

**City of Alexandria, Virginia  
PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
Public Hearing & Regular Meeting**

**Ferdinand T. Day Elementary School  
1701 N. Beauregard Street**

**Thursday, June 20, 2024  
7 p.m.**

**Commission Members**

**Present:** Dana Colarulli, Chair (Acting) (District II); Katy Matthews, Secretary (District III); Jeffrey Miller (District I); David Brennan (District III); Geoffrey Goode (District II); Stuart Fox (District I); Paul Komelasky (District I); Tookie Organek (student member); Phillip Voorhees (District III).

**Absent:** Joseph Fray (District II)

**RPCA Staff:** James Spengler, RPCA Director, Jack Browand, Deputy Director, Park Services; Randy Little, Division Chief; Tiffany Marbury, Administrative Assistant, RPCA.

**Additional City Staff:** Carrie Beach, Division Chief, Planning & Zoning.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dana Colarulli, Acting Commission Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**III. COMMISSIONER REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**a. Staff Report Highlights**

Commission members enjoyed reading the staff report and wanted to highlight the following submissions:

- William Ramsey’s long-time center member Edward “Ed” Kehoe.
- Watermelon Splitting at Patrick Henry Recreation Center
- Updates to Potomac Yard Park
- Alexandria Sportsman’s Club award winners

**b. Commissioner Assignments**

Commission members continued to review available assignments and express their interest in these community initiatives. Members with existing assignments gave the following updates:

**DISTRICT I: Stuart Fox** stated that Visit Alexandria has a new President & CEO, Todd O’Leary. His role is effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. Patricia Washington officially resigned from that position on June 30. The Portside Festival scheduled for this Saturday has been canceled due to the excessive heat. Lastly, during a recent Visit Alexandria board meeting, Matt Landis gave a presentation on the Flood Mitigation Plan. There are changes to the location of the retention pumps. The commission will have Matt Landis update the group regarding the changes at the next Commission Meeting. **Paul Komelasky** is getting the word out about the Amplifying South of the Airport Noise Study Survey and virtual meeting. He’s contacted several condo associations in Old Town North, as they are directly affected. Residents are encouraged to participate, as this study evaluates the impact of airport noise south of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). **Jeffrey Miller** did not have updates to share.

**DISTRICT II: Dana Colarulli** announced that Joseph Fray, our new commission member, will attend his first meeting in July. He is from District II. He also mentioned that he recently attended the Judy Noritake Park dedication ceremony. **Geoffrey Goode** reported that George Mason is in the RFP process with the architecture firms.

**DISTRICT III: Katy Matthews** stated that now that Minnie Howard has had their grand opening, they have started moving things in from the old building. They are working on punch list items including fencing and other outside work. Phase II pre-construction work has begun. The school is offering four dates during the summer months to tour the building. **David Brennan** stated that the Youth Sports Advisory Board will not meet again until the Fall.

**STUDENT MEMBER: Tookie Organek** did not have an update.

#### IV. ACTION ITEMS

##### a. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2024

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24A

**Motion:** Katy Matthews moved, and Paul Komelasky seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

##### b. FY 2025 Officer Elections

- i. Chair - Dana Colarulli

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24B

**Motion:** Stuart Fox moved, and Katy Matthews seconded the motion to appoint Dana Colarulli as Commission Chair. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

- ii. Vice Chair – Katy Matthews

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24C

**Motion:** Dana Colarulli moved, and Geoffrey Goode seconded the motion to appoint Katy Matthews as Commission Vice Chair. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

iii. Secretary – Stuart Fox

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24D

**Motion:** Dana Colarulli moved, and Jeffrey Miller seconded the motion to appoint Stuart Fox as Commission Secretary. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**c. Public Hearing – Alex West Small Area Plan – Open Space**

**i. Motion to open Public Hearing**

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24E

**Motion:** Dana Colarulli moved, and Stuart Fox seconded the motion to open the public hearing. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**ii. AlexWest Small Area Plan – Open Space**

Carrie Beach gave a presentation on the AlexWest Small Area Plan. That presentation can be found here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UMQtjbgZznscvF8McXwnOwv6c01mxI3K/view?usp=sharing>

**iii. Public Comment**

None.

**iv. Motion to Close Public Hearing**

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24F

**Motion:** Dana Colarulli moved, and Geoffrey Goode seconded the motion to close the public hearing. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**v. Commission Discussion and Action**

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24G

**Motion:** Stuart Fox moved, and Katy Matthews seconded the motion to endorse the AlexWest Small Area Plan and authorize Geoffrey Goode to draft a letter on important aspects of the plan including walkability, pedestrian access, open space, and increased amenities. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**V. ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

- a. 275<sup>th</sup> City & 248<sup>th</sup> USA’s Birthday Celebration – Saturday, July 13, from 6-10 p.m.

**VI. NEXT MEETING**

July 18, 2024 – Mount Vernon Recreation Center

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**ACTION:** FY24.6.20.24F

**Motion:** Stuart Fox moved, and Paul Komelasky seconded the motion to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. The motion passed by unanimous vote.