

City of Fairfax
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)
Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2018
City Hall, Council Work Session Room

PRAB Members Present

Zinta Rodgers-Rickert
Jane Albro
Elizabeth Breslin
Brian Cipriano
Pat Gallagher
Kirk Holley
Evie Ifantides
Brian Knapp
Joe Lawler
Sarah Ross
Mitch Sutterfield
Karen Wheeler-Smith
Staff: Cathy Salgado

PRAB Members Absent

Mike Anderson

Guests

Mark Whalley, Coach FHS Track Team
Gus Schouviler, Eagle Scout Candidate
Vishwa Arun, Eagle Scout Candidate

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Chair Rodgers-Rickert

Time: 7:00 p.m.

2. Adoption of Agenda

*Agenda for July 12, 2018 meeting
Added PRAB Service Award
Approved unanimously*

3. Adoption of Minutes

Minutes from June 13, 2018

Motion: Joe Lawler

Second: Sarah Ross

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Approved unanimously

4. Presentations

Gus Troop 1113

Project will be shoring up storm water culvert in Cobbdale Park. Gus will be adding large stones to help with future erosion. Mr. Cipriano commented that the stones look small and that they may wash away quickly. Ms. Salgado stated that they are larger than appear in photo and that the city storm water engineer signed off on the stone size and overall project.

Vishwa Arun and Mark Whaley

Mr. Whaley is the cross country and track coach for Fairfax High School. He along with Eagle Scout candidate Vishwa Arun would like to add foot paths in Daniel's Run Park. There will be no tree cutting and very little underbrush that needs to be removed. They will keep the paths dirt or mulch. Mr. Lawler asked how wide the path would be. Roughly 6-feet wide. Mr. Whaley showed a video of the proposed path. Chair Rodgers-Rickert asked when video taken and Mr. Whaley replied 1 and a half weeks ago. Mr. Knapp asked if the City would do any upkeep on the proposed trail. Ms. Salgado replied no. There are foot paths throughout the park, many created by homeowners as they walked through the park. Ms. Ross asked about the timeline. Vishwa replied September and Mr. Whaley replied August. Mr. Whaley will mark the trail with flags for Ms. Salgado and Mr. Ryan and then walk with them. All agreed it was a good project to proceed with as long as staff is happy with it.

5. New Business

- a. Strategic Master Plan Review – Ms. Salgado recommended reviewing the SMP to help measure progress and determine if alterations are needed. Mr. Holley suggested it was good to take an inventory and make adjustments if needed. Mr. Knapp explained the history of the SMP and the effort that went into the plan. It is a good roadmap for PRAB and the city to use. Mr. Cipriano suggested we place this on the agenda every month to discuss small sections at a time. Things change and trends change. Mr. Cipriano would rather discuss as a whole group instead of in a working group as Ms. Salgado suggested. Ms. Gallagher said it was a good point and that the plan is a blend of policy and operations but that we should not micromanage. Mr. Holley questioned how it was being used and that perhaps we discuss quarterly any strategies and goals that change in status and why. It will tell us if we are falling behind. We can then report out any revisions. Ms. Ross said the SMP was a great road map and that discussing it quarterly will be good as it will keep it fresh in our minds. Chair Rodgers-Rickert asked that everyone take the time and review the hand out Ms. Salgado provided and be

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prepared to discuss in September. See what items perk to the top. Mr. Lawler asked how we can prioritize. Chair Rodgers-Rickert stated that progress is based on a timeline measured in years. Mr. Cipriano recommended changing years from 0-2 to 2014-2016, etc. so we can put it into better context. Ms. Ross also suggested adding a column for status explanation.

- b. Park Rule Changes – Ms. Salgado explained that the General Assembly has enacted a new law permitting the use of drones and that we need to update our rules. In addition there is a request to change the tennis court rules to allow for pickleball as well. Ms. Gallagher requested that we make adjustments at some courts but not all. Courts are used heavily at night by tennis players. Mr. Knapp asked where this request came from. Ms. Salgado said from pickleball players. They would like outdoor courts. Trends today call for hard courts to be lined for both tennis and pickleball. Ms. Ross suggested we add advisory language to state when pickleball could be played. Ms. Gallagher suggested that she and Ms. Salgado have a discussion about it and then report back to PRAB in September. Chair Rodgers-Rickert agreed to defer action until September. The second rule change allows for the use of drones where permitted by the FAA in city parks. Mr. Knapp asked why we cannot have the whole code and not just the reference in the rules. Ms. Salgado will ask the City Attorney. Deferred until September.

6. Old Business

a) Van Dyck Master Plan Update

Ms. Salgado reported that plan was adopted by Council on June 26th. Thank you to all that came and spoke. It went well and there is consensus that the plan will be funded through a park bond. Chair Rodgers-Rickert suggested that PRAB should make a recommendation on what should be included in a park bond. Ms. Salgado will send out a brainstorm list to members. Mr. Cipriano would rather not receive as he wants to put his on list together. Please come prepared in September to discuss.

b) Community Center Planning Site Evaluation Process Update

Ms. Salgado stated nothing to report. The Mayor needs to schedule the annual summer dinner with the County Board of Supervisors. The Community Center would be a main topic.

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c) Dog Park

Ms. Salgado reported that the dog park was approved and that we are awaiting final plan approval. Construction in August-September is expected to take one month. Ms. Salgado suggested that we need to determine a name for the dog park. Mr. Cipriano suggested a contest.

d) Trail Updates

Ms. Salgado explained that the Snyder Trail project was progressing. A consultant has been chosen and they are getting their price together for council consideration in September. The overall trail repair work IFB is being finalized. Chair Rodgers-Rickert inquired about the mulch portion of the Ashby Pond trail. Mr. Knapp explained it was a matter of money when originally built. Ms. Salgado suggested she get a price to convert mulch to asphalt and we proceed if we have enough funding.

7. Parks and Recreation Department Reports

A) Upcoming Events

July 4th went well. No rain! Mr. Knapp asked if we could lower the showmobile roof during the shoot. Ms. Salgado said yes and she will add to the post event report. Ms. Ross asked if the city permits private shoots. Ms. Salgado said she is not aware of any permits. They are strictly regulated and it would be difficult for any private group to get a permit.

Added Agenda Item – PRAB Service Award

Chair Rodgers-Rickert and Mr. Knapp explained the history of the award. It can be for a person or a group for service to the city and parks and recreation. The award is presented during a scheduled council meeting. Mr. Knapp is recommending Beverly Meyers be considered for her work throughout the years on July 4th and Chocolate Lovers Festival. All agreed to discuss in September.

8. Stakeholder Updates

• **School Board – Mitch Sutterfield**

Mr. Sutterfield reported that Mr. John Buttram will be the substitute as sometimes he has football games on Thursdays (he's a coach at Fairfax High School). There has been personnel changes. Erin Linert is the new principal at Fairfax High School. The football coach left and so they are scrambling to find a coach. The

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school rock has been painted blue to welcome Ms. Linert. The School Board officers are Carolyn Pritches, Chair, Toby Sorenson, Vice-Chair. Bob Reinsel said PRAB touches every aspect of the city so he is very happy to serve.

- **Planning Commission – Karen Wheeler-Smith**

Work continues on the comprehensive plan with a Saturday worksession and finalizing the future land map. No new projects. Paul VI is coming back in September and the Davies site wants a new worksession.

- **Senior Center – Jane Albro**

Ms. Albro reported that there was a good turn-out at the July 4th party and a nice Father's Day breakfast. Nothing scheduled in August.

- **Community Appearance Committee – Kirk Holley**

Mr. Holley reported that the streetscape plan is at midpoint with the consultants. This plan looks at inside the right-of-way to include new lighting, traffic modeling, pedestrian improvements, etc. They will have 30% conceptual plans for three blocks of Main Street. There is another consultant doing a plan for outside the right-of-way. They are working on getting businesses and residents involved. Some furnishings selected come directly from Old Town Square. This is a big change on how the downtown looks and works.

- **Commission on the Arts – Pat Gallagher**

Ms. Gallagher reported that they elected new officers and that Molly Grimsley was elected President. They are rethinking what COA is doing and may push for fundraising for more development funding. For example the Van Dyck Master Plan states that COA will be guiding the funding for public art in the park. This needs to be discussed more. They are on break until September. A question was asked about how many art pieces are in the city. Ms. Gallagher will get PRAB a list.

- **NOVA Parks – Brian Knapp**

Mr. Knapp reported that NOVA Parks was in the July 4th parade. Occoquan Park was rededicated with the new Jean Packard Center. She was the first female to chair the County Board of Supervisors. A playground was added along with a pavilion and the new trail.

9. Matters of the Members

Mr. Lawler offered his assistance to the city attorney regarding first amendment regulations for Old Town Square.

Ms. Albro welcomed great grand babies – twins.

Mr. Sutterfield is happy to be here.

Ms. Infantides is happy she has gotten email blasts recently.

Mr. Cipriano reported that Foxcroft Colony will be redoing balconies to give it a high end look. It is coming out of reserve, not raising the assessment.

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Mr. Knapp reported that Ms. Pritches did a great job responding to getting Fairfax High School cleaned up before July 4th.

Chair Rodgers-Rickert reported daughter hiked Old Rag and survived. The Chair is also volunteering at the Fairfax Humane Society in the cat department.

10. Meeting Adjournment

Time: 9:00 p.m.

*Next regular PRAB meeting is **September 13th, 2018 at 7 p.m. City Council Work Session Room***

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