

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016, 7:00 PM
Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Attendees: Mac Slover, Jim Gibson, Bill Rivers, Dennis Burstein, John Timmons, Owen Malone, Lutfi LaSida, Richard Stone, Kevin McDermott, Darrell Wilson, and Jeff Newhouse

Guests: Paul Bollinger, Elizabeth Bollinger, Ron Kagawa (DRPCA), and Dana Wedeles (DRPCA)

- I. The January 11, 2016 summary notes were approved with one clarification regarding TCW stadium improvements.
- II. Dana Wedeles, DRPCA Park Planner, gave a presentation on the 2015 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment
 - a. Overview
 - i. The survey included Questions on full range of usage, satisfaction, needs, unmet needs and priorities issues.
 - ii. The questions were based on the 2002, 2011 & 2013 surveys and new 2015 Topics.
 - iii. Over 600 surveys were completed. The results are statistically accurate with a 95% level of confidence with a margin of error of +/-3.3%.
 - iv. The results are representative of City's demographics and geography.
 - b. The City will use the results of the survey as a tool to:
 - i. link its strategic goals to performance measures
 - ii. measure if it is meeting the needs and expectations of City residents
 - iii. provide residents the opportunity for good physical, mental, social and spiritual health
 - iv. provide residents the opportunity to have meaningful and fulfilling lives
- III. Dana Wedeles also gave a presentation on the Neighborhood Park Improvement Plans
 - a. In 2012 RPCA began a multi-year process to develop a series of Park Improvement Plans categorized by typology.
 - i. Citywide
 - ii. Neighborhood
 - iii. Pocket Park
 - iv. Natural Resource Areas
 - v. Shared Use
 - vi. Destination/Historic
 - vii. Regional
 - viii. Corridors/Trails
 - b. The city seeks to ensure a system of open space that equitably responds to recreational and natural resource needs, as prescribed in the 2002 City of Alexandria Strategic Master Plan for Open Space, Parks, and Recreation.

- c. Through typology plans, RPCA determines budgeting priorities and recommendations for both short and long-term incremental improvements, ensuring that public parks serve Alexandria's needs now and into the future.
 - d. There are 19 Neighborhood Parks in the City. 17 of these were included in this planning process.
 - e. This plan was submitted to the City Council this month, after two years of study, research, planning, outreach, design, and public hearings. The plan will be used by the City Council in the development of the FY18 CIP.
 - f. Several of these neighborhood park plans were presented and discussed.
- IV. A certificate of appreciation was presented to Ron Kagawa, Park Planning Division Chief, who is leaving the City for private practice.
- V. Paul Bollinger and his wife, Elizabeth, gave a presentation on the sport of squash.
 - a. Squash is a fun and challenging contest of agility, strategy, talent and mental and physical strength. It is an incredibly beneficial game for health and fitness, and has been voted the number one healthiest sport by Forbes Magazine. Along with its health benefits, squash has the ability to be played year-round, in all kinds of weather, by players of any skill level.
 - b. This racquet sport is played on a court 32' long by 21' wide.
 - c. The City does not have any squash courts in its inventory, but nearby private high schools, fitness centers, and colleges do.
 - d. It is a growing sport, nationwide, especially in the middle & high school ages.
- VI. A general discussion was held regarding future public sector invitees to our monthly meetings. It was suggested that City Council members be invited prior to their May budget voting cycle.
- VII. TC Williams Stadium Renovation - Jim Gibson read from a draft letter, in support of the project, listing some of the benefits and positive outcomes from rebuilding the stadium. This letter will be sent to Helen Lloyd at the ACPS Office of Communications and Public Relations.
- VIII. Darrell Wilson gave an update on Alexandria Little League registration efforts. Participation is up compared to last year.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD
MONDAY, May 9, 2016, 7:00 PM
Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Jim Gibson, Bill Rivers, John Timmons, Don Simpson, Brian McPherson, Owen Malone, Kerry Donley, Bill Campbell and Jeff Newhouse

Staff: Mac Slover and Tamika Coleman

Special Guest: Jack Browand (RPCA – Division Chief for Park Planning) and Kerry Donley, Former Mayor and TC Williams High School Athletic Director

- I. The March 14, 2016 summary notes were approved.
- II. Jack Browand, RPCA Division Chief of Park Planning and Capital Development, spoke about the following renovation or planned improvements in the City:
 - a. The approved \$15.4M FY 2017 Capital Improvement Program which includes:
 - i. Chinquapin Aquatic design funding and Warwick Pool renovation
 - ii. Minnie Howard new turf and restroom renovation
 - iii. Four Mile and Boothe restroom renovations
 - iv. Stephenson dugout renovations
 - v. Lockett Field light renovations
 - vi. Hensley renovations
 - vii. Potomac Yard new court lights (a public/private funding partnership)
 - viii. Powhatan, Ft. Ward, and Ramsay court renovations
 - ix. Lee Center court light renovations
 - x. Little Simpson concession building renovations
 - b. Patrick Henry Elementary School/Recreation Center
 - i. The C-1 design alternative is now the most likely selection
 - ii. FY18 DRPCA CIP funding of \$2.15M has been proposed for the installation of an artificial turf field, playground, and other recreational amenities.
 - iii. The exact size and layout of the field has not yet been decided.
 - c. Limerick Field – drainage repairs and additional netting should be complete by the end of July.
 - d. Parker-Gray Stadium at TC Williams HS – design consultants are currently being interviewed. The budget for this project had to be enhanced to \$400K because initial fee proposals were higher than available funding. It is estimated that the entire project will run about 5 million. To be a supporter go to www.tcwstadium.com
- III. Kerry Donley also spoke briefly about the TC Williams High School Parker-Gray Stadium initiative, outlining the strategies that supporters will be pursuing. It was emphasized that the ultimate goal is to bring the stadium up a simple standard that all other northern Virginia public high schools have *already achieved*.

- IV. The Mayor's Campaign to End Bullying – Mac Slover, is now the Chairman of the City's Campaign and spoke about its purpose being to bring more awareness to the dangers of our bullying. Alexandria is part of a national campaign being run through the nation's schools and communities. The campaign is sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and was initiated in the City of Alexandria in 2014 by former Mayor William Euille.
- V. Concussion Policy – Mac Slover spoke one of his goals for the FY 2017 year will be develop an official policy for city.
- VI. "Remember the Titans" Family Movie Night at GWMS Field – event planning is underway. Mac Slover will be spearheaded this effort to bring the youth Alexandria Titans Program, the TC Williams High School Titans Football teams and the '71 Original Titans together for a community family night. The purpose is to expose different people to the programs and help build a community bond together over around a historical event in the City.
- VII. Advocates of Alexandria Aquatics and Miracle League of Alexandria – Bill Rivers spoke that money is in the FY 2017 budget for the new aquatic design at Chinquapin and the Warwick pool renovation.

Even though it rained, the " Courage to Live Big" mural dedication and the Miracle League season opener for the adults was held on April 30 at the Nannie J. Lee Center and the Kelley Cares Miracle Field. The dedication ceremony was held inside at the gym. The game was held on the field after it stopped raining. There were over 100 people to attend and also great volunteers from Omega Psi Phi recruits from George Mason; TC's National Honor Society; some high school kids from the private schools.

Anyone can drive by the field anytime to see the mural - bright, uplifting colors, great messages (Courage to Live Big; Time to Play); *and a section of the wall* with handprints from the TR participants. You can see a picture at www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com website or from many of the Facebook posts from attendees.

- VII. Tamika Coleman, DRPCA Recreation Manager for Youth Sports, was recognized for receiving the Vola Lawson Award from the Alexandria Commission for Women.
- VIII. Next meeting date – June 13
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

MONDAY, June 13, 2016, 7:00 PM

Mt. Vernon Recreation Center

Summary Notes

Attendees: Mac Slover, Jim Gibson, Bill Rivers, John Timmons, Don Simpson, Owen Malone, Bill Campbell, Tommy Park, Terri Belcher, Kevin McDermott, and Jeff Newhouse

Guest: James Nichols (DRPCA) & Chris Watson (DRPCA)

- I. The May 9, 2016 summary notes were approved with a minor correction to item II, section d. The total cost of the TC Williams HS Stadium renovation has yet to be determined.
- II. Presentation on Athletic Facilities Closing Procedures and the Affiliate Partnership Program– staff from RPCA Maintenance Division
 - a. Clarifying and improving the field closure procedures will result in better overall field conditions and reductions in maintenance expenditures.
 - b. The city's Information & Technology Division is assisting with improving closing procedures.
 - c. The athletic field coordinator will notify users regarding field status. There are 3 possible notifications: Open, discretion (open, but users must use their best judgement if conditions change for the worse), and closed.
 - d. The Affiliate Partnership Program acknowledges that in light of difficult budgetary conditions, users will be counted on to assist with policing debris, replenishing infill mixtures, infield raking, and supplemental lining.
- III. Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) – Bill Rivers:
 - a. Provided a brief overview of the swimming season which has just kicked off.
 - b. Gave an update on the Mayor's quest to provide all city residents the opportunity for swimming lessons.
 - c. Touched upon a possible curriculum change within ACPS to allow for swimming lessons.
- IV. Miracle League – Mac Slover and Bill Rivers spoke about:
 - a. The previous season, which went very well.
 - b. How the desire for increased participation is hampered by low staffing levels.
 - c. How additional staff training within the Therapeutic Recreation Section could benefit the program.
- V. YSAB Goals for FY2017 – some ideas:
 - a. Update the mission statement and develop clear objectives.
 - b. Change from a reactive board to a proactive board.
 - c. Set up subcommittees, expand to allow for two representatives from each participating organization.
 - d. Invite coaches to meetings.
 - e. Use technology to more effectively deal with issues that occur between meetings (email, virtual meetings, etc.).
 - f. Provide meeting minutes sooner.
 - g. Make occasional presentations to the Park and Recreation Commission.
- VI. The Mayor's Campaign to End Bullying – Mac spoke about:
 - a. The soccer event held at GWMS and its many sponsors.
 - b. Upcoming presentations to various city government departments, and event planning for this fall.
 - c. Youth training at Charles Houston RC and outreach efforts at Hammond MS.
- VII. Facility Updates
 - a. Patrick Henry Recreation Center, School, and Field Project - option C has selected with bus access on N Latham Street.
 - b. Simpson Field Building Removal and Concession Stand Project – work will begin in July.
 - c. TC Williams HS Stadium Renovation – the design consultant is almost under contract.
- VIII. Next Meeting Date – September 12, 2016

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Summary Notes

Attendees: Mac Slover, Tamika Coleman, Jim Gibson, Brian McPherson, Tommy Park, Adams Hames, Kevin McDermott, Richard Stone, Bill Rivers

June Summary notes were approved.

Facility Update

- I. Little Simpson Project** – The storage building, backstop and fencing down past the dugouts has been replaced with concrete pad and new scorers' box is being worked on. Alexandria Little League is working with RPCA to identify other areas on the field and park to help contribute to its upgrade. The new concession stand has been up and running.
- II. Patrick Henry School/Recreation Center**
See ACPS web site for further updates:
<http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2016/nr2015091101.php>
- III. TC Williams High School Tennis Courts & Facility Update** – T. C Williams Community Advisory Committee. The ACPS 10-year CIP budget has plans to repair and modernize the field in 2018 as a result of the turf field's life cycle coming to an end for the Concession Stand, restrooms, press box, bleachers, stadium egress, safety lights, turf field and track, ticket booth. The current concession stand lacks running water and some of the basic amenities found in high school concession stands. The next meeting for the T. C Williams Community Advisory Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, T.C. Williams High School Titan Den - Agenda includes discussion of proposed T.C. Williams Advisory Committee Resolution.
- IV. Limerick Field (Alex Renew)** - Alexandria Renew and RPCA staff will be inspecting the field and restrooms on October 7. Alex Renew has been provided a punch list of items that need correction action from the meeting in August. City staff continues to pursue a written agreement providing 36 parking spaces during evenings and weekends in the parking lots behind the development on Hooffs Run Drive. RPCA received approval from the Parking and Traffic Board to designate short-term parallel parking spaces on Hooffs Run Drive.
- V. Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority** – Cameron Run Regional Park Planning Process – The city are seeking proposals for the Cameron Run Regional Park site. They will review with firms the week of October 17. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded by the end of October with a recommendation to be forwarded to City Council in late November or early December.

Youth Sports Goals and Action Items

- Jim stated the goal of the YSAB is develop a mission statement
- Develop a plan on how to expand by January 2017. He will send out a note to the board members about this.
- Have board members attend more City Council, City Manager meetings, school board meetings and etc.

Mayors Campaign to End Bullying

Mac stated that October is National Bullying Prevention Month and the Mayors Campaign has a lot of programs and activities they will be involved with.

These include:

- Proclamation in honor of National Bullying Prevention Month from City Council on October 4
- All – Sports Days at the athletic fields every Saturday in October
- Bully Free Days - TC Williams and Alexandria Titans Youth Football games on Saturday, October 1
- Bully Free Night - TC Williams Field Hockey games on October 6
- Bully Free Splash Night - Chinquapin for Barrett School/Recreation on October 7
- Unity Day – Friday, October 14
- Bully Free Titans Takeover Night – William Ramsay Center with SAPCA and ACAP on Friday, October 21
- Bully Free Starts With Me! Poster Contest for elementary, middle school and high school participants in the schools, recreation centers and agencies. Prizes will be presented to the first, second and third place winners in each categories. The contest will run October 3 – 21. Winners will be announce on Friday, October 28.

Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) Update – Bill stated that the Warwick Pool design in being finalized which will include not additional parking. The pool is expected to open in 2017. At Chinquapin there is a design contract. AAA is doing an investment study with Kerry Donley and David Speck heading this up. There is support for the spray ground, but they are not raising money for it at this time. There are 13 scheduled Splash Nights for the school year at Chinquapin.

Potomac Yard “Light It Up” Project will be hosting a 3 on 3 and 3 point basketball contest at several recreation centers in December. The project will need to raise \$75,000 to match the city funds allocated for the lights.

Roundtable

ASA – Ann Clark, Office Manager, long time employee of ASA has retired and they have hired a new bi-lingual person in her place. The US Soccer has changed their registration guidelines from grades to ages for travel teams. The recreation will remain the same (calendar year).

TC Softball – the Softball Booster Club is working with the City to raise funds for a batting cage and other improvements at Witter Softball Field.

Alexandria Lacrosse Club – are running boys and girls lacrosse clinics on Saturdays at Minnie Howard. They have 50 boys and 65 girls. US Lacrosse is running registration by ages, not grades too now. NVLL is trying to decide if they will be using the same process and to go to small sided field games, which may mean need more coaches and fields.

Adam Hames introduced himself as ALC's new commissioner for girls and is on their board.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 11 at Mt Vernon Center.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, December 9, 2016

Summary Notes

Attendees: Mac Slover, Tamika Coleman, William Chesley, Jim Gibson, Brian McPherson, Tommy Park, Adams Hames, Kevin McDermott, Bill Rivers, John Timmons, Owen Malone, Ed Goeas

Special Guest: Paul Miller, Gillie Maddox, Ms. Maddox (Gillie's Mother), Daniel Kittrell & wife and Niamh O'Donovan

November Summary notes were approved.

Budget Update – William gave a review on the Recreation Department's FY 2018 budget process that includes possible reductions in service, hours of operation and fee increases. He will keep the board informed as the process moves forward.

Facility Update

Little Simpson Project – The storage building, backstop and fencing down past the dugouts has been replaced with concrete pad and new scorers' box is in. Alexandria Little League is working with RPCA to identify other areas on the fields and parks to help contribute to its upgrade.

Patrick Henry School/Recreation Center

See ACPS web site for further updates:

<http://www.acps.k12.va.us/news2016/nr2015091101.php>

The DSUP application is scheduled for Public Hearing at Planning Commission on December 6 and City Council on December 12. Construction is planned to begin in spring 2017 with completion of the school and recreation center for the summer of 2018. Final site work to begin late fall of 2018 following demolition of the existing school with substantial completion in spring/summer 2019.

Limerick Field (Alex Renew) - Jack Broward and Jim Spengler will be meeting with them in January to discuss the ongoing issues with the punch list and the turf field. Alexandria Renew and RPCA staff met twice in October to review punch list items and start close out procedures. Alexandria Renew is working to address the remaining issues on the field and in the restrooms prior to turning them over to the City. In September, the Parking and Traffic Board approved a request to permit on street parking along both sides of Hoofs Run Drive between Limerick Street and Eisenhower Avenue. The street signs were installed in November.

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority – Brian gave an update on the Cameron Run Regional Park Planning Process. He stated the The City Review team has recommended a consultant to facilitate a planning process. A contract was to be awarded by late November with approval of Task 1 (see July 21, 2016 Planning Process) at the December 13, 2016 City Council meeting.

Youth Sports Goals and Action Items

- Jim stated the goal of the YSAB is develop a mission statement

- Develop a plan on how to expand by January 2017. He will send out a note to the board members about this.
- Have board members attend more City Council, City Manager meetings, school board meetings and etc.

Advocates for Alexandria Aquatics (AAA) Update – City Council approved the parking reduction on November 12. The project is on schedule to project to solicitation for a construction contract in late November. Pending construction estimates, construction will begin in winter/spring 2017 with a planned completion for the summer 2017 pool season.

Potomac Yard “Light It Up” Project will be hosting the 3 on 3 and 3 point basketball contest at several recreation centers in December. The project will need to raise \$75,000 to match the city funds allocated for the lights.

Recognition of Sports Organizations 2016 Volunteers - The Recreation Youth Sports Section, Alexandria Little League and the Alexandria Rugby Club presented their 2016 award winners to the YSAB.

Alexandria Rugby Club – Owen and Jim Gibson presented Niamh O'Donovan and Tom Rigby with their award certificates. He also brought Danny Organek who will be sharing YSAB duties with him *and* he'll be a voice for the youth wrestling program.

Alexandria Little League – Ed and Jim Gibson presented Paul Miller with his award certificate.

Recreation Youth Sports – Mac/Tamika and Jim Gibson presented Gillie Maddox (volunteer with Miracle League of Alexandria & girls basketball) and Daniel Kittrell (tackle football) with their award certificates.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, February 13 at Mt Vernon Center.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:30.