appreciates this point, it is a value judgment. They tried to emphasize history, what comes to mind is Architecture that evokes history. He spoke to the Archeology Commission - they emphasized contemporary architecture.
- The Chair agreed that the Waterfront Plan should be more forward looking.

#### • Chair Noritake:

1. The text of the Draft Waterfront SAP is very important. Text currently refers to the Plan as having been inspired by Art and History. It is equally important that small-scale recreation activities be included

in the Plan. When staff visited Bryant and Battery Parks in New York City, they saw a series of small active recreation activities; similar elements should be included in Alexandria's waterfront plan. Moritz- he expects feedback on maintenance facility and small scale recreation activities, and possible need to reword some textural elements.

2. Volleyball Courts at Founders and Rivergate Parks: The Chair said these are two important assets that need to be reflected in the Plan. Without identification, they may disappear. Additionally, Founders Park has an ordinance preventing people from setting up volleyball nets in certain areas. The Draft Waterfront SAP is a master plan that should balance the vision and the details. The Plan should be not be too prescriptive, but allow for some flexibility in the future. For example, when Potomac Yard S. was approved, there was a series of small-scale recreational sites recommended as examples only but once the plan was approved these became exactly proscriptive and were unable to be changed when the park was designed. What the plan now features does not meet current needs for contemporary recreation. .

3. Box Cars - Oronoco Bay Park - The Chair said there needs to be two: One Theatre, another for Park Services. Mr. Moritz responded that these items will be included in the plan.

4. Off Leash Dog Area - Founders Park- the P&RC is recommending that the off leash dog park area, be relocated for safety reasons. The Chair has recently received letters expressing concerns about this use, as being inappropriate for this area. The goal would be to find a different location that could accommodate the use.

- Q. David Dexter- asked a question about plans for parking reduction.  
R. Moritz- staff took a comprehensive look at parking (see plan for details). There are 2700 spaces within King and Union Streets. Most street spaces fill up, while many garages remain empty. There is enough space in the garages to handle the demand. A larger issue is active parking management in Old Town. There was consensus that more needs to be done to help communicate the location of parking garages, available space, and cost.
- **Public Comment Period**: The Chair opened up the floor for public comments on the Draft Waterfront Plan, and for comments on other items. There were no public comments; the public comment period was closed. A Public Hearing will be held with City Council in April. The P&RC will put together a set of comments.

## REGULAR MEETING

### Additions to Agenda:

A. **Presentation on Francis C. Hammond Middle School Synthetic Turf Field and Lighting Project:**

Alexandria City Public School (ACPS) - Mark Krause, Director, Educational Facilities ACPS, and Kevin Van Hise, Kimley-Horn & Associates.

- Krause- the Project is in the current CIP for FY2011 and is well underway. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer, and will be completed by the next school year.
- Van Hise- Background\_- Francis C. Hammond has an existing natural turf field and a blacktop surface. The blacktop is used by children in gym classes to run the mile. There are some site problems. When the addition was put on, the buildings there were storm water requirements. BMP facility was constructed on Seminary Road, maintenance problems and is currently a hazard. These require a lot of money to clean yearly. Staff looked at how best to utilize the space, and tried to fit a more traditional shaped track back onto the site in the new plan.
- The proposed plan consists of a new synthetic turf field in the center and a four-lane blacktop track (1/4 mile). The nearby community uses the existing path at night.
- The project will include the addition of lights to the field, in order to increase field usability.
- Q. The Chair asked, how is the BMP being designed?
- R. Van Hise-BMP- large manhole that takes water from storm flushes material from storm. The new synthetic turf field will help with storm water management, by slowing the water down. The pavement/track will be 14 feet wide small increase. Water is absorbed by the turf field and slowed down improving drainage.

- Q. Dexter- what are dimensions of field.
- R. Krause- Playing surface is 340' x 170', with a 10 ft. run out. Track is very close to 30 ft. wide required buffer area.
- Q. Mercer- asked if there is space to put bleachers in the buffer area.
- R. Van Hise- bleachers were discussed but are not included. Bleachers are an increase in intensity of use and require careful consideration. Mark Krause said bleachers are not currently funded in the School CIP. If bleachers are added it will require going back to the Planning Commission as an intensity of use.
- Q. Chair- what is the status of the SUP for lighting review by Planning Commission.
- R. Van Hise - SUP has been submitted and comments received (was resubmitted yesterday). SUP is currently scheduled to go before Planning Commission March 1 then to City Council.
- Q. Forbes- what is the reason to have natural turf on the end zones.
- R. Van Hise- full synthetic turf is expensive and would increase the cost. Krause- in addition to increased cost, T&ES looks at the synthetic turf fields as an impervious surface. The more impervious, the larger the BMP required. It was a balancing act, to keep the track and add a full size soccer field. Increasing of size of the artificial turf would increase the BMP.
- *The Chair commented that in every other place in the U.S. artificial turf is considered a BMP but not in Alexandria; concerns regarding the BMP issue will be included in her letter.*
- **Action Item:** The Chair P&RC will write a letter in support of the lights at Hammond Field to the Planning Commission and City Council. She said this is a great addition for the City and important for the Schools.
- She will ask Jim Gibson and the YSAB to lend their support.
- Mark Krause said ACPS will hold Public Hearing on February 8, 7:30 p.m. at Francis Hammond School, on the synthetic field and lights. The Chair asked members of the P&RC to attend and testify in support of the project.
- The Chair said another concern the P&RC constantly hears about in the City is the need for more running tracks.
- The Chair thanked Mr. Krause and Mr. Van Hise for coming to the meeting.

#### **Update on Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) Capital Improvement Plan: Item VI-C**

- For more info. go to <http://www.acps.k12.va.us>
- **Discussion:** Mark Krause, Director, Educational Facilities said the CIP for schools was presented by the Superintendent last November, a public hearing was held in December. The main driver of the CIP is the schools capacity issue, and the need to create additional classrooms. Over the last four years, enrollment has increased by 1,600 students. This was done with little new construction in the City. Currently all school buildings are full. At
- **John Adams School**, additional classes were added in the courtyard (modular units) - construction is complete. John Adams current population is approximately 650 students (max. cap. is 750-800). John Adams also has a large head start and early childhood center.
- This summer- 20 classes proposed-at three schools; Patrick Henry, James K. Polk and Charles Barrett. Modular units are under construction and will be put in place June or July.
- In 2012 CIP - more modular units are proposed.
- **Twenty additional classrooms; four new elementary schools** (Jefferson Houston, Patrick Henry, Cora Kelly and 1 unidentified school). Alexandria has an aging school stock- the fourth building will be a brand new building.
- **Jefferson Houston**, will be the first new K-8 school building (site will include headstart and school admin offices). Once the **plan** is approved by School Board and City Council-a consultant to be hired July and August. A series of meetings were held with the J.H. community (<http://www.acps.k12.va.us/Jefferson> Houston).

- The first step is to define the curriculum for K-8 by fall. By end of year, looking at forming a consensus group.
- One goal is as new buildings are designed at each site is to reclaim green space on site by building multi-story schools. At J.H. this may make it possible to put in a field and track (similar to Hammond).
- New Jefferson Houston School may open in the fall of 2014. In response to question from the Chair, Mr. Krause said there are two options for staging the project: 1. building in field near existing school, or 2. having a phased construction. The ultimate goal is to replace existing buildings with more efficient multiple story buildings.
- **Patrick Henry and Cora Kelly school sites:** Discussion:
  - Chair- at Patrick Henry and at Cora Kelly schools, the gymnasiums will need to be full-size.
  - Krause-ACPS intends to build full size gymnasiums at new K-8 building, to enhance programs for school and recreation programs capacity.
  - The Chair said at Patrick Henry there will be a greater need for Recreation services, Cora Kelly presents a different problem- there is no field where a new school can be built while the current one operates. The closest field is at Four Mile Park. Mark Krause said there is a rectangular field behind the school, playground near townhouses on Dale Street. Chair-this creates a number of unique problems because of the Resource Protection Area (RPA).
  - There has been talk of upgrading the two ball fields for use by Georgetown Baseball. Parking will be a major issue. Planning for all the possibilities recently raised at Cora Kelly will take a coordinated effort; there will be a lot of pressure for redevelopment in Arlandria.
- Mark Krause, Director Education Facilities ACPS, and Judy Guse-Noritake, Chair, P&RC agreed for a need to work together, with the goal of better servicing Alexandria's children. The Chair said there should be collective budgeting; she urged continued open dialog, joint planning, and cost estimating. This is a great opportunity for ACPS and the City. Many school and recreation centers are aging and this requires a collaborative effort for improvement. ACPS is responding to an increase in population and demographics- this is the same demographic affecting recreation resources.
- The Chair said additionally, we need to be adding to the current stock of fields in the City. When multiple fields are taken out of service at the same time, this causes problems - timing is important.
- Mark Krause said he is in agreement with P&RC concerns. He recently met with YSAB who expressed similar concerns. These are shared problems and issues we need to deal with, we are not working in silos. He will invite the community, DRPCA and P&RC to community meetings as well as other commissions.

**Chair, regarding location of a possible fourth school-** When Potomac Yards N. & S. was planned, there was discussion about the need for a school. She strongly urges staff to consider building an urban school in Potomac Yards. Smart Growth lectures show that parents with children will want increasingly to live in urban environments. Potomac Yards is the vision for the future. Another concern for P.Y. is the lack of open space.

- **Councilman Krupicka** - As we build new schools we need to think about the Recreation Centers. The biggest challenge is the CIP budget. Conversation is how committed are we to the City's vision of active, family-oriented, multigenerational City with amenities. He has spoken with many people involved with youth sports, who want to ensure there are adequate fields and infrastructure. This is a vision that requires money and a level of commitment from citizens beyond what current taxes support. The P&RC and YSAB will have a major role in this dialogue along with the schools. When Council approves the CIP for Jefferson Houston School the P&RC and YSAB should be involved.
- A lot of transportation and infrastructure items need repair. The State is now a less reliable partner for transportation and education funding. This is a problem for local government and puts the burden on the community. The economy is improving; and Alexandria's tax base is strong. Ultimately, families in the community will decide what should happen. These are important decisions that will affect the community for the next 20 years.
- The Chair commented that fields and Recreation Centers fill a big need in the community. Councilman Krupicka said he agrees, he will love to see a 1/3 of penny plan to help build fields and recreation centers, bonds are also an option.

- The Chair said the carpet on the synthetic turf fields will need replacement in about 8-9 years. She advocates for an endowment fund. Councilman Krupicka said that this year the City is focused on transportation and schools. In future years, the talk will be about our park infrastructure and fields. We need to have a conversation about this. In other communities where you ask for bond (for fields), he thinks it will pass.
- Chair- A consultant has been hired to update the Recreational Needs Assessment (2001). Critical issues such as fields, adult sports will be discussed. Once the report is completed, it will be looked at with the City budget.
- Councilman Krupicka- with transportation projects, they developed a list of projects, impact, and expected cost, dates.
- **David Conrad- ACPS**
- There is a symbiotic relationship between design of new Geothermal System and turf fields.
- Krupicka- there is a City-Schools meeting next week. We do need think about this as the schools do their CIP plan and follow the School CIP Plan.
- **Commission discussion with Councilman Rob Krupicka on RPCA/Youth Policy Issues: Item VI-D**
- 1. **New Youth Commission to serve Children and Youth prenatal to 21:** As a result of the City Council recent update to its Strategic Plan (Goal 4), a recommendation was made to establish to review all Commissions serving children, youth and families in order to better align them with City and ACPS goals. Council established a “Work Group” that met with the Early Childhood Commission (ECC) and Youth Policy Commission (YPC) for over six months. A Resolution was made to disband these groups and form one large group to serve youth (see Council Item-6/22/10 #25).  
The Task Force developed a Draft Mission and Responsibilities Statement:
  - Go to <http://alexandriava.gov/Human> Services, or <http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2011/nr2010111205.php>
  - Draft Governance procedures are currently being developed, and will go out for public comments in the next few days and to City Council in March. Proposed – 23 member new Commission with appointments from the School Board, City Council, City and ACPS staff. There will be sub-committees (evaluation, budget, best practices), and coordination with other youth groups (Gang Task Force, Teen Pregnancy, Mentoring etc.). As City Council looks at making policies affecting children and youth, there will be better accountability and use of resources. This will be a collaborative group that will evolve over time. The new Commission will not get involved directly with youth sports, although there will be some interface. Councilman Krupicka said that the P&RC’s task should focus on Recreation programs issues. How they are currently being done and how they will be done in the future.
  - The P&RC and RPCA Department should comment on the draft governance procedures when available.
  - Krupicka- he agrees with comments about better coordinating with ACPS.
- 2. Chair, as follow-up to Item II, iMentor movie on water safety, mentioned to Councilman Krupicka about the possibility of making it a H.S. graduation a requirement that children learn basic swimming skills.
- 3. Bill Rivers-Secretary, YSAB asked if there could possibly be a placeholder for a second Miracle Field in the future.
- 4. Councilman Krupicka said that he is glad that a Soft Playroom is being put in at Charles Houston Recreation Center.
- The Chair thanked to Councilman Krupicka and Mark Krause, ACPS for attending.

**IV. Approval of Summary Minutes from November 18, 2010:**

- Commissioner Murphy asked that a correction be made to page 6, noting that Anthony Zamora played in the game under the lights. Rich Brune moved to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by David Dexter. All were in favor. The minutes were approved as amended.

**V. Division Updates:** To View Full Staff Reports go to: [www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/Commission](http://www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/Commission) reports.

- A. Recreation Programs and Services Update - William Chesley (absent).

- See Staff Report - no comments.
- B. Operations & Park Planning Monthly Report - Roger Blakeley
  - See Staff Report- the beaver has returned to Ben Brenman pond.
  - The Dog Park Master Plan- has recently been updated and posted to RPCA website. A new dog park brochure has been completed (copy distributed.)
- C. Office on the Arts Update - Alisa Carrel (absent).
  - See Staff Report- no comments.
- D. Park Planning Updates - Ron Kagawa
  - Mr. Kagawa thanked everyone for coming out to Ben Brenman Park on the December 27, turf event. Councilmembers Kerry Donley, Redella “Del” Pepper, and Frank Fannon attended.
  - **Jones Point Park (See Staff Report Item V-D and Director’s report)** - Mr. Kagawa reported that the project is currently under construction, and moving forward. VDOT held a “Pardon our Dust Community Meeting” on December 8, 2010.
    - A **“Community Liaison Information Group,”** was formed by VDOT to help obtain comments and field questions about the project. Members represent various Civic Associations. Chair Noritake, was appointed liaison for the P&RC, at the request of Councilman Smedberg. The first meeting is scheduled for January 27 at 7:00 p.m., at the Lee Center, the group will meet quarterly. Action: The Chair asked Mr. Browand to send the information on the meeting to Tim Aiken, Legislative Assistant to Congressman Jim Moran. For More Info.: go to: <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=43114>
  - **Simpson Fields Update** –Kagawa- the project is still under construction, but on hold due to the winter weather. Existing grade being stabilizing - sod to be installed in the spring.
  - The Chair distributed copies of correspondence received from the YSAB:
  - 1. Letter dated 1/18/2011 from Jim Gibson, President YSAB; requesting that the City fund, in the FY2012 CIP, the installation of artificial turf, and the placement of lights at the two replacement fields being constructed adjacent to the Simpson Fields, and an
  - 2. Email dated 1/16/2011 from Eva Shea on behalf of the Alexandria Lacrosse Club. In support of adding lighting to the Francis C. Hammond Middle School field.
  - Discussion on Simpson Fields.
  - The Chair asked if would be possible to install lights and ask for funding in future fiscal years for installing artificial turf. Mr. Kagawa- stated that the lights have already been approved as part of the SUP process for P.Y. Landbay. The major electrical service is now in place. Ripley Forbes commented that the role of the P&RC is not to focus on cost, but on the facility. The P&RC should maintain its original position to install artificial turf and lights to the field.
  - James Perea, Alexandria resident, who lives behind Simpson field, expressed concern about the installation of lights stating he will see the lights all night. He asked what the cost of the lighting is, and if there is a defined need for lights. In addition, he asked if portable lights had been considered.
  - Roger Blakeley, Deputy Director, RPCA, Park Operations said the costs varies by project, the last lighting project cost approximately \$200,000.
  - Response from Commissioners to Mr. Perea’s concerns:  
Murphy- it is important to remember, as ACPS plans to rebuild schools, some fields will be taken off-line, during construction. Installing lights and artificial turf at Simpson will help maximize field use. In the next few years, demand will increase. Cromley - the idea behind having lighted fields is in principle due to fact that Alexandria does not have much open space left; adding lights to new fields helps double field capacity. Additionally, newer lights use better technology.
  - Chair - a problem occurs in late fall/early spring, many coaches work during the daytime and cannot practice until about 6 p.m., when it gets dark. Land is scarce and expensive, in order to meet the needs of residents for recreation, lighting is needed.
  - Forbes- there is a defined need for lights at most fields, in order to allow children to practice.

- Mr. Kagawa, RPCA noted, the park was designed over two years ago; over 18 public meetings were held.
- **Action:** Ripley Forbes motioned to endorse the recommendation of the YSAB to install artificial turf and lights at Simpson Fields. David Dexter seconded the motion. All were in favor-motion passed. The Chair will write a letter on behalf of the P&RC and attach a copy of the YSAB letter.

E. Marketing, Public Relations & Special Events - Jack Browand

- See Staff Report – No questions or comments.

VI. Director's Report - James Spengler – **Please See Director's Report.**

- A. Jones Point Park Update (see Item V-D)
- B. Simpson Fields Update (see Item V-D)
- C. ACPS Capital Improvement Plan (see above)
- D. Commission discussion with Councilman Rob Krupicka on RPCA/Youth Policy issues (see above)

VII. **Nominations of Officers for positions of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, One Year Terms,**

The Elections are in February.

- **Chair:** Henry Brooks nominated Judy Guse-Noritake for Chairperson. There were no other nominations. Ripley Forbes seconded the motion. All were in favor-motion passed.
- **Vice Chair:** William Cromley nominated Robert Moir (absent), for Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Jeffrey Murphy seconded the motion. All were in favor- motion passed.
- **Secretary:** Ripley Forbes nominated Rich Brune for Secretary. Jeffrey Murphy seconded the motion. All were in favor- motion passed. The Chair asked that the secretary assist with reviewing the minutes. Elections will be held in February, officers will serve one-year terms.

VIII. Retreat Action Items:

A. Next steps on Draft Bylaws - Deferred (Bob Moir absent.)

- **Discussion - Creation of Adult Sports Advisory Group:** Ripley Forbes-The YSAB is a sub-committee of the P&RC. Given the increasing interest in adult sports in the community, the creation of an Adult Sports Advisory Group is proposed, to help address unmet adult sports needs in Alexandria. The group will include members from the P&RC and representatives from the community. The Recreational Needs Assessment (2001) which is currently being updated, will help provide a lot of information on the levels of participation in the community, and how best to allocate resources. Chair- on a seasonal basis the P&RC could meet with the YSAB to discuss issues in a more formal way. She recommended that Mr. Forbes meet with Mac Slover and Dana Wedeles, of RPCA to develop an outline and list of goals. Mac Slover-said he agrees with creation of group; the key will be to identify who will be on the board and to make sure all relevant groups are included. One suggestion already discussed is creation of a lunchtime basketball league. The Chair asked that this item be added back on the agenda for the next few months.

B. Other Items for discussion: none.

IX. Reports From Commissioners (verbal updates):

- A. **Ad Hoc Ft. Ward Park and Museum Area Stakeholders Advisory Group** - Robert Moir, Ripley Forbes, and **Richard Brune:** reported that the group has finished its report and has now dissolved. The report will be presented to the P&RC at its February or March meeting. The Director RPCA Mr. Spengler, and other department heads are reviewing the report and will provide comments and cost estimates.
  - Laura Durham - recommendations from the Advisory Commission are available on the- RPCA website. Staff's response will be brought back to the P&RC. Mr. Spengler said the P&RC will have an opportunity to have a work session with City Council or have this item heard as a legislative item.
- B. **Youth Policy Commission** - Stephen (Clark) Mercer
  - This commission has been disbanded to merge with the new larger Commission on Youth.

- C. **Waterfront Committee** – William Cromley
- The last meeting was cancelled due to snow- rescheduled to Tuesday. The draft Waterfront Plan SAP is anticipated to be released to the public in February or March.
- D. **Youth Sports Committee** - Jeffrey Murphy
- The last meeting was well attended. Francis C. Hammond school field lighting will be different-no additional fencing will be installed. Councilman Fannon spoke about the Georgetown Baseball proposal. Chair- a very limited site is being proposed that is bound by protection areas, project may not be viable. The YSAB is concerned, that facility will primarily be used by Georgetown, and may not be available for Alexandria children.
  - **Miracle Field**- the Chair forwarded a letter to City Council requesting consideration of moving this up in the CIP budget.
- E. **4-Mile Run**- Ripley Forbes- distributed an agenda/flier on the upcoming Four Mile Run Restoration Master Plan, Joint Task Force Community Meeting, January 26, 2011 7-9 p.m., Fairlington Community Center, Arlington, VA. He and Chair Judy Noritake will participate in the forum.
- F. **Charles Houston Memorial Project** -William Cromley
- No recent meetings. A meeting is scheduled for early March 4, for artist presentations.
- G. **Freedman’s Cemetery**- Bob Moir (absent)
- Roger Blakeley, Deputy Director RPCA reported that the project is moving forward.
- H. **Beauregard Corridor**- David Dexter
- Holmes Run Parkway-Stream Restoration. \$400,000. Since the last meeting, the Virginia Resource Commission approved the go ahead to begin the design work.
  - Beauregard SAP - the army will take its Certificate of Occupancy in early August.
  - 6,400 employees are expected to relocate to the Beauregard corridor area, near the Mark Center. The City will run shuttle buses from King Street Metro to Mark Center.
- I. **ACPS & Capital Improvements** - Henry Brooks
- The Community Schools project has been inactive. Karen Parker-Thompson has been reassigned to a new project. More information will be shared as it becomes available.
- J. **Other**
- William Cromley- reported that he and Alisa Carrel, Director, Office of the Arts recently met regarding the Public Art Funding mechanism. The P&RC should stay involved.
  - **Chair Judy Guse-Noritake:**
  - She recently met with Councilman Frank Fannon regarding the Georgetown baseball proposal. Mr. He asked why there is no active recreation under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge. The Chair said this was in the original plan and is a good idea.
  - Off leash Dog Park at Founders Park- emerging issue, the off-leash dog park needs to be moved, staff has recently received several letters concerning this. Blakeley- the Dog Park Master plan was recently updated; a copy of the new dog park brochure was distributed to Commissioners.
  - Meeting on Francis C. Hammond Field (Feb. 8, 7:30 at Hammond) - Jeff Murphy will attend on behalf of the P&RC. Also see Email from Eva Shea (1/16/11), Alexandria Lacrosse Club support of adding lights to the Francis C. Hammond Middle School field.
- X. **Agenda items for February meeting and location.**
- Public Hearing on the Duron Building.
  - Location: Mt. Vernon Recreation Center, Alexandria, VA.
- XI. **List of Upcoming Public Meetings** – a list of upcoming meetings was distributed at the meeting.
- XII. Adjournment: 9:50 p.m.