

## **Aquatics Committee (AC) Meeting**

**Virtual**

**OCT 13, 2020**

**Time: 7:00-9:00 PM**

### **Draft Minutes**

**Call to order at 7:01pm (meeting is being recorded).**

#### **Attendees**

Members: Cynthia Hilton, Guy Land, Carla Fletcher, Howard Seamens, Jennifer Connor, Kristi Sawert, Ron Kampeas, Trish Madden

Absent: MacKenzie Kearney

Staff: Helena Machado and Maija Paegle

Visitors: 25 guests in Microsoft Teams

#### **I. Welcome, Minutes & Updates:**

- Minutes for meeting held on September 15, 2020 were presented and approved as submitted. Jennifer motioned to approve, Carla seconded, and minutes were approved.
- Vacancies & Committee Leadership: Letters were sent to both boards requesting the appointment of Howard Seamens and Kristi Sawert as Chair and Vice Chair respectively. Actions to happen at the end of November. There are four School Board appointed vacancies and one County Board appointed vacancy. Ron Kampeas will be leaving at the end of the month and was thanked for his service.
- The Aquatics Committee has been asked to accept liaisons from other School Board advisory committees. Katherine Christensen is the liaison from the budget committee. The FY22 School Budget projected to run a \$38 million deficit due to COVID-19. All advisory committees are invited to share recommendations on how the deficit can be reduced.

#### **II. Public Comment(s)**

- Kathleen Brueger commented that the APS Aquatics website lists user “dos and don’ts.” She wanted to know if those would be posted at the APS Pools? She also asked what steps will be taken to lure people to use the Long Bridge aquatics facility in order to relieve some pressure on high school pools?
- Helena answered that the fliers are in the process of being printed in and should be at the pools soon as hand-outs and on doors.
- Jolene Noel, the Long Bridge General Manger, responded during her in presentation.
- Jennifer Connor raised a question from a patron about changes for when online registration is open after noticing that sessions were not posting within 24 hours.
- Helena responded during operations feedback.

III. Guest Presentation: Jolene provided updates to the Long Bridge Aquatics Facility and showed photos of the facility. She said that plans are being developed to publicize and attract swimmers and families to the new facility. The presentation will be posted.

#### **IV(a). FY 2022 Work Plan**

- a. Charter Update – Action to adopt proposed revisions to the AC Charter was made by Ron motion and seconded by Kristi. The motion was unanimously supported. A letter to submit these changes to both the Boards will be prepared.
- b. Board Swimming Pool Policies/MOA Revision

- School Board Policy Revision (M-15 & APS Policy Implementation Plan M-15-1)
  - The School Board Policy M-15 Swimming Pools and PIP are both scheduled for revision within the first quarter of 2021.
  - Helena explained the entire process of review, the cycles of revisions, and the opportunities for Committee for feedback.
  - Jennifer Connor has joined the working group established during last month’s meeting that will do the redrafting work. The immediate need for the policy working group is to write a policy to guide the operation for the APS pools and decide what items should be part of that policy (fee setting, rules and regulations regarding admission, refund policy, budget development protocols, etc.).
  - Helena will send out the schedule of review.
- County Board Policy Drafting
  - Looking at the County policy on pool operations will be a new task for the policy working group and the Committee.
- MOA Revision
  - This will remain on the work plan. The AC needs to have updated policies first.
- c. FY 2022 Budget/Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)
  - The FY 2021 budget is projected to run a deficit; and additional cuts or revenue will be necessary next year. Katherine, the budget committee liaison, will keep the Committee updated.
- d. Continuous Process Improvement (CPI)
  - Currently no updates.

#### IV(b). FY 2022 Work Plan – Monitoring

- a. Ed Center Pool Parking
  - The North side of the “pool” parking lot will be closed to accommodate construction at the Ed Center. Howard volunteered to see if materials could be stored at the Quincy St. (Buck) property site.
- b. Career Center (CC) Building Level Planning Committee/Public Facilities Review Committee
  - As a result of the cost-overrun projections the CC project is on hold. The Facilities Advisory Committee and the Joint Facilities Advisory Commission are developing criteria for picking school sites. The AC discussed how the “new normal” is impacting the instructional swim program in the pools.
  - Helena commented that school swimming is on hold. There are many issues regarding transportation as well as which grades and populations will be back at school in person.
  - APS is waiting for a decision by the Virginia High School Sports League (VHSL) as they are expected to release a modified schedule for winter sports on December 12. Helena is working with activities directors on how to manage swim and dive high school teams.

#### V. Pool Operations & Maintenance – Helena Machado

- a. Phase III Update
  - Wakefield is now open for public swim and groups (AAC & NoVa Synchro).
  - Parking at W-L may be impacted by construction late October to January.
  - Current programs still include lap swimming, water exercise, and water jogging (as well as same programs for Seniors (60+)).
  - Family swim pods require more staffing for safety so may have to alter the number of sessions offered.
  - COVID-19 compliance with third party groups is an ongoing administrative challenge.
  - APS is still short staffed but actively recruiting and hiring.
  - The COVID-19 Fall schedule is similar in structure to a typical fall schedule just reduced and includes breaks for cleaning.

- APS is working with the Arlington Health Department on the implementation of ARC guidelines for training including the use of mannequins or family members for training life guards.
- The participation is up at all the pools. Waitlists have been reactivated. Data is continually reviewed.
- Community partners (rentals) helped create a big increase in participation, including the following groups: AAC, York Swim Club, Flipping Twister Diving, NoVa Synchro, and Norman Swim and Dive. There were 1,583 participants in the beginning of September which has increased to 3,082 in the first week of October.
- The revenue is up at the pools and the cost per splash is \$4.94 (same as previous years, between \$4.90 and \$5.20).

#### b. Committee Questions Previously Submitted

- Helena clarified that reservations open 24 hours before the end time of the session.
- Waitlist Process. The swimmer pays for a drop in single package to be added to the waitlist. The swimmer must cancel themselves off the waitlist to get a credit. This is done to prevent people from putting themselves on multiple waitlists.
- Currently, in Phase III, swimmers must exit the pools wearing their swim suits/wet suits. There will be no changes to accommodate more demand for changing clothes at this time. The Arlington Health Department has congratulated APS for being vigilant about safely operating the pools. The staff and management have done a great job. Swim parkas for exiting the water may be the way to go.

#### VI. DPR Programs – Maija Paegle

- AAC is continuing to swim, and there no other updates currently.

#### VII. Sports Commission Update – Kristi Sawert

- Kristi spoke about the last Sports Commission Meeting that was very contentious, including updates on contractors' contracts with the County (mainly related to summer camps). Maija clarified it does not affect DPR swim instructors.

#### VIII. Old Business

##### a. APS Policy Revisions Updates – Cynthia Hilton

- The AC's comments on the School Board's construction and maintenance policy were forwarded to the Board in advance of the comment deadline.

#### IX. New Business

- a. New business. Trish shared that adapted swim at the pools has been great!
- b. Next Meeting – NOV 17, 2020, 7-9pm, Microsoft Teams format.

#### X. Adjourn

- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.