

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting

Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

In-Person PRC Attendance:

2100 Clarendon Boulevard, 2nd Floor, Room 216 (Cherry Conference Room)
and

Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting:

Virtual Meeting Conference Access Links:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

[+1 347-973-6905](#)

Phone Conference ID: 973 977 905#

AGENDA

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

- Commission consideration of August 23, 2022 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 Discussion on Naming for Metropolitan Park and PenPlace Public Spaces [JBG Smith] (7:15-7:25)

- PRC Vote on Park Name Recommendation

Follow-up Discussion on Naming of Ballston Beaver Pond Public Space Area [Max Ewart, DPR] (7:15-7:25)

- PRC Vote on Park Name Recommendation

Update to the Department of Parks and Recreation Alcohol Policy [Ryan Delaney and Walter Gonzalez, DPR] (7:35-8:00)

Follow-up Discussion on the Forestry and Natural Resources Plan Update [Ryan Delaney, DPR] (8:00-8:40)

Staff Report (8:40-8:45)

Commission Member Reports (8:45-8:55)

- 55+ (Dean Foster)
 - *The Northern Virginia Senior Olympics Pickelball competition was held September 19-21 on the outdoor courts at Lubber Run Community Center. Popularity and participation in Pickelball continue both in Arlington and nationwide. For example, the average of PB participants nationwide over the most recent 10 years has dropped from 71 to 38 years of age. In Arlington, the Facebook page “Pickelball Friends of Arlington, Virginia” has doubled from 700 members to 1500 members over the most recent one-year period. Further, one of the stated purposes of the Facebook group is to informally support the Arlington Parks and Recreation Pickelball program.*
 - *With the lessening of the COVID-19 restrictions, we are seeing a return to active live fitness and sport activities. For example, the Senior Bootcamp class which began in June at the start of the summer session has grown from 4 or 5 participants to 17 for the fall session which began in September.*
- Alcova Heights Park Renovations (Colt Gregory)
- Arlington Public Schools (APS) (Gerald Brandt)
- Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award 2021 (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
- Courthouse West Special GLUP Study (Sarah Baryluk)
- Crystal City Citizen Review Council (Shruti Kuppa)
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (Colt Gregory)
 - *The September meeting of the Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (FNRC) featured a presentation by Kirsten Conrad, Virginia Cooperative Extension Service (VCE) and discussion with Ryan Delaney, Arlington County Principal Planner regarding the upcoming release of the draft Forestry and Natural Resources Plan (FNRP)*
 - *The VCE presentation focused on the recent discovery of the invasive **Spotted Lanternfly** here in Arlington. This invasive insect is extremely invasive and destructive. Residents are urged all to report sightings for quick reaction response. https://vce.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5cDOH8Vei9fHWOG*
 - *The Commission held a question and answer session on the **Forestry and Natural Resources Management Plan** (draft comments due Oct 3, 2022). A Virtual Public workshop will be held Sept 29. Mr. Delaney provided an overview of public engagement process and comments received to date and fielded Commission questions about the draft.*
 - *General areas of discussion included:*
 - *Provide better information about why the plan is important (Intro and appendices)*
 - *Interest in more specific actions to take to maintain our 40% tree canopy*

- *Look at 40% as a minimum and seek to improve upon it.*
 - *No Net Loss of natural County owned lands and continued support park land acquisition*
 - *Increase planting space for trees working including transportation right of ways*
 - *Link FNRC plans to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Plan, AP landscaping, various public rights of way*
 - *Wildlife corridors*
 - *Deer management*
 - *Land acquisition*
 - *Develop and incorporate biophilic design guidelines for landscaping and site development.*
 - *Importance of public education*
- Forestry and Natural Resources Plan Update (David Howell)
 - Four Mile Run Joint Task Force (David Howell)
 - Gulf Branch Stream Restoration (Colt Gregory)
 - Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Barker/Gregory/Baryluk)
 - Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (Vacant)
 - Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) (Neal Hunter)
 - *The PAC held a joint meeting with the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) to focus on transportation and areas of mutual concern within Arlington. Attention was given to the bridge crossing at Shirlington and Four Mile Run. Interest was expressed at having better signage and better crossing patterns to improve safety at that crossing. The planned addition of a path adjacent to the existing bridge will serve to improve safety, uncertain on timeline for that.*
- Plan Langston Boulevard (Shruti Kuppa)
 - Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) (Shruti Kuppa/Sergio Enriquez)
 - Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) (Sergio Enriquez)
 - Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) and Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)
 - Ballston Holiday Inn (Sarah Baryluk/Jill Barker)
 - Crystal City Building Heights Study (Shruti Kuppa)
 - Crystal Plaza 5 (Kevin Manuel)
 - Fort Henry Gardens (David Howell)
 - Joyce Motors Site – 10th and Irving (Melissa Riggio)
 - Macy's (Dean Foster/Melissa Riggio)
 - *The Planning Commission is circulating a membership roster for the next SPRC meeting on the Ballston Macy's project which is to list the designees and the alternates for each designee from each participating entity on the SPRC. Dean Foster is the designee to the committee from the PRC and Melissa Riggio is the first alternate and David Howell is second alternate.*

As of the writing of this report, the date for the meeting of the SPRC has not have been not determined.

- Melwood Property (750 23rd Street South) Special GLUP Study (Kevin Manuel)
- Sparrow Pond Restoration Project (David Howell)
- Sports Commission (Mark Lincoln/Adam Rasmussen)
 - *During the “Public Comment”, Commissioner Lincoln raised an issue with the Sports Commission members about the scheduling and use of the new upper artificial turf field at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. A soccer parent also spoke to the Sports Commission Members about the issue. There were no questions or comments from the members of the Sports Commission.*
- Vision Zero Action Plan Updates (Neal Hunter)
 - *No Updates*

Other Business (8:55-9:15)

- Letters to the County Board
 - Park Naming for Metropolitan Park and PenPlace Public Spaces
 - Park Naming for Beaver Pond Area
- Bingham Center/Silver Diner Site Plan PRC Participation
- Discussion on NOVA Parks Arlington Washington and Old Dominion (W&OD) Trail Enhancements (October 15, 2022 County Board Considerations)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 7:00 p.m. (Virtual Meeting Only – Microsoft Teams)