

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

AGENDA

Chairman's Introduction and Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes (7:00-7:05)

- Commission consideration of December 14, 2021 minutes

Public Comment (7:05-7:15)

** Park and Recreation Commission public comment is open to all with a 3-minute limit per person.*

Follow-Up Presentation and Discussion on the Updated, Pentagon City Planning Study [Matt Mattauszek, CPHD and Ryan Delaney, DPR] (7:15-7:45)

2022 Plan of Action for the Park and Recreation Commission [Shruti Kuppa, Chair] (7:45-7:55)

Staff Report (7:55-8:00)

Commission Member Reports (8:00-8:10)

- 55+ (Dean Foster)
 - *Once again, the inclement weather has caused many of the community center programs to be cancelled. Also, the continued use of centers with the COVID-19 testing lines has added to displacement of programs. Hopefully, the weather and the pandemic will subside in the coming weeks so we can return to a more normal round of programs and activities. In the meantime, virtual programming continues to be a viable although not perfect, alternative to in-person classes and group activities.*
- Alcovia Heights Park Renovations (Colt Gregory)
 - *No change from previous report. Phase 1 and Phase 2 will now be constructed at the same time. Phase 3 - Ball Diamond, Playground and Pedestrian Bridge remain unfunded. Status 1/13/2021 - No change.*
- Arlington Public Schools (APS) (Gerald Brandt)
- Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award 2021 (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)

- *Nominations are to be received by February 4. To date, no submissions have been made. The selection committee by the guidelines should have two members from the PRC, at least one member from another interested commission and a DPR staff member.*
- Clarendon Sector Plan Update (Sarah Baryluk)
 - *No Updates*
- Community Energy Plan (Jill Barker)
- Courthouse West Special GLUP Study (Sarah Baryluk)
 - *Materials were posted by the County in late December for public review and comment. The materials presented three massing scenarios for evaluation against the study objectives, and the public comment form asked for input on which massing scenario best met the study objectives. All three massing scenarios included a public space on the southwestern corner of the parcel, and the principal difference between the massing scenarios was the total allowed height of the building. I believe next steps will be another LRPC meeting on this topic, though that has not officially been scheduled.*
- Crystal City Citizen Review Council (Shruti Kuppa)
- Field Fund Working Group (Mark Lincoln/Adam Rasmussen)
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (David Howell)
 - *The December meeting of the Forestry and Natural Resources Commission had a full and assorted agenda. 1) Vincent Verweij, DPR Urban Forestry Manager, presented an overview of the most recent activity of the State Tree Conservation Workgroup. 2) David Howell led a discussion of a report by the Environmental Affairs Committee of the Arlington County Civic Federation that resulted from a public collaborative initiative in 2021 on preserving tree canopy. 3) Steve Sockwell reported on the County Manager's budget roundtable of December 3. 4) Commissioners discussed and approved, contingent on minor additions, a letter on the Pentagon City Planning Study draft. 5) Commissioners discussed and approved, contingent on minor edits, the FNRC 2021 report and 2022 workplan letter for the County Board. The meeting recording is available on the Commission webpage.*
- Forestry and Natural Resources Plan Update (Colt Gregory)
 - *Status 1-17-2021 Preliminary Draft Plan not yet released. Contractor lead, American Forests, has provided all the draft report materials and those are under review by the County. Public engagement remains roughly scheduled for March 2022.*
- Four Mile Run Joint Task Force (David Howell)
- Gulf Branch Stream Restoration (Colt Gregory)

- *Contractor Wetland Studies Solutions is developing solutions for each stream segment in the project. Public engagement process is expected to resume in the Spring.*
- Jennie Dean Park, Phase 1 Construction (Colt Gregory)
 - *Scheduled for completion mid-March. The big items that are left to do are finishing the 3 bio retention planters, miscellaneous sidewalks and the history walk, installation of the artwork, signage, and planting. Contractors should be able to wrap most things up in February absent bad weather. Most planting are on hold. Some of the trees may be planted in winter but the smaller shrubs, perennials and groundcovers can't be installed until March.*
- Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Gregory/Barker/Howell)
 - *Received brief on the Site Planning Process from Community Planning, Housing and Development - Aaron Shriber. It is interesting to note that C2E2 Commission created a general template for its SPRC members to use in SPRC meetings. The template covers general areas of concern to the Commission such as all electric heating and cooling, LEED score and a move towards zero carbon buildings.*
- Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (**Vacant**)
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) (Neal Hunter)
 - *Concerns about snow clear up on sidewalks and areas adjacent to parks in the County. Some concerns about the length of time it took DPRC to remove snow from sidewalks after snow falls. Discussion given to topics for the year for the Commission, suggestion made to host a joint meeting at some point during the year.*
- PenPlace Park Master Plan (PMP) and Design Guidelines Process (David Howell)
- Plan Langston Boulevard (Shruti Kuppa)
- Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) (**Vacant**/Sergio Enriquez)
- Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) (Sergio Enriquez)
- Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) and Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)
 - Crystal City Building Heights Study (Shruti Kuppa)
 - Fort Henry Gardens (David Howell)
 - Macy's (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
 - *As noted at last month's PRC meeting, the development of the Macy's site in Ballston is apparently still in the preliminary development proposal stage and is not listed as an active site plan for SPRC review and public comment. Courtney Badger is the County planning staffer for the project. She confirmed that she will notify David Howell, Melissa Riggio and myself of the schedule for any notices for comment and SPRC review.*
- Marbella Apartments (David Howell)

- PenPlace (Shruti Kuppa)
- Pentagon City PDSP (Shruti Kuppa)
- Wendy's Site (Neal Hunter)
 - *No Updates*
- Sparrow Pond Restoration Project (David Howell)
- Sports Commission (Mark Lincoln/Adam Rasmussen)
 - *DPR Flag Football Team Parity Presentation and Discussion*: *The challenges of "Travel/Tournament" teams playing in the recreational flag football league was presented by DPR. The "Travel/Tournament" teams are typically formed before they join the league and join as a group. They are closed to other players. They dominate play and some recreational teams are now refusing to play these teams and deliberately forfeiting scheduled games in order to avoid a blowout score situation. Several members of the commission suggested implementing a draft to promote team equity, however, some parents have pushed back on this because the players want to play with their "friends". The commission suggested that DPR practice some "tough love" and force the parents to accept the draft or find somewhere else to play.*
 - *Gymnastics Hiring Discussion*: *Apparently, a group of parents sent a letter to the County Manager on the hiring practices for gymnastics coaches in Arlington County. The County is having difficulty with the Human Resources (HR) aspects of hiring coaches and their classification as County employees. Currently, the ratio of coaches to athletes is one coach for every twenty gymnasts. The typical standard is one coach for every eight gymnasts. This has become a safety issue because there are not enough coaches to properly supervise the gymnasts when they are performing potentially dangerous activities. Many of the commissioners believe that the bottleneck is that the Arlington County HR is not doing their job, and something needs to be done to alleviate the blockage.*
 - *Combating Hate in Sports Working Group (01/10/22 Meeting)*: *Most of the meeting was focused on working on the text of the documents that will become part of the deliverables from the working group. This work will likely continue for the next few months as the working group prepares and refines the content for publication. In addition, there was a discussion about what the working group should be providing in the form of education and training to prepare the adults involved with the participants in youth sports to be able to handle difficult situations that might arise in competition especially when competing outside of Arlington County.*
- Vision Zero Action Plan Updates (Neal Hunter)
 - *Last meeting held on December 14th to discuss action plan. No new meetings are on the schedule at this time.*

Other Business (8:10-8:15)

- Letters to the County Board

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 7:00 p.m. (Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams)

Park and Recreation Commission 2022 Meeting Schedule

The Park and Recreation Commission meets at 7:00 p.m. typically on the **third or fourth Tuesday of each month (unless otherwise specified)**. Meetings are generally held in a Conference Room (see schedule below) on the lobby level at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard (above Courthouse Metro Station) or as noted below. Free parking is available in the garage after 5:00 p.m.

UPCOMING 2022 COMMISSION MEETING DATES	
Meeting Date	Meeting Room
Tuesday, January 18, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)*
Tuesday, February 22, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, March 15, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, April 19, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, May 24, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, June 28, 2022 [†]	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, July 26, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, August 16, 2022 or Tuesday, August 23, 2022	<i>To Be Determined (field trip)</i>
Tuesday, September 27, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, October 25, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, November 15, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)
Tuesday, December 13, 2022	Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

†Red Highlight = Revised date from Tuesday, June 21 to Tuesday, June 28 (County Board recessed meeting date confirmed for Tuesday, June 21).

**Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all PRC meetings will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams for the time being. Any updates to this public notice with new meeting locations will be provided with proper notice and on the PRC's website.*