

# Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Langston-Brown CC, MPR

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

## **Commission Members Present:**

Shirley Brothwell, Chair

Jessica Paska

John Bacon

David Tornquist

Sherry Kohan

Drew Murray

Justin Wilt

Steve Severn

Patricia Trapanese

## **Commission Members Absent:**

Larry Robertson

Janet Eichers

## **County/APS Staff:**

Josh Colman, SC Liaison

Robin Leonard, DPR

Megan Carney, DPR

Please note: Agenda items may not be in chronological order.

## Approval of Past Meeting Minutes

[7:04-7:10pm]

Review and motion to approve September meeting minutes, seconded, approved.

## *New Business*

## Sport User Group Update/Field Allocation Policy

[7:10-7:56pm]

Overview and update of field allocation policy progress.

- Able to meet allocation goals for most leagues in spring season.
- Allocation must continue to include the entire week, not just weekdays.
- Some issues with the 7-8pm timeslot- leagues not allocating this late.
- Allocation changes:

- Practices scheduled on the weekend- has to be considered and implemented more by the leagues
- Use alternative fields for practices (e.g. rectangular sports on diamond outfields)
- Fall end time- 7pm may be too late for entire season, this will be looked at.
- Sport Participation Numbers Updates- continued youth sport growth.
- Summer and Fall Allocation Information
- On-Going Policy Development and Major Policy Components
  - Timeframe- hope to have policy out to groups for review in the winter
- Field/Facility Information
  - Overview of field statuses, closures, upcoming improvements
  - Discussion on field permitting changes- from permit only to permit takes priority on some fields
  - Permit Take Priority- structured use of field requires a permit. Otherwise, field can be used for unstructured activities of less than 10 people.
  - Discussion:
    - Rovers will be checking usage at these locations- ensuring structured activities are not occurring.
    - Can still close fields if needed due to deterioration
    - Communication Plan being worked on- once it's done it will be shared with the Sports Commission.
      - Signage and literature considered.
    - Pets questions? Signage will state that dogs/animals prohibited on fields. This will be monitored.
    - Lights? Lights will not be turned on unless scheduled activity will take place.
    - Posting schedules- idea of having electronic schedules at fields.

## Long Bridge Park Project

[7:56-8:13pm]

Doug Ross (former SC member and Long Bridge Advisory Group member) visited the Sports Commission to update on the Long Bridge Park project.

- Quick background on project.
- Discussion of what's happening now- four designs currently posted publicly, gathering input from the community at this point.
- Quick info on design/build structure for project.
- All four designs have same basic elements- firms also added a few additional elements if possible within budgetary restrictions.
- Upcoming Board meetings to approve selection of the contractor.
- Discussion will be had on any additional amenities within the near future.
- Brief discussion on business model for facility.
- Josh will send links to commission so members can provide input on individual designs.

## Budget Update/County Manager Discussion

[8:13- 8:22pm]

Update on recent budget meeting with County Manager. County anticipates more budget issues- APS asking for more money, big pressure on budget this year.

Discussion focused on:

- What services/amenities do you use?
- What could you give up?
- What can you not give up?

Suggestion offered regarding field based sports- could sports be willing to pay more to ensure fields are protected/saved?

Additional question regarding potential APS softball program and how that could be initiated during a difficult budget time.

No additional budget listening sessions with open space, but Josh will send link so Sports Commission can provide online input.

## Annual Report/Annual Plan Discussion

[8:22-8:27pm]

Annual Plan will be emailed so group can review.

Discussion on ideas for the future including:

- Ideas for maximizing field use
- Communication improvements/outreach
- More work on underserved populations piece

## Ideas/Input for Agenda Items

[8:27-8:41pm]

Discussion on any new agenda items or ideas for future meetings.

- Discussion on running/biking trails- Sports Commission involvement on that side. Look to work with others who would use running/biking trails.
- Idea of changing structure of the agenda to focus on Sports Commission goals:
  - Ensure agenda is including identified goals or areas SC is focused on.
  - Try online submission of member reports.
  - Reformat agenda to have presentations later, give time to SC to get through SC business first.

New Sports Commission members needed- current members should think about potential new members to join.

## *Old Business*

### PFRC Letter

[8:41-8:45pm]

Membership to PFRC denied. Sports Commission can continue to track projects of interest- make requests to join specific project groups.

### Benjamin Banneker Discussion

[8:45-8:52pm]

Quick review of previous info presented in the spring.

- Questions on lights or artificial turf- not considered in this park.
- Group agrees letter of support is an easy decision.
- Motion to write a letter in support, seconded, approved.
- Sports Commission will submit letter to board.

### Field Advocacy Plan

[Deferred]

### *Commission Member Reports*

[8:52-9:22pm]

- **Aquatics Committee**- Janet at meeting tonight- future report to come.
- **AYBA**- no update/changes in a while- ongoing questions on continued existence.
- **Diamond Field Fund Committee**
  - Received comments from members- some interest in improving batting cages
    - Greenbrier
    - Bluemont
    - Barcroft
  - Some in group okay with not spending this year as well.
  - Sports Commission discussion on increasing field fee.
- **4MRV**
  - Sherry will be backup member for Shirley.
  - Upcoming meetings to review park master plan.
  - Discussion on drafting a joint letter with Park and Recreation Commission- idea that the working group put forward one idea that does not have an arts district- in case the arts district does not happen, there needs to be a feasible option put forward to the Board.

- Ideas discussed: restate the charge, recognition of arts place within DPR from the past, continued interest in integrating arts/parks spaces, bond language, history of acquisition of parcels, feasibility of re-planning buildings.
- Sports Commission in favor of joint-letter with Park and Recreation Commission. Motion to support, seconded, approved.
- **Greenbrier Operations Committee**- John Bacon will be new rep with Larry stepping down. Steve Severn as backup.
- **Park and Recreation Commission**- discussion on idea of every member sharing responsibility for attending that meeting. Sports Commission will rotate monthly with who attends.
- **JFAC**- a lot of questions on how JFAC is progressing- what is the right time to give input? What should be included in any letter?
- **POPS**- Justin will send longer synopsis out for members to review and give input.
  - Five topics to work through:
    - Open Space
    - Level of Service
    - Synthetic Fields and Lighting
    - Natural Resources
    - Land Acquisition
  - Sports Commission needs to get involved in these discussions- there are opportunities to participate.

Meeting ends at 9:22pm

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Christian Dorsey, County Board Liaison

Attest:

*Josh Colman*

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Josh Colman, Staff Liaison