

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, January 12, 2017

7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Mac Slover, Jim Gibson, Tamika Coleman, John Timmons, Kevin McDermott, Bill Rivers, Chris Mackay, Danny Organek, Beth Hamid, Don Simpson, and Jeff Newhouse, William Chesley
Guests: Dinesh Tiwari (RPCA), Jaime Doyle, Beth Hamid and Brian Donegan

- I. The December 9, 2016 summary notes were approved.
- II. Recognition of Sports Organizations 2016 Volunteers
 - a. Alexandria Soccer Association recognized Jon Fleuchaus and Jamie Doyle as its 2016 volunteers of the year.
 - b. Alexandria Lacrosse Club recognized Brian Donegan and Beth Hamid as its 2016 volunteers of the year.
- III. Updates
 - a. TC Williams Stadium
 - i. The ACPS Superintendent's presentation of the improvement objectives and funding proposal was accepted by the School Board. City Council approval is still needed. A 2017 groundbreaking is feasible.
 - b. Limerick Field is not ready for use yet. Punch-list items remain to be corrected. Opening to be sometime in April.
 - c. Hensley Park will shut down after the fall season of 2018 for 18-24 months of renovation.
 - d. Cameron Run Regional park
 - i. A consultant has been hired for the study – Michael Baker International. – will be attending the April 2017 meeting
 - ii. Public meetings will be held soon.
 - e. Warwick Pool
 - i. A contract will be awarded soon.
 - ii. The pool could re-open in late June or July.
 - f. Chinquapin Pool
 - i. This project was put on hold by the City Manager.
 - ii. The City Council will ultimately decide when the project gets re-started.
 - g. YSAB Goals
 - i. 2017 should be the year that the Board becomes more proactive than reactive.
 - ii. A new mission statement and goals should be developed.
 - iii. More high school coaches will be invited to our meetings.
 - h. Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) – (Chinquapin Pool)
- IV. 2018 Budget Process
 - a. William Chesley and Dinesh Tiwari discussed the RPCA budget presentation to the City Manager and Council. Some of the items below are being proposed to be cut.
 - i. 5% reduction in operating budget
 - ii. \$315,000 of revenues offered
 - iii. One full time Recreation Services Division staff position being offered
 - iv. Recreation Center hours reduced at Cora Kelly and William Ramsay
 - v. National Junior Tennis summer program
 - vi. Field preparation funding reduced
 - vii. \$90,000 increase requested for youth scholarship funding via the affiliated programs
 - viii. Overall revenue projections for the entire city indicate a five-year downward trend

- V. Program and Departmental Updates
 - a. Youth basketball has 110 teams with 100% coaching coverage.
 - b. Mac Slover will be inducted into the Northern Virginia Football Hall of Fame in March.
Alexandria youth football teams play in the Fairfax County Youth Football League.
 - c. There has been some personnel reorganization within RPCA.
 - i. Tamika Coleman has been promoted to Acting Regional Program Director for Sports
 - ii. Mac Slover has taken over as Regional Program Director for the Youth Activities, Outreach and Seniors Section
- VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

THURSDAY, March 23, 2017, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Mac Slover, Jim Gibson, Tamika Coleman, Kevin McDermott, Danny Organek, Don Simpson, Dennis Burstein, Lutfi LaSida, Tommy Park, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: James Spengler (DRPCA), Will Douglas (DRPCA), Margaret Orlando (DRPCA)

- I. Review of the January 12, 2017 summary notes was tabled. Board members were asked to review at a later date and relay any requested revisions.
- II. Will Douglas distributed and presented the draft “Athletic Field Maintenance Guide.”
 - a. This is a guide to providing safe and sustainable playing surfaces for citizens and users of athletic fields throughout the City of Alexandria.
 - b. The overall intent of the document is to educate coaches, volunteers, user groups, and city staff on the tools, proper techniques, and procedures involved in maintaining proper playing conditions.
 - c. Proposed budget reductions will eliminate on-site maintenance staff support on weekends, but lines of communication will remain open.
- III. FY18 Budget Update - James Spengler distributed the Supplemental Capital Improvement Program for the proposed FY18-27 CIP.
 - a. DRPCA will propose an additional \$90,000 fund for youth sports affiliates scholarships.
 - b. Policy for this is in the draft phase. The YSAB was asked to provide input by April 4th.
 - c. The goal is to incentivize affiliates to aggressively increase the scholarship participation of youths in recreation-level sports.
 - d. The City of Gaithersburg has a very successful program that could serve as a guide.
- IV. Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) will be lobbying the city manager for the re-inclusion of funding for the construction of a true 50M pool at Chinquapin. They will draft a letter for YSAB review and endorsement.
- V. The chief of recreational services distributed and discussed a handout regarding the Community Matching Fund Application Process.
- VI. Facility Updates
 - a. TC Williams Stadium
 - i. A public meeting was held March 21 to present and discuss schematic site plan options.
 - ii. The next meeting (date TBD) will include discussions regarding proposed lighting.
 - b. Limerick Field will be open soon. The last few punch-list items will be corrected shortly.
 - c. Chinquapin Pool - AAA
 - i. Bill Rivers has met with Councilman Wilson.
 - ii. Meetings with other council members are being scheduled.
 - d. YSAB Goals - the possibility of a YSAB event was discussed – perhaps a night of recognition for outstanding youth sports participants.
- VII. 2017 Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony – scheduled for April 3rd at City Hall, Market Square at 5:30 PM.
- VIII. Next Meeting Date – Monday, April 10th
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, April 10, 2017, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Mac Slover, Jim Gibson, Tamika Coleman, Richard Stone, Owen Malone, Tommy Park, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: William Chesley (DRPCA), Dan Roush (DRPCA), Margaret Orlando (DRPCA), Brian Clay (Michael Baker International), and Eric Wilmot (Michael Baker International)

- I. Review of the March 23, 2017 summary notes was tabled. Board members were asked to review at a later date and relay any requested revisions.
- II. Cameron Run Regional Park
 - a. Brian Clay and Eric Wilmot shared a powerpoint presentation that provided an overview of the planning process for this park.
 - b. The next public meeting for this project will be at the end of the month.
 - c. A final report is due to the City Council in June. This report shall include information regarding the highest and best future use of the site based on stakeholder input.
- III. Athletic Field Maintenance and Renovation
 - a. Dan Roush shared a powerpoint presentation that provided an overview of his unit's efforts improve field conditions through modernization of maintenance and renovation practices.
 - b. FY18 & FY19 operating funds will be reduced, but he is confident that users will see improved conditions because of these new practices.
 - c. Field conditions are evaluated by 11 AM every weekday and closure decisions are relayed to those responsible for the public hotline.
 - d. Coaches' training has begun regarding the determination of weekend field closure.
 - e. The city will decide on May 4th whether to shift certain field maintenance/preparation responsibilities to users.
- IV. Youth Sports Scholarship Fund Policy
 - a. Tamika Coleman distributed the draft policy document.
 - b. Sports group affiliates can request up to \$2,000 per FY for outreach.
 - c. Sports group affiliates will be reimbursed \$100 per eligible player after reaching the 80% threshold from the previous year.
- V. Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA)
 - a. The draft YSAB endorsement letter regarding the 50M Chinquapin project was reviewed.
 - b. Revisions will be applied and the letter will be sent to the City Council this week.
- VI. Facility Updates
 - a. TC Williams Stadium - the stadium initiative participated in the spring2action fundraising day on April 5th.
 - b. Limerick Field has opened.
 - c. Warwick Pool is in the demolition phase.
 - d. Witter Athletic Facility – efforts to construct a softball batting cage using private funds have been stalled by environmental regulations.
- VII. Next Meeting Date – Monday, May 8th
- VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, September 11, 2017, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Jim Gibson, Owen Malone, Tommy Park, Adam Homes, Dennis Burstein, Lutfi LaSida, Bill Campbell, Jeff Murphy, John Timmons, Ed Goeas, Danny Organek, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: Margaret Orlando (DRPCA), Dan Roush (DRPCA)

- I. Review of the June 12, 2017 summary notes was tabled. Board members were asked to review at a later date and relay any requested revisions.
- II. YSAB Mission
 - a. Over the years, this board has tackled many individual issues. Perhaps it is time to consider broader issues:
 - i. Support each other's programming through lessons learned and progressive ideas.
 - ii. Maximize the use of limited facilities through cooperative scheduling.
 - iii. Promote the fact that our programs increase the overall quality of life for city residents.
 - iv. Be proactive regarding health issues.
 - v. Improve our relationships with school sports programs.
 - vi. Improve volunteer and coach training.
 - vii. Improve outreach and increase participation of the economically disadvantaged.
 - viii. Strive to increase the quality of programming through age-appropriate coaching curriculums.
- III. Summary & Evaluation of 2016-2017 - Issues addressed & Topics Discussed
 - i. T.C. Williams stadium improvements
 - ii. Patrick Henry E.S. & Recreation Center scope
 - iii. Interaction with Parks & Recreation Commission
 - iv. Interaction with City Council
 - v. Cameron Run Regional Park/Great Waves
- IV. Goals & Objectives of 2017-2018
 - a. Invite more staff to board meetings – find ways to provide to provide/receive more support.
 - b. Continue to develop relationships with field maintenance staff.
 - c. When appropriate, lobby departmental management and city council regarding budget allocations.
 - d. Continue to track & support T.C. Williams stadium improvements.
 - e. Increase our presence at Parks & Recreation Commission meetings.
 - f. Support efforts to allow free attendance for students attending school sporting events.
- V. Program/Affiliate Updates
 - a. Alexandria Aquatics – summer programming included a record 197 participants. Expansion beyond this is not feasible due to facility constraints.
 - b. LAX – fall clinics have 150+ registrations so far. Collaborating with TopLax and Top Caliber.
 - c. Wrestling – the November through February programming has 75 registrants so far. Suggestions were sought and provided regarding increasing facility space so that additional registrants can be accommodated.
 - d. Rugby – fall is the lightest of the seasons. Sunday afternoon programming is offered with three different levels of play.
 - e. Little League Baseball – registration is approaching 350. Typical fall weather disrupts a third of all programming. Lobbying for synthetic fields will continue. The city will host intermediate-level state championships next June.
 - f. Information from other programs was cut short by a fire alarm.
- VI. Next Meeting Date – Tuesday, October 10th, 2017.
- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Tamika Coleman, Jim Gibson, Lutfi LaSida, Tommy Park, Ed Goeas, Danny Organek, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: Margaret Orlando (DRPCA), Daniel Roush (DRPCA)

- I. Review of the September 11, 2017 summary notes was tabled. Board members were asked to review at a later date and relay any requested revisions.
- II. YSAB Mission – Our founding memorandum from September 20, 2002 was distributed and reviewed.
- III. Universal Age Requirements
 - a. Tamika shared an anecdote regarding a parental request for a birthdate waiver.
 - b. Last year, baseball and soccer both had to deal with age group changes mandated by governing bodies.
- IV. Goals & Objectives for 2017-2018
 - a. Youth football and basketball participants are now able to attend respective school events free of charge. Cross-sport attendance policy is still being sought.
 - b. The T.C. Williams Stadium Initiative group has requested our official endorsement.
 - c. A guest speaker will be sought out on the topic of student athlete opioid abuse.
- V. Program/Affiliate Updates
 - a. Alexandria Aquatics – winter clinics have begun.
 - b. Wrestling – Tuesday/Thursday practices have begun. Matches are held on Sundays.
 - c. Rugby – fall rugby is underway. Tournaments coming soon.
 - d. Little League Baseball – fall ball is underway. 8U participants have decreased, likely due to a communication glitch.
 - e. Football – five weeks remain in the tackle football season, including playoffs. Flag football is also underway.
 - f. Basketball – practices begin in December. Games begin in January.
 - g. Soccer – free afterschool programs have begun at Ramsay and Kelly ES with over 300 participants. This is a joint venture for ASA, ACPS, & RPCA.
- VI. Miscellaneous
 - a. Final administrative steps are being taken by RCPA in anticipation of scholarship expense reimbursements.
 - b. Limerick Field repairs are underway.
 - c. Next Meeting Date – Monday, November 13th, 2017.
- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, November 13, 2017, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Tamika Coleman, James Gibson, Jeff Murphy, Owen Malone, Dennis Burstein, Adam Hayes, Chris Mackay, Bill Campbell, Tommy Park, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: Mark Eisenhour (ACPS), Margaret Orlando (DRPCA), Daniel Roush (DRPCA)

- I. Review of the Tuesday, October 10, 2017 summary notes was tabled. Board members were asked to review at a later date and relay any requested revisions.
- II. Multiple Sports Engagement
 - a. Mark Eisenhour, Director of Student Activities at TC Williams High School, spoke on a myriad of topics.
 - i. Concussion baseline testing
 - ii. General health education
 - iii. Transitioning students from part-time training to full-time training
 - iv. VHSL coaching education resources
 - v. Playing time policies
 - vi. Connections between club sports and school sports
 - vii. Biannual VHSL meetings in Richmond where policy is decided
 - b. Jim Gibson distributed 6/22/16 Washington Post article regarding single-sport student athletes vs. multi-sport student athletes. Discussions ensued.
- III. Program Affiliate Update
 - a. Baseball – participation was up 10% this year. Successes included a 50/70 state championship.
 - b. Soccer – participation was up. An innovative, free afterschool program was run at Ramsay ES and Kelly ES this fall.
 - c. Rugby – the regular fall program has been completed with 75 participants. Teams will be competing next week in the Great Falls MedStar tournament.
 - d. LAX – Brandon Rose, head coach at Bishop Ireton, has been hired as a consultant for boy's lacrosse. A female counterpart is being recruited. Registration for the spring season begins next month. Outreach efforts will be magnified.
 - e. Swimming – stroke clinics are coming up. Participation in regular season has essentially maxed out at 197 due to limited facility space. The pilot elementary school swim lesson program went well and will be continued. Efforts are underway to make this a mandatory part of the school curriculum.
 - f. TCW rugby – this is a spring sport for the school. Clinics will be held at Jefferson-Houston PreK-8 School. Several TC Williams alumni are well-regarded collegiately.
 - g. Football – eight teams competed in the Fairfax league, with three of them going to the playoffs. Two of them were champions (ankle-biters & 100 pounders).
- IV. Upcoming Events
 - a. Alexandria Sportsman's Club – 11/15/17 meeting with Darrell Green as guest speaker
 - b. TC Williams stadium improvements initiative meeting 11/27/17 at Minnie Howard
 - c. ACPS hall-of-fame party on 1/29/18
- V. Holiday Meeting
 - a. To be held on Monday, December 11, 2017
 - b. Food & beverages
 - c. Volunteers to be honored
- VI. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, December 11, 2017, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: James Gibson, Jeff Murphy, Owen Malone, Bill Campbell, Lutfi LaSida, Shawn Laird, Danny Organek, Kevin McDermott, Paul Miller, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: Kim Beasley, Robin Beasley, Brendon Beasley, Gus Chiarello, Moses Alford, Richard Foley

- I. Volunteer Recognition
 - a. Four volunteers were recognized for their outstanding service
 - i. Gus Chiarello – Alexandria Little League
 - ii. Moses Alford – DRPCA basketball & football
 - iii. Kim Beasley – Alexandria Wrestling Club
 - iv. Richard Foley – Alexandria Rugby
 - b. More volunteers will be honored during the January meeting.
- II. Program Affiliate Updates
 - a. Baseball – registration is underway. The league is getting more diverse.
 - b. Soccer – futsal is starting soon. ASA will be pursuing additional outdoor court renovations in 2018.
 - c. Rugby – registration is underway. The Great Falls MedStar tournament was a success with Alexandria championships at two levels.
 - d. LAX – registration is underway. The younger age groups will have new leadership.
 - e. Swimming – stroke clinics have begun.
 - f. Wrestling – will soon be taking advantage of the new policy regarding free admittance to TCW basketball games.
 - g. Softball – improvements at Witter are complete.
- III. Alexandria Sportsman's Club – board members were reminded of the scholarship benefits provided by the club, and that the fee to join is very modest.
- IV. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM. Refreshments were subsequently enjoyed.