

Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

Thursday, April 27th, 2023

In Person

Lubber Run Community Center

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Public Comment

Approval of Minutes

- Approval of February 23rd, 2023, Parks & Rec and Sports Commission Joint Meeting Minutes
- Approval of March 23rd, 2023 Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Other

- Rover Presentation
- 2023 Summer Camp Registration Summary
- Tennis Ball Recycling Update

New Business

- Marymount University Proposal Discussion
- Vice Chair Update

Commission Member Reports

- Chair Updates
- PSMP-IAC
- Communications Working Group
- Promise Working Group

Upcoming Sports Commission Meetings

- May 25th, 2023
- June 22nd, 2023
- August 24th, 2023
- September 28th, 2023
- October 26th, 2023
- November 16th, 2023
- December 21st, 2023

Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 23rd, 2023

In-person Meeting at Lubber Run Community Center

Time: 6:30pm to 9:00pm

Commission Members Present (Sports Commission Only):

John Mingus, Chair

Jason Despain

Khal Monaro

Lizzy Stell

David Lansing

Nancy Sharkey

Commission Members Absent:

George Thompson

Greg Gimenez

Kristi Sawert

County/APS Staff:

Marco Rivero, DPR, PRC Staff Liaison

Tyler Remerow, DPR, SC Staff Liaison

Jane Rudolph, DPR, Director

Rebecca Schmitt, DPR

Meghan Lawler, DPR

Gregory Anselene, DPR

Guests:

Mark Lincoln

Start:

6:37pm

Public Comment:

- Melissa Ridgley, resident near Walter Reed Community Center (WRCC), raised concern over pickleball activity at the WRCC and it's affects on the neighborhood. Requested sound mitigation measures be put into place.
- Jacqueline Jackson, pickleball player, spoke about pickleball activity at WRCC and requested that pickleball options be provided throughout Arlington County.
- Ahmad Shikarely, raised concern over pickleball activity and how it can be addressed throughout Arlington County. Spoke on the pickleball public engagement process and how it needs to be assessed further.
- Tenley Peterson, raised concern over changes to Arlington County Summer Camp registration. Three questions asked were: What is the rationale for this new, much later, two-step registration process (versus using the new waiting room feature that's been introduced

recently) 2. What is the gap between the supply (capacity) of summer camps versus the demand? 3. What would need to be done to increase the supply/capacity to fill that gap?

Other:

- **Fiscal Year 2024 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Presentation and Discussion**
 - Jane Rudolph, DPR, presented on the DPR Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget and implementation update on the approved FY 2023-32 CIP. The discussion included DPR expenses, revenue, budget changes, reductions, proposed capital projects, and next steps for consideration by the County Board.

- **Field Fund and Rectangular Field Use**
 - Gregory Anselene, DPR, presented on the field fund and rectangular field use within County facilities. The presentation included a history of the field fund, project created through its use and review of new implementation measures considered. PRC/SC discussion was associated with data collection on field usage by various age groups, field utilization. Staff acknowledged that the data will be collected once the fall/spring season for 2022-23 will be provided. The PSMP-IAC will be meeting again for April 2023. Specific staff hired for field maintenance was discussed. Staff provided an update that there will be a group that will be specifically maintaining synthetic fields throughout the County (team lead and team member who work on the field maintenance). What is meant by playability? Closing fields are necessary on occasion to provide the necessary maintenance for the activity that is on them. What services should be expecting on the field fund increases? No additional services but better maintenance is expected, and now the additional staff will provide better maintenance on natural grass (focusing only on that) as well as the synthetic fields. What is the projected revenue on new field fund? Staff will need to get that information and share with PRC/SC. Staff does not mandate how particular usage of a particular group's space is done. There may be an opportunity to look at the data in the future.

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SC and PRC Discussion Only Topics:

- **Tennis Ball Recycling Program**
 - PRC and SC discussion focused on potential ball recycling programs that may be used for various facilities within the County. There may be an acknowledgement of potential DES coordination, coordination with a contracted company for this work, etc. Potential APS pilot for such a program. SC will take this under advisement accordingly. County is supposed to be working on a zerowaste plan, and single stream recycling does not work well, and parsing out to different recycling bins would be a good option.

- **DPR Summer Camp Registration**
 - PRC and SC discussion focused on the summer camp registration new format and the two-period registration period. Is breaking up the camp registration by activity better than by age group? What other factors can be considered to streamline this process? Survey data on what community members wanted may be shared accordingly. The basic switch to make the change was to be acknowledged further by staff.

- **Arlington County's Continued Pickleball Efforts**

- PRC and SC discussion focused on short term conversations on SPRCs or better engage on planning for both commissions for pickleball usage. SC Chair acknowledged that the pickleball groups presented to the SC in September 2022 and tennis groups in October 2022. SC is in the midst of writing a letter on pickleball to the County Board acknowledging the public comment from the joint PRC/SC meeting. When courts are rebuilt, better lighting should be provided, and timers should be provided to shut off lights prior to park closing. Staff/PRC can discuss when Sports Commission should be involved in providing potential pickleball amenities within public spaces created as part of site plans or through a separate park master planning process. Lights will shut off at 10 p.m. but some people still play in the dark. Does it make sense to have the rovers stop by in the evening and enforce hours of operation? Perhaps look at other communities and see what's being done? Limited hours/days of use, stripping courts across the County to diffuse play.

Upcoming SC Meetings:

- March 23rd, 2023
- April 27th, 2023 (In-person)
- May 25th, 2023
- June 27th, 2023
- August 24th, 2023
- September 28th, 2023
- October 26th, 2023
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- December 21st, 2023

Adjourn:

8:45pm

Matt de Ferantti, County Board Liaison

Attest:

Tyler Remerow

Tyler Remerow, Staff Liaison

Sports Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 23rd, 2023

Virtual Meeting

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Commission Members Present:

John Mingus, Chair
Jason Despain
Khal Monaro
Lizzy Stell
Kristi Sawert
George Thompson
Nancy Sharkey

Commission Members Absent:

David Lansing
Greg Gimenez

County/APS Staff:

Tyler Remerow, DPR

Guests:

Mark Lincoln

Start:

7:04pm

Public Comment:

- Tim Dellinger, "I'm an advocate for pickleball in Arlington County. I just saw your January meeting packet, and I have two comments: (1) Thank you for writing a Letter regarding pickleball. I recall at the October meeting, one of the Commissioners voiced the idea that Parks & Rec should establish a Target Level of Service for pickleball, similar to what is done with other sports (and which acts as a benchmark in, e.g., the Public Spaces Master Plan). I support this idea and would like to see this in the Letter that's being prepared! (2) I noticed that Marymount was talking about their ideas for the property at 26th St N & Old Dominion. I think that the property there would make a great location for pickleball courts, similar to what is being built for Tennis at Bluemont Park (nine tennis courts that are designated as being tennis-only). Pickleball deserves a similarly sized facility, and this would be an ideal location."

Approval of Minutes:

- January 26th, 2022, Meeting Minutes Approved
 - Motion – George Thompson
 - Second – Khal Monaro

New Business:

- **Pickleball Letter Review**
 - Columbia Heights Civic Association and Arlington Pickleball Club wrote a letter to DPR requesting that efforts at Walter Reed be halted immediately.
 - Sports Commission letter should include suggestion to DPR to add information regarding benchmarking from other jurisdictions. Letter should include suggestion to DPR to add sound mitigation efforts for pickleball courts. Letter should include suggestion to DPR to require same practices for courts throughout county regardless of area. Letter to be updated and approved electronically.
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- **2022 Annual Plan Review - Approved**
 - Motion – Kristi Sawert
 - Second – Jason Despain
- **FY 2024 DPR Budget Proposal** – Sports Commission will not write a letter regarding the FY 2024 DPR budget.
- **Tennis Ball Recycling Update** – Chair, John Mingus to reach out to DPR and ACTA for next steps regarding pilot program.

Commission Member Reports:

- **Chair Updates**
 - Kristi Sawert’s term is up and does not want it to be renewed. Thank you for your service.
- **PSMP-IAC**
 - No update
- **Communications Working Group**
 - No update
- **PROMISE Working Group**
 - Chair, John Mingus drafting letter to go out next week to partner organizations asking them to implement pledges for youth and adults. Also, to meet with groups as need to guide them through process.

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- December 21st, 2023

Adjourn:

7:55

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation

Thursday, April 27, 2023

7 pm – 9 pm



ARLINGTON
VIRGINIA

Parks & Recreation

DPR Rover Position

- Sports League Support
- Rentals
- APS Facilities
- Indoor and Outdoor Facility Monitors

Summer Camp Updates

- Improvements
 - Virtual waiting room function
 - Adjusting and staggering registration dates and times
 - Updating the camp refund policy
 - Adding more camp slots
 - Increasing day-of-registration support staff
- Camp Data (as of 4/19)
 - More 500+ camps
 - Total Camp Spaces - 18,711
 - Contractor Camps – 9,790 enrolled; 65% filled
 - DPR Camps – 3,354 enrolled; 90% filled