

**City of Fairfax
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
Nov 13, 2008
Seniors Center/Green Acres**

Members In Attendance:

Brian Knapp (Chair)
Joe Harmon (Vice Chair)
Arthur Little
Elisa Lueck
David Bauer
Donald Johns
Donald Lederer
Zinta Rodgers-Rickert
Esther Nasjleti
Gary Sidor
Harry Wilbur

Absent:

Paul Cunningham

Staff in Attendance:

Mike McCarty
Leslie Herman

1. Chair Brian Knapp calls meeting to order at 7:04 PM.
2. Minutes from October 2009 meeting approved (motion from Harry Wilbur, second Zinta Rodgers).
3. OLD BUSINESS
 - Budget update provided by Mike McCarty:
 - Total City Budget \$130M
 - Projected 7% cuts
 - 2010 Budget outlook includes a \$12M deficit
 - The City Manager has requested 3 budget options based on the original FY09 budget figures: a level funded budget, -5% reduction, -10% reduction
 - Departments will present their budgets (for FY10) on March 17 or 18, 2009
 - \$15K will be budgeted to "First Night"; local businesses will support event
 - Questions were asked by Harry Wilbur, Ester Nasjleti, and Joe Harmon.
 - Parks Update
 - Stafford
 - Dedication was postponed from November until the Spring; park is near completion

- Items to be completed include the following:
 - Issues with ADA accessibility
 - Parking lot and grading almost done
 - Asphalt pathway in place
- Park will open to users NLT than late November
- Question from Don Lederer concerning effects of budget cuts on the maintenance of this park

-Draper Lights

- The City is waiting for an easement from Yorkville Cooperative. The City cannot move forward without this. Staff anticipates a response to the City Attorney's request by the end of the week. If the City has a favorable response and they sign the easement, it will be approximately two weeks from the signing until completion.

-Providence Elementary and Park

- Phase I for the baseball diamond is almost done
- Waiting on easement for drainage from Gainsborough Court. The potential cost is \$11K.

-Providence Park

- Tennis court construction is going to bid next week.

-Community Center Update

- Brian Knapp updated PRAB on the November 11 City Council meeting:
 - Multiple Options discussed to scale the size of performance space
 - Compromise Option presented by Dan Drummond
 - Significant advancement of PRAB position
 - Staff will organize a stakeholder meeting, per direction of Council
 - Movement of mechanical room to basement will provide additional space
 - Footer for future second floor is not workable option
 - Reconfirmed PRAB position that Community Center should be "multi-purpose" with as many functional activities as possible. All members were in agreement.
 - Joan Cross (at a previous Council meeting) requested staff to assess the feasibility of creating a foundation to support the Center. The City Attorney is working this request.

-Park Project

- PRAB members recently toured Van Dyck Park and property yard on Oct 25. Other parks were also toured: Westmore School, Radcliffe, Kutner.
- Overall positive impression of all the sites toured
- PRAB members agreed that tour was valuable tool to review the parks and property yard
- All teams updated progress on park reviews.

- Team #2 presented review of the following parks (power point presentations):
 - Daniels Run, Westmore, Gateway, Fairchester Woods, Rebel Run
- Note: The comprehensive reports are on file.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- Trails Day update by Joe Harmon
- GMU Work at Green Acres
 - Update of construction of Faculty Housing
 - Space by right field of baseball diamond will be filled in to create more level playing field.
 - GMU will pay for new basketball court
 - Land fill dirt will be moved in two weeks

5. Parks and Recreation Department Update

- o Holiday Craft Show
 - Show is full, added 11 spaces, shuttle bus only on Saturday
- o Festival of Lights and Carrols will be on Dec 6, 2008
- o Cost recovery plan being worked (Fee Policy & Revenue Policy)
 - PRAB input requested (and will be addressed at a future meeting).

6. Members Time

- Zinta Rodgers-Rickert reported on her discussions with an interested City resident regarding a dog park (City's cemetery property). She also described an upcoming film premiere.
- Don Lederer asked how we define a City park (versus a pocket park).

7. Adjournment: meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.