

**Sports Commission Meeting
Thursday February 25, 2016
Courthouse Plaza, Azalea Room 103
Time: 7:00-9:00 PM**

AGENDA

- I. Approve Past Meeting Minutes**
- II. Field Allocation Meeting Feedback/Discussion**
- III. Public Spaces Master Plan Update- Craig**
- IV. Long Bridge Park Advisory Group- Doug**
- V. Discussion regarding remarks Craig will deliver (upcoming meetings with Christian Dorsey, Auditor, County Manager, and Board)**
- VI. Williamsburg Lights- Steve**
- VII. Gymnastics Update- Heather**
- VIII. Skate Park Initiative (Appendix A)**
- IX. Winter Restroom Services (Appendix B)**
- X. Projects and Themes for 2016**

Upcoming Meetings:

March 24, 2016 at 7pm at Courthouse Plaza, Azalea Room 103

Appendix A

November 18, 2015

Craig Esherick
Arlington Sports Commission Chair
3700 Four Mile Run Dr.
Arlington, VA 22206

Dear Mr. Esherick,

Thanks you for allowing me to present information on the proposed revitalization of the Arlington County skateboard park at the Commission's October meeting. The skateboard park, located at the Powhatan Springs facility on Wilson Boulevard was one of the first skateboard parks build in the area. After 10 years, the skate park is prematurely showing its age and is need of major repairs.

The county had engineers assess the park's concrete and found that the concrete was porous and improperly mixed for skateboarding activities. This has resulted in water seepage issues that has led to cracks and other damage including damage to the pool tiles found near the top of the two skateboard bowls.

Arlington county contracted with Team Pain for a set of skate park designs. They may be viewed at this link: <https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2013/12/Powhatan-Design-Concepts-1.pdf>. I am advocating, on behalf of the Friends of Arlington Skate Park and other Arlington skateboarders, to adopt and implement one of the new skate park designs. The improvements in skate park design, particularly in better concrete which is suited for our climate and will withstand the elements better than the current park, would be a tremendous improvement. I am sure that this will generate even more enthusiasm and use of the facility.

I would like to ask for the Sports commission's support and endorsement of this initiative. Please let me know if there is any further information I may provide that may help your decision making. Thanks you again for allowing me to present at your meeting. It was a pleasure to meet you all and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best Regards,

Tyson Whitney
3111 13th Road South
Arlington, VA 22204
202.251.1154

Appendix B

Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 3:04 PM

Subject: Reinstate county winter restroom services at Yorktown/Greenbrier stadium

Dear Mr. Esherick, as Chair of the Arlington Sports Commission and Ms Haynes, as Chair, Arlington Parks & Recreation Commission:

As suggested by County Board Member, John Vistadt, in the below thread, I'm contacting you to begin whatever process may be necessary for your review and hopefully recommendation to discontinue the County's elimination of winter (Nov 15 - March 15) rest-room services for active athletic and personal exercise facilities at high school stadium facilities, more specifically the Yorktown High/Greenbrier Park track and field facilities. It was my hope that the County Board would review the wisdom of this service reduction, I understand that originally was done as a cost-cutting measure that would save the County \$42K for all parks. As you know, the stadium is used extensively for Yorktown practice and competitive field and track sports for numerous youth and other league events. My wife and I are among a host of other county residents who, use the track nearly daily, which we've done since the 70's beginning at the original Yorktown track facilities, for many years as runners and in recent years as walkers, typically 3 miles per day for 5-7 days a week, when extreme weather or travel have not prevented us from doing so. We are now too often prevented during the winter months from completing our workouts because of the reduction in county services. Need I be more specific? Lest you think this is only a problem for Arlington's large elder community, I can also tell you that we have approached some youth league coaches, from both Arlington and out-of-town teams and asked them how their team members dealt with this situation. Their answer: We look the other way, and the kids go up into the thin strip of trees on the west end of the stadium and Chestnut Hill Park, one of the largest and most high-use child parks in the county. We have also infrequently observed adults doing the same thing. We are appealing to you to recommend that this service be reinstated. The good news is that the county has just reopened the Greenbrier restrooms, tree weeks before the announced closing of March 15. On the other hand, as you will note below, there is nothing to suggest that the county has discontinued the practice and that we won't face the same problem next year. We, and I assure you many others who use the facility (some of whom just don't any more during the winter months), will be very pleased to see the same kind of bully pulpit and budget resources that the county provides for its bike-riding citizens. We applaud that; but we don't have a large, organized group to lobby for our form of exercise as the bikers do and want a comparatively miniscule expenditure for the high usage stadium facilities that service unorganized, individual exercisers and sports enthusiasts. Thanks for listening.

Respectfully,

Rick Barry