

Arlington County Sports Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday February 26, 2015
Time: 7:00pm
Place: Room 104, Fairlington Community Center

Attending:

Stacy Chouinard, Staff Liaison	Doug Ross, Member
Mauricio Coreas, Member	Steve Severn, Member
Shirley Brothwell, Member	George C. Towner, Jr., Member
Heather Cocozza, Member	Matt Kim
Ellen Killalea, Member	Annemarie Selvitelli
Asha Patton, Member	David Tornquist

Members Absent: Craig Esherick, Chair, Debbie DeFranco, APS Liaison, Regina Kouba, Member

Agenda:

- I. Approve Past Meeting Minutes**

- II. Adult Soccer in Arlington County**

- III. Gymnastics/Aquatics TEAM Work Group Update**

- IV. Aquatics Work Group Update**

- V. Finalize Sports Commissions Themes & Projects (Appendix A)**

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Discussion, Consensus & Action Items</u>
I. Approve Past Meeting Minutes (7:00-7:06pm)	The DPR Liaison, Stacy, will be stepping down from the Liaison Position and Jennifer Lainhart with the Enterprise unit will be taking her place starting at the next Sports Commission meeting. Edits to previous meeting minutes: January delete the body of adjournment. December: #VI should say 85-100 % and 10-20%.
Consensus:	December 2014 and January 2015 meeting minutes were approved with the above changes.
Action Item:	The final meeting minutes will be posted online.

II. Adult Soccer in Arlington
(7:07-7:21pm)

Women's soccer has minimal concerns. Need more women to play. They use Craigslist and Fit Arlington to advertise. About 400 women are playing. Sundays is the 18+ division and Sunday evenings are 30 and 40+ brackets. Over the years the number of teams have decreased, hoping for it to go back up. Still looking for teams. Access to fields is only an issue on Sundays specifically at Bishop O'Connell. *Need clarification on issues* The field is occasionally locked or Arlington County was not informed of an event taking place and did not reschedule space. When it happens the leagues still have to pay the officials fees. The leagues have put together a list of issues and have requested not to be scheduled at Bishop O'Connell. Women also have an indoor soccer league run through DPR.

American Soccer League has about 350 to 400 players. Lost about 7 teams in the past 2 year. Now at 12 teams. One reason is the fees for non-residents and the residency requirement. 3 teams could not meet the residency requirement this year. 50% of the roster must be Arlington County residents. Typically the teams that cannot meet it go to Fair Fax because they do not have the residency requirement or fee. The leagues play at Gunston and Long Bridge. Some play indoor soccer which is run by DPR. If the residency requirement was reduced to 40\$ it may generate more teams participating.

All leagues pay for their referees directly.

Action Item:

Follow up on the agreement with Bishop O'Connell in regards to DPR use including diamond and rectangular use. Use seems to have decreased. Craig will check with Robin Leonard.

III. Gymnastics/Aquatics TEAM
Work Group Update
(7:22-7:45pm)

The final report is published and available online. The report was emailed to RecTrac users and sent out in a press release. The recommendations were folded into the budget. Included is non-residents pay no more than 15% of the highest fee for their program and the TEAM programs will recover no more than 100% of the cost of the programs. The County manager accepted the report. For 2015 the work group recommends refunds to the gymnastics, aquatics and adult flag football teams and class participants. This is incorporated into the budget. On April 21 if approved DPR will give credits in RecTrac. For FU6 fees are a reduction from previous years, based on past data refunds could be significant. From budgeting standpoint the projections were all over the place. A summary of the proposed FY16 budget was sent out. It is unclear who got the email so it will be resent to the commission members. On March 19th is the DPR budget session with the County manager and County Board. Only the chair can speak typically. On March 11th is the DPR budget Presentation to the commissions. For Phase II of the work groups charge they will be sending questions to the board to see what is left to solve. Phase I may have solved the questions of Phase II. A key component of the gymnastics model succeeding is a good mix of class and team.

IV. Aquatics Committee
Update
(7:42-7:46pm)

Letter was sent from the committee to the board. It said APS is looking for \$200,000 from the Aquatics program for budget cuts. A 10% increase in fees and a 15% increase in rental fees with some increase in non-resident fees would get \$100,000. At the annual aquatics forum and survey people support a 10% increase but no reduction in operating hours. Need more space and hours not less. 10% fee is included in the Superintendent's budget proposal. At least one school board member has not seen the memo. ArlNow article argued for more recreation space for youth.

V. Finalize Themes and
Projects
(7:46-8:16pm)

#5: Money is needed for facilities as written. As it sounds weak.

#1: update of field fund needed. The Diamond Group received the recommendations and feasibility from DPR today. Ft. Scott location did not work out. Westover and ATS combined came in at about \$22,000.

Action Item:

The document with the updates will be sent to Craig and then sent out to all as part of the next meeting's agenda and a vote will be taken then.


VI. New Business
(8:17-8:32pm)

Steve and Doug attended a resident forum as part of the overall county facility study. The presentation was on the overall view of Arlington's budget. The status quo is no longer happening, the commercial sector is down and there is a 21% vacancy rate. Can we attract replacement tenants and keep millennials. At least 125 people were in attendance. There were table groups with specific questions to generate ideas. A report is expected by November. 2 County Board members, 2 School Board members and the County manager attended. The meetings are twice a month from 7-10pm. There will be an online presence and the meetings might be televised. They are the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. AED director attended. You can search "community facilities study" on Arlington's website for more information. The economics and how to break it down into the real world setting were presented. Next meeting will be on demographics.

VII. Meeting Adjourned
(8:33pm)

J. Walter Tejada, County Board Liaison

Attest:


Jennifer Lainhart, Staff Liaison