

# **Sports Commission Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**In-Person Meeting**

**Long Bridge Aquatics & Fitness Center**

[Microsoft Teams Meeting](#) Link

**Time: 7:00pm to 8:45pm**

## **Public Comment**

## **Approval of Minutes**

- October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes

## **Old Business**

- Day of Play Discussion
- Sports Commission Constituent List Update

## **New Business**

- Presentation on Long Bridge Project by Capital Asset Manager, Robert Capper
- Tour of Long Bridge Aquatics and Fitness Center by Acting General Manager of LBAFC, Joy Ford
- Parks and Recreation Commission Laision Update
- Open Sports Commission Seats

## **Commission Member Reports**

- Chair updates

## **Upcoming Sports Commission Meetings**

- December 18<sup>th</sup> (Third Thursday) (Virtual)

# Sports Commission Meeting Agenda

Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

In-Person Meeting

Lubber Run Community Center

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

Time: 7:00pm to 8:45pm

## Public Comment

- None

## Approval of Minutes

- September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes
  - Motion – George Thompson
  - Seconded – Meredith Wearing
  - Approved

## Old Business

- Boathouse update
  - There is no huge update. The expected groundbreaking is in three years.
- Comments/feedback on previous presentations
  - Follow-up on the manufacturer's process for removing potential allergens from the organic infill used in three synthetic turf fields is still pending. The website specifies a process but lacks detail.

## New Business

- Arlington County Program Offering presentation by Assistant Division Chief, Ben Harris
  - Arlington County offers 15 community centers 3 nature/regional centers, 164 county parks, 49 miles of trails, 126 playground, and 7 community gardens.
    - Every year the county is looking for more land acquisition to either make parks bigger or add onto parks we already have.
  - Youth & Teens: DPR runs daily preschools (including co-op models), special programs like "Talk or Treat," and is focusing on building after-school programs in middle and high schools (e.g., Walter Reed). They also hire teens as lifeguards and ambassadors and have a "team" program where teens run bounce house rentals to learn work skills.
    - Hired ambassadors that are going to be working to bring in more teens and gather ideas from teens.
    - Arts & Culture: A new sound/podcast studio was built at the Arlington Community Center through a grant from the National Parks and Recreation Association. They offer a DJ class and DJing services provided by teens.
  - Arlington Provides a variety of sports, through in-house youth leagues, partner leagues, and adult sports.

- In-House Leagues: Run by DPR for youth: AAC aquatics, gymnastics (aerials), winter house basketball, indoor soccer, spring late night basketball for high school students, summer 3v3 basketball, and flag football.
      - The DPR youth flag football program has nearly 1,400 kids
      - The DPR house basketball program has over 4,600 kids
    - Partnerships: DPR supports numerous sports through partnerships with organizations (AS, YULA, AFH, AYFC, AYLC, AGSA, ABR, ALL, ATB, AU, ASBR, American Legion) or outside vendors for classes (e.g., cheer, tennis).
    - Adult Leagues: Offered for softball, basketball, and indoor soccer. They also support the Master Swim program for adults interested in competitive swimming.
    - DPR is seeing a large demand for fields from both travel sports and adult social leagues. They are working to balance this demand by pushing back the timeline for entering partner leagues permits to free up space
  - Fields: DPR manages 18 synthetic fields and 29 natural grass fields.
    - Field Management: DPR staff maintains all fields (turf and natural grass) at APS schools, according to MOUs (Memorandums of Understanding) and use agreements. High schools get priority for games and practices, and high school cancellations may trump community use.
    - Field Lifespan: Synthetic fields typically last about 8 years. Natural grass field lifespans vary based on use, weather, and other factors; they are not necessarily redone completely but may be plugged, or have areas closed off during growing seasons (like Bermuda grass).
  - History & Nature: The Parks and Natural Resources Division maintains parks and offers programs at historic places (e.g., Arlington House, Historic Henry House) and nature programs like bird watching and the Park Corps youth program.
  - The county also offers classes and Therapeutic Recreation for Arlington Residents of all ages.
    - The 55+ program tailor's programs for older adults
    - DPR offers a wide range of classes, primarily through contracted vendors (e.g., cooking, dancing).
    - Therapeutic Recreation provides classes and support (e.g., gymnastics, aquatics) for youth and adults with disabilities, including help to integrate them into regular "Enjoy" classes.
  - Department of Parks and Recreation supports and runs major county events, including Arlington Palooza (music festival), Arlington County Fair (DPR is now doing most of the organization and oversight), and providing support for the Marine Corps Marathon
- Discussion of potential initiatives or efforts for commission members focus on
  - Commission members are encouraged to focus on areas of interest to conduct research and report back. Some of the discussion for SC members included the following:

- Day of Play: This event idea from a previous meeting was suggested for planning and focus.
- Long Bridge Aquatics Center: A member expressed interest in finding other ways to have LBAC to get enough revenue once Boeing Money runs out.
  - Suggested promoting the use of the Long Bridge Aquatics Center for more swim meets to potentially generate revenue, noting that the facility is flexible (25-yard short course or 50-meter-long course).
- Bike Trails & Access: A member suggested maybe looking into discussions on how bike trails feed into athletic fields to improve non-vehicular access (e.g., Long Bridge, Wakefield, Yorktown). Bike trails have gaps in lighting, especially after dark, requiring riders to have their own lights and bells.
- Ideas of collaboration with partner leagues and/or sports groups

### **Commission Member Reports**

- Chair updates
  - PSMP (Parks and Recreation Master Plan): The public comment period for the PSMP closed on October 17th. The timeline for processing and presenting the information is unknown

### **Upcoming Sports Commission Meetings**

- November 20<sup>th</sup> **(Third Thursday) (In Person at Long Bridge Aquatics & Fitness Center)**
- December 18<sup>th</sup> **(Third Thursday) (Virtual)**