



**PARK AND RECREATION
COMMISSION
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 414
Arlington, Virginia 22201**

Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2021

****Due to the Countywide precautions taken during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting was held virtually on Microsoft Teams.***

Commission Members Present:

Bill Ross, Chair
Nia Bagley (Ex Officio, Planning Commission Liaison)
Gerald Brandt (APS Staff Liaison)
Jill Barker
Sarah Baryluk
Sergio Enriquez
Steve Finn
Dean Foster
David Howell
Neal Hunter
Cindy Krech
Shruti Kuppa, Vice Chair
Julie Mullen
Drew Murray (Ex Officio, Sports Commission Liaison)

Guests:

Christer Ahl
Seema Bali
Bernard Berne
Kathryn Hennigan
Caroline Herre
Don Hoover
Joseph Plumpe
Ella Schiralli
Robert Vaughn
Jason Yannshonis

County Staff:

Marco Rivero, Principal Planner, PRC Staff Liaison
Christine Baker, Principal Planner, DES
Max Ewart, Associate Planner, DPR

PRC members not in attendance:

Colt Gregory
Mark Lincoln

Chairman's Introduction and Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes

PRC Chair, Bill Ross provided a brief introduction and PRC Staff Liaison, Marco Rivero reviewed details associated with Microsoft Teams. Mr. Rivero also specified that this would be a recorded meeting of the PRC.

The Commission considered its March 16, 2021 Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting minutes. With no objections, the Commission approved the minutes as presented.

Public Comment

- **Ella Schiralli** from the Guild of Professional Tour Guides of Washington D.C. discussed issues associated with access to the Air Force Memorial (dedicated in 2006) honoring the service of personnel and heritage association. All memorials in the area are open to all and none surrounded by gates. There is now a southern expansion project in place for this site. The impact to the memorial includes but is not limited to, restricted hours of operation, no night visits, requirement to present photo identification and a security check. These decisions will have further impacts moving forward.
 - Various PRC members stated their support for following up on this potential issue and with possible, further coordination with the United States Department of Defense (DOD).
- **Christer Ahl** of the Crystal City Citizen Review Council (CCCRC) discussed the various, new open space opportunities in the pipeline within the Crystal City area. The shortcomings are within connectivity and easy access to open spaces and existing ones on the network. Instead of more funding for open spaces, Mr. Ahl recommended that more funding for better connectivity of open spaces within the area be pursued. Funding from the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and the developers would be needed for moving forward with such opportunities. There should be a new focus on additional access and connectivity with guidance from the County Board and County Manager.
- **Bernard Berne** discussed the Washington & Old Dominion (W&OD) trail and Carlin Springs connection along Four Mile Run Drive. Bollards are needed within this area. Dominion Energy who did some clearing of the area pushed down the existing bollards within this area. The mowers mowed a wide swath through this area. Mr. Berne asked Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) staff to work on this area to address this issue further.

Agenda Items

The Crossing Clarendon Public Space Site Plan Amendment Follow-Up Discussion

Caroline Herre, Walsh Colucci Lubeley and Walsh, along with representatives from Regency Centers provided an update to the Crossing Clarendon public space site plan amendment. There was a community engagement period that occurred in March to gather community feedback regarding the proposed public space development. The applicant anticipates County Board consideration of this item at its June 2021 meeting.

Commissioner comments included but were not limited to the following:

- Maintenance regarding the natural grass at the park was difficult previously. Is there a plan to preserve the water feature on this site? Seema Bali with the applicant team stated that the goal is to have a working water fountain that is clean and aesthetically pleasant.
- Is this fountain something that children may use for play? Ms. Bali clarified that it is not. Why does the fountain look like a bathtub, could it have more natural/stream like features incorporated? Large mountain stones, cascading water (2 to 3 levels down) which may lead in to the natural feel of the interior space. Joe Plumpe with the applicant team expressed that these are good comments and suggestions that will be reviewed for further consideration. Furthermore, the design team should consider what biophilic elements may be considered within this area.
- Can you speak more towards the crosswalks and the parking situation at the site. Is there existing validation available? The existing spaces available for the site could be used for more park space. Ms. Herre noted that the playful crosswalks provide a branding opportunity for the site. The design of which addresses simplifying and adjusting the number of crosswalks for the area. Regarding the parking question, there was a need to keep onsite parking for quick pick-up/drop-off and retail activity that turns around quickly. Jason Yanushonis with the applicant team specified that the need for parking to be kept on site would supplement the retail for the area and provide for quick in/out activity.
- PRC Chair Ross stated that the Commission will consider writing a letter for this project and be generally supportive of this effort with other comments provided.

Discussion on 2000/2001 S. Bell St. (Crystal Plaza 1) Site Plan

Kathryn Hennigan with JBG Smith, along with other representatives presented on the 2000/2001 South Bell site plan development (Crystal Plaza 1) which will contain public space considerations including the incorporation of a new pedestrian passageway and its connectivity to future Open Space #8 as identified within the Crystal City Sector Plan (CCSP).

Commissioner comments included but were not limited to the following:

- This is a pedestrian pathway that had a huge change with design that took place from beginning to end. This is an example of creating links to various public spaces and continuing the connectivity throughout nearby areas.
- The mechanics of bringing biophilia in to the space, three areas in particular: (1) underground structure and permeable paver and stormwater management, (2) bird-friendly façades in the lower levels and (3) the landscaping challenge creating a vegetated space where there may be shadow (adequate tree pits are needed and specific tree species selection should be identified).
- Ms. Hennigan clarified that the lower levels of 2001 S. Bell St. will incorporate bird-friendly glass treatments.
- Don Hoover with the applicant team specified that this is a complicated site where the structure is close to the surface, and planters pop out of the ground to provide for more soil depth. There are other planters that are close to ground level. In terms of sun, with proper plant selection there should be a thriving garden area within the pedestrian passageway. For example, a mix of leafy evergreens may be used. Additional soil volume is needed at this site. For stormwater management, there is a bioretention garden in the back of the space towards the alley. No use of permeable pavers is intended since the passageway is located over structure.
- How does the permeable pavement and paving relate to the underground space? Mr. Hoover clarified that the design does not contain the use of permeable pavers, because it

is located over structure, and there would not be proper infiltration to recharge the water at the site.

- What is the space on the right related to planned, Open Space #8? Robert Vaughn with the applicant team clarified that the area in question is currently a staircase and passageway connecting to future Open Space #8.
- PRC Chair Ross communicated that the PRC will consider a letter for this effort.

Vision Zero Action Plan Update

Christine Baker, DES, presented on the Vision Zero Action Plan update. Key components of this effort include but are not limited to reducing street fatalities, providing key safety target areas, as well as action plan and performance measures.

Commissioner comments included but were not limited to the following:

- Useful and thoughtful presentation about this process and how this may be realized moving forward. The PRC has been paying attention to the PenPlace public space process which includes a proposal to remove interior streets, thereby providing more pedestrian access and park space on the site.
- This is a great initiative and is data heavy. Most of the dimensions are related to driver behavior and structural circumstances to the driving infrastructure. The final few questions for a lot of the online engagements is related to demographics. This sort of data is not reflected within the information provided here. Please look at age, sex, and other items to consider for assessments. Ms. Baker stated that in terms of the demography, the various identifiers for gender and age are provided and requested (this is also data provided by the Arlington County Police Department and by area hospitals to specify who is being hurt in the County's travel through areas).
- The strategies for education, risk mitigation, and equity are all dependent on knowing the people who you need to communicate with directly. The electric scooters are not specified as a mode of transit here. There was a lot of discussion about this a few years ago when electric scooters were introduced. There should be an identified category for non-motorized or electric vehicles.
- This would be a great opportunity for creating park-like conduits to various areas and connecting to other parks. Stormwater management/mitigation and biophilic element incorporation are important to consider as well. There are some good examples from DES on stormwater management on streets and traffic calming measures which are complementary to what is being provided for safety.
- PRC Chair Ross stated that this item will likely have a letter of support from the Commission prior to County Board consideration in May.

Staff Report

No additional updates were provided, other than a reminder that an update on the New Park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive Park Master Plan and Design Guidelines process will be a potential PRC item at its May 25 meeting.

15th Street Park – No Updates

- Staff has begun early internal discussions regarding easements for future parks, both temporary and permanent, related to a future site plan and street redesign.

- Staff is developing an engagement schedule that is targeted to be launched in the second half of 2021.

2019 & 2020 Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award

- 2019 and 2020 award winners Elaine Mills and Glenn Tobin were recognized as part of the April recessed County Board meeting on April 20. Video of the award presentation can be viewed on the [Arlington TV YouTube channel](#).
- Judging criteria will be expanded upon on the [Bill Thomas webpage](#) before the 2021 nominations open this fall to give nominators better guidance on submission materials.

4MRV – Jennie Dean Park

Construction has started on the park and will continue through the year. Construction is anticipated to last 9-10 months and the park should re-open 3rd Quarter of 2021. This month the existing buildings and old park lighting will be demolished.

705 31st Street South (adjacent to Fort Scott Park) – No Updates

House is boarded up and rodent controls are in place. The house will be placed on the regular site mowing schedule.

Adopt-a-Tree Program Launches NEW

- A new program was developed so that Arlington residents can help Arlington County's trees thrive through dry weather by participating in the County's [Adopt-a-Tree program](#). Trees can be adopted wherever there is access to water, such as street trees in front of homes, to help keep trees healthy and strong and to grow our tree canopy.

APS Projects

- **Dorothy Hamm Middle School (formerly H-B Woodlawn Secondary School and location of the former Stratford Program, now Eunice Shriver Program) - No Updates**
 - APS is finishing the three-story addition and the renovations to the existing school.
 - The athletic field used by both the school and organized sports teams has some work remaining on it before it will be accepted by the County.
 - The interpretive panels along the history trail will be installed in April.
 - For additional details on the status of the project see [Dorothy Hamm MS](#) where APS posts construction updates.
- **Education Center Reuse – No Updates**
 - The contractor has been working on demolition throughout the building.
 - The project team is occupying the entire project site which will impact the sidewalks along General's Way and parking spots in the VDOT parking garage.
 - Completion of the [building renovations](#) are anticipated in early December 2021.
- **Cardinal Elementary School (Formerly Reed School Site)**
 - See detailed APS progress reports on the [webpage](#).
 - The school will be completed for the 2021 – 2022 school year.
 - The County is collaborating with APS to install a stormwater management facility under the athletic fields adjacent to the school. These fields will remain closed due to the construction of the SWM facility when APS opens the school next year.
 - Work continues on the installation of the inlet and outlet structures for the underground stormwater detention system.

Arbor Day Celebration NEW

- DPR is partnering with APS to hold a small-scale Arbor Day Celebration on Fri., April 30 at 9 a.m. at Carlin Springs Elementary School with DPR and school staff. The program will include a tree planting, Arbor Day proclamation and student activities.

Ballston Pond Retrofit/Beaver Pond Park Improvements

- The project is open for bidding through April 24.
- Tentatively, a contract for the project will be considered by the County Board in June.
- Start of construction this summer.

Benjamin Banneker Park Improvements – No Updates

- Parking lot and playground pathway asphalt to be redone during spring.

The Crossing Clarendon (Market Common Clarendon) Public Space

- On March 4, staff launched the first public engagement for the redesign of the public space at The Crossing Clarendon (Market Common Clarendon)
- The engagement closed on March 18 with 197 responses
- The applicant will update their proposal and provide an update to the PRC at the April 27 meeting.

Crystal City Water Park

The applicant presented this item to the Pedestrian Advisory Committee on February 10 and the PRC on February 16. At the March 20 County Board Meeting, the application was approved unanimously. The project is now in the post-approval phase awaiting design development/final landscape plan review prior to permitting.

Forestry and Natural Resources Plan

Community members can now find an [online engagement summary report](#) on the Forestry and Natural Resources (FNRP) [webpage](#). The vendor for the Forestry and Natural Resources plan is currently working on the draft outline of the plan. Engagement will resume in the late-summer, early-fall for the draft plan outline. The development of this plan is an 18-month long process with the goal of going before the County Board by May 2022. [Learn more about the FNRP.](#)

Fort Scott Park Restroom and Parking Lot Renovation

- Renovation to include interior and exterior improvements to the restroom, repaving of the parking lot, and ADA access.
- Planning to start construction 3rd Quarter 2021

Glencarlyn Park Bridge Replacement

- Kickoff meeting held on 4/4/21. Starting work on construction drawings.

Gunston Park Enclosed Athletic Facility

- Consultant architects (MTFA) are working on construction documents for a replacement structure for the Bubble, which is expected to have a metal frame with canvas cover.
- Restrooms are included and will be renovated to meet permitting requirements
- Currently updating plans to include restrooms for resubmittal to permitting.
- Project construction anticipated to start 3rd Quarter 2021.

Highlands Urban Garden – No Updates

- The temporary demonstration garden in Virginia Highlands Park, next to the tennis practice court, is being managed and maintained by the [Arlington Friends of Urban](#)

[Agriculture](#) in partnership with Livability 22202 and Arlington County. It showcases modular, low-impact design principles, sustainable water management practices, and incorporates smart technology to collect agriculture metrics (daily solar exposure, temperature, moisture and soil health).

- For more information [Highlands Urban Garden](#).

John Robinson Jr. Town Square

Sidewalk concrete ongoing, grading site in preparation for plaza concrete. Soil preparation for planting in progress. Concrete at the sidewalk and foundation of the electrical cabinet complete. Concrete at stage slab and precast seating complete.

Long Bridge Park Aquatic Center

- **Pools 50 M and Leisure** Leisure pool pump room is up and running and circulating water. Cleanup of tile and gutter system continues prepping for caulking at the tile joints. Marcite plastering scheduled for late April. Pool equipment being built.
- **Exterior Building** Decorative stone edging along building grade perimeter continues. Punchlist work on the facade and soffits are being completed.
- **Interior Building** Handrails at main entrance stairs completed. Mechanical factory start-up for equipment Completed in the B section of the building. Touch up and finish painting continues in all areas. Coordination and installation of the fire alarm system and ADT monitoring programming continues. CCTV camera installation continues. All Bathroom/Locker room fixtures and accessories are completed. Speaker installation in the B section Mezzanine completed this week. Communications and IT equipment installation to start on May 17, however this may occur sooner. Building signage installation continues and is about 90% completed. Concrete Floor Polishing continues this week at the Lobby and main entrance areas. Main entrance vestibule store front installation about 80% completed. Rubber flooring for fitness room has been delivered and stored in the building and installation is scheduled for late April.
- **Site Work** Delivery of the Artwork spires scheduled for April 25-26. Terrazzo installation completed this week. Silt and erosion sediment control measures are installed and being maintained. Main entrance sign at Long Bridge Drive blue stone veneer install 95% completed. Lettering installed. Irrigation main tie completed this week. Benches and recycle/trash can installation continues. Clean up and planting of the West side of the site continues. North side asphalt walkway completed. Perimeter fence installation has started on the North side.

Madison Manor Park Restroom Renovation

- Renovation to include interior and exterior improvements to the restrooms
- Construction to begin 2nd Quarter 2021

Marcey Road Park

- Renovation of the tennis courts, basketball court, picnic shelter, parking lot, site circulation, site furnishings, stormwater management, and landscaping.
- Currently in permitting
- Construction anticipated to start 3rd Quarter 2021

Mosaic Park

- Corner sidewalk, curb strip with tree plantings, backfill topsoil is complete.
- Sod for corner strip anticipate installation this week.
- Final streetlight installation on North Quincy Street side anticipated this week.
- Main park signage installation scheduled this week.

- Fountain system de-winterization complete, and system fill ongoing because of the size of the system.
- Concrete patch repair on north end of the plaza and fountain light repair is complete.
- Interior park signage released and in production.

Nature Centers Reopen with Limited Hours & Exhibits NEW

The [Gulf Branch](#) and [Long Branch](#) Nature Centers have reopened with limited hours and exhibits. Our animal exhibits are open at both centers and the Native American room is open at Gulf Branch. Learn more [here](#).

- Gulf Branch – **Thurs.-Sat. from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**
- Long Branch – **Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

New Instructional Learning Support Program at Drew Elementary NEW

- On April 6th, Arlington County began operating a free Instructional Learning Support Program (ILS) at [Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School](#) as an extension of the Arlington Public Schools ILS program.
- The program operates Tuesday–Friday from 7:30 a.m.–3 p.m.
- When not at school, the 40 children in this program can receive support during their virtual classroom learning from Arlington County staff.
- Staff ensures that each child is focusing on their lessons and provide support as needed.
- The children also receive breakfast and lunch, leisure activities and outside play time every day.

New Park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive (former “Teardrop Parcels”)

A public engagement process has kicked off for the 0.9-acre public space known as the New Park at South Eads Street and Army Navy Drive (formerly known as the “Teardrop Parcels”). This project is adjacent to the existing Altaire residential building and planned 400 11th Street South, LCOR residential building in Crystal City. The kickoff, virtual engagement opportunity focused on visioning was launched on September 30 and continued until October 14. The second virtual engagement opportunity presented three (3) proposed, park design options to the community (The Meander, The Canal Walk, and The Central Hub). This engagement opportunity was held from December 28 through January 15 and got 202 participants. The third engagement opportunity to comment on the refined, draft concept design and design guidelines elements was launched from March 17- 31 and received 71 comments.

Notable Tree Awards

- The 2019 and 2020 [Notable Tree Award](#) recipients were recognized at the April recessed County Board meeting on April 20.

Oakland Park

Ongoing coordination efforts amongst contractor and Dominion Energy to get electrical service to the controller for the irrigation to the park.

Reeves Site Irrigation

Water Sewer and Streets running waterlines has been rescheduled to allow the most feasible route to the meter. The contractor will run irrigation waterlines once the County right-of-way permit is received.

Rosslyn Highlands Park – No Updates

Penzance continues construction of the Rosslyn Highlands Park, Fire Station #10 and 1555 Wilson Blvd site. The Fire Station is anticipated to be completed summer 2021. The park is

anticipated to be completed by the end of 2021.

Rosslyn Highlands Park Playground

- Construction is underway on the playground.
- Seating and retaining walls are nearly finished.
- Planting and playground equipment installation will be happening this month.
- Anticipate completion by the end of 2021.

Site Plan Review

- **2050 Wilson Blvd. (Courthouse Landmark Block)**
 - The plan was approved by the County Board on March 20.
- **Crystal Plaza Block M – 2000/2001 S. Bell St. (Crystal Plaza 1)**
 - The first LRPC meeting occurred on September 10 via Microsoft Teams.
 - Three Major (Block Plan) issues consistently highlighted by the community included: (1) Street Network/Circulation; (2) Open Space; and (3) Underground Connection
 - Other Issues (which are site specific) may be more appropriate for SPRC discussion:
 - Architectural Features
 - Retail Frontages
 - Built-to-Lines
 - Loading and Vehicular Access
 - Second LRPC meeting occurred on October 19, where the topics above were discussed in greater detail. Public space discussion concentrated mainly on the delivery of public spaces (interim and permanent), the amount of public space proposed, characterization of “open spaces” and “passageway” on Open Space #8 (not double-counting sq. ft. for these features), among other points.
 - Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) review (first online engagement) for Crystal Plaza 1 site plan launched in late December and continued through January 11. The second SPRC meeting occurred on Thursday, February 18 and discussed building architecture and public space development. The third SPRC meeting (also functioned as the final LRPC meeting) occurred Thursday, March 18 where there was follow-up from the second SPRC meeting (updated design and connectivity associated with the proposed pedestrian pathway) and new topics pertaining to transportation.
 - This project is anticipated for Transportation and Planning Commission consideration in May followed by County Board review later that month. The PRC will be receiving a presentation on this item at its April meeting.
- **PenPlace (block bound by Army Navy Drive, 12th Street South, South Fern Street, and South Eads Street; formerly 550 Army Navy Drive)**
 - The next phase of Amazon’s HQ2 is a proposed redevelopment of the PenPlace block in Pentagon City. The applicants, Acorn LLC and JBG Smith, acting as Amazon’s development consultant, submitted a proposed site plan application on February 2, 2021.
 - The proposal includes approximately 3.3 million square feet divided across four buildings.
 - Three 22-story office buildings with ground floor retail
 - One destination- and amenity-focused building called “The Helix,” a unique biophilic double helix structure with plantings native to the Mid-Atlantic region.
 - In addition, the proposal includes a 2.5-acre public space, detached retail pavilions, and underground vehicular access. Specific details of the public space will be

evaluated through a Park Master Plan (PMP) process occurring concurrently with the site plan review.

- The proposed development would supersede the approved plan for Pen Place adopted by the County Board in 2013.
 - The application will require:
 - Pentagon City Phased Development Site Plan (PDSP) Amendment
 - Revised PenPlace Design Guidelines
 - Site Plan Amendment to incorporate the Residence Inn by Marriott property
 - New Site Plan for proposed development of Pen Place (capturing all phases)
 - Amended PenPlace Open Space Design Guidelines Addendum (originally approved July 2014) with a park master planning process for the updated public space design.
 - The first LRPC meeting occurred on Monday, 4/19 where the discussion focused on use mix, height, and block layout questions and comments. The applicant provided a brief presentation on the proposed 2.5-acre public space that will be provided as part of this site plan project. A follow-up LRPC meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, May 12. The concurrent PMP process is scheduled to begin by mid-May.
- **Potomac Yard Land Bay C – East**
 - Two residential towers, with ground-level retail
 - Building heights range from 11 to 14 stories proposed
 - 488 Total Residential units
 - Allow for conversion of previously approved office GFA to residential GFA
 - Separate Land Bay C into “East” and “West” final site plans.
 - Modifications requested for reduced residential and hotel parking ratio and other modifications as needed.
 - Anticipated to go before the County Board and Planning Commission June of 2021
 - **RCA Site (1901 N. Moore St.)**
 - Rezone from C-O and S-3A to C-O Rosslyn w/ 10.0 FAR
 - Construct 26 story mixed use building with 423 residential units and ground floor retail.
 - Site Plan infrastructure and improvements include:
 - Removal of the existing skywalk and loop roads surrounding the site
 - Community benefits package for additional density
 - Utility fund contribution
 - Streetscape improvements
 - Public art contribution
 - Affordable housing contribution
 - LEED certification
 - Anticipated to go before the County Board and Planning Commission either May or June of 2021

South Glebe Dominion Energy Substation

- Dominion is working on plans for the [Glebe Rebuild | Dominion Energy](#) project. The project includes rebuilding the existing Glebe Substation and undergrounding the North Potomac Yards Terminal Station.
- The substation is adjacent to the Four Mile Run Trail and the site is within the 2006 [Four Mile Run Master Plan](#) study area.
- A few of the anticipated changes include replacement of the existing chain link fence with a 15-foot-high security fence with bollards placed outside the fence, the undergrounding

of some of the overhead power lines and removal of their poles. The trail will remain in its current location.

- Dominion applied to Arlington County requesting an encroachment under County-owned property. The requested 659 square foot encroachment area is below grade except for the bollards which will be placed outside the fence.
- Concurrently, the County will request a license agreement in perpetuity from Dominion to allow Four Mile Run Trail to remain within a 581 square foot area of Dominion's property.
- On April 17, these requests will be considered by the County Board on their consent agenda.

Temporary Uses – No Updates

In collaboration with 2 community groups in the Aurora Highlands and Rosslyn neighborhoods, DPR will be working on developing 2 temporary spaces: a temporary dog park in Gateway Park and a temporary dog run in Virginia Highlands Park. As these improvements were not planned for in the County's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) or the Operating Budget, this partnership will provide private funding of these temporary amenities.

- The interim dog park at Gateway Park is built and open to visitors.
- The public engagement for the interim dog run in Virginia Highlands Park is complete and the feedback is posted on the project page. The project was approved by the Director of DPR and an email notification was sent to people who signed up for project updates. Construction will begin once the Donation and Collaboration Agreement is finalized and the funds are transferred to the County. Lighting the interim dog run will be evaluated after it has been operational for at least 1-year, further site evaluations will be performed, and additional public input has been gathered.
- The recently adopted, scaled-down one-year CIP, identifies \$500,000 to upgrade a portion of the right-of-way at S. Clark and Bell Street in Crystal City for temporary use as a public space. Staff will be developing a public engagement approach when the funding becomes available. The PSMP (Action 1.10) calls for enhancing public spaces with temporary uses and 'pop-up' programming, and these projects are in line with that recommendation.

Urban Forestry Office Updates:

- Tree maintenance staff are continuing to work on incoming tree maintenance requests. March brought with it a serious increase in requests, and work to address those, along with older requests, is ongoing.
- Park projects being reviewed or monitored for tree canopy: Jennie Dean, Zitkala-Sa, Lubber Run Pedestrian Bridge, Glencarlyn bridge, and Tuckahoe Park playground resurfacing.
- Site plans with high impact or opportunity being reviewed are 1201 N Vernon St duplex, 2001 S Clark St, and Pen Place.
- Gulf Branch Stream Restoration is moving forward with plan review to reduce impact to trees and the natural environment.
- The stormwater vault project at Walter Reed school is being reviewed to reduce impact to trees.
- As part of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, staff is working with the National Landing BID, to plant cherry trees on the Hayes Street median, near the Pentagon City Fashion Mall.
- Natural Resources staff is working on working on permits of a drone deer survey, with assistance from the Police Department, and permits through the FAA.
- Staff is working on updates to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Guidance Manual, which guides all tree protection and landscape conservation requirements.

Zitkala-Ša Park

- Grading around the site is taking place. Additional boulders are on site for elevation at walkways and for the plaque. Concrete corrective measures at the 2-5-year-old and 5-12-year-old play surface areas are taking place before the Poured-in-Place is installed.

Commission Member Reports

- 55+ (Dean Foster)
 - *55+ Seniors are looking forward to the opening on or after July 1 of the new Lubber Run Community Center and the Long Bridge Aquatic Center with the funding in the new county budget and later return to indoor fitness classes and activities.*
- Alcovia Heights (Colt Gregory)
 - *No Issues in this reporting period.*
- Arlington Public Schools (APS) (Gerald Brandt)
 - *No updates for this reporting period.*
- Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award (Neal Hunter/Dean Foster)
 - *The County Board recognized both Glenn Tobin and last year's award winner at their board meeting this past week. The award process for this year has been finalized.*
- Clarendon Sector Plan Update (Steve Finn)
 - *The LRPC met April 14, 2021. Staff presented a follow-up and update to the building height and step-back requirements from the March 3 meeting. The central concerns raised by Staff included large block facings and providing mid-block access. These issues primarily impact the planning of the future design for the St. Charles' block. Regarding open space, Staff noted the Fairfax Drive linear park proposal has strong public and community support. Staff presented two options under consideration. The first includes mid-block access through the St. Charles site and a bicycle/alley vehicle lane on the south side of the park along the DPR maintenance building and Northside Social corridor. The second also has mid-block access through the St. Charles site but moves the bicycle/alley vehicle lane to the north side of the linear park onto the St. Charles site. A more limited access lane would remain on the south side of the park for service of the businesses along that side. St. Charles strongly objected to both proposals. The second option is very favorable for open space design and received support at the meeting.*
 - *Mr. Rivero specified that he would send out the last staff presentation slide(s) related to the Clarendon Sector Plan Update which show the plans side-by-side for PRC information.*
- Community Energy Plan (Jill Barker)
 - *There is nothing to report at the moment on the Community Energy Plan, but the County Board provided specific directions to the County Manager regarding climate issues in preparing the FY 2023 budget, including developing a "whole of government" approach. The full directive on climate is copied below and can be seen on the county website at this link. <https://budget.arlingtonva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/18/2021/04/FINAL-CBO-FY-2022-BudgetGuidance.pdf>*
 - *"14. Climate Change & Sustainability: The County Board directs that the County Manager develop a recommendation to coordinate a "whole of government"*

approach to achieving Arlington's Climate Change and Sustainability goals. The recommendation should include the staffing model and budget necessary to:

- a) Integrate sustainability goals and best practices into County plans, procurement, programs and operations consistent with the CEP Roadmap (under development) which will provide near, mid, and long-term strategies to achieve climate change goals;*
- b) Coordinate and optimize inter-departmental projects and areas of work;*
- c) Monitor and escalate disagreements among departments to the County Manager and County Board for resolution, when competing County policy priorities are at issue as;*
- d) Determine the metrics, reporting and communication necessary to present a consolidated understanding of Arlington's Climate Change and Sustainability goals;*
- e) As part of the CEP Roadmap implementation carry out a communications and engagement plan that includes APS, residents, other community stakeholders and regional partners; and*
- f) Identify innovation in sustainability practices and developments in climate science to provide current and continuing education for staff and policymakers.*
- g) The recommendation should be shared in time for the Board to incorporate guidance as part of the FY23 budget process."*

- Courthouse West Special GLUP Study (Sarah Baryluk)
- Crystal City Citizen Review Council (Shruti Kuppa)
- Field Fund Working Group (Steve Finn)
- Forestry and Natural Resources Commission (David Howell)
 - *Board member Libby Garvey and Delegate Pat Hope provided an update on some of the legislative initiatives at the State level this year. Members asked questions and there was discussion about the status of some enacted items as well as the potential for future changes to code and regulatory provisions to help conserve nature in urban areas.*
 - *Forestry manager Vincent Verweij provided an overview of the policies and practices on use of non-native trees by Arlington County programs. These cases are limited to circumstances where species resilience is a significant factor for trees to survive/thrive in some planting contexts. No non-native species used in these limited circumstances are considered invasive species.*
 - *Commission members discussed the content and timing of a second letter to the board regarding funding for important initiatives and needs. An initial letter focused on proposed cuts to the upcoming budget. All of those cuts were restored. A second letter would address additional funding needs, perhaps with some Covid relief funds anticipated by the county. Consideration of a second letter will continue in the May meeting.*
- Forestry and Natural Resources Plan Update (Colt Gregory)
 - *The FNRP overview was provided by David Farner (DPR) with American Forests (consultants). FNRP discussions focused on the identification of key elements that should be included in the plan. Topics areas included: linking spaces to form wildlife corridors, improved education and public awareness, support for the Homegrown National Park concept (make nature in small areas), bringing nature into the Lee Highway and Livability 22202 plan, working with conservation trusts, addressing park-related equity and inclusion and incorporation of a deer management component.*

- Four Mile Run Joint Task Force (David Howell)
- Gulf Branch Stream Restoration (Colt Gregory)
 - *No issues during this reporting period.*
- Jennie Dean Park, Phase 1 Update (Colt Gregory)
 - *No Issues in the reporting period. See staff report.*
- Long Bridge Park Advisory Committee (Bill Ross)
- Natural Resources Joint Advisory Group (NRJAG) (Gregory/Barker)
 - *NRJAG received a legislative overview from the Urban Forest Manager, Vincent Verweij, the Watershed Programs Manager, Jason Papcosma and the Natural Resource Specialist Jen Soles. Trees and shrubs are now part of the County stormwater management approach. Virginia has added 6 new noxious weeds to the state invasive list.*
- Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) (Vacant)
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PAC) (Neal Hunter)
 - *The PAC held open the opportunity for members of the PRC to join their meeting earlier this month to discuss areas of common interest and areas of diversion. Bill spoke at length of the common interests that keep both parks and pedestrians in a common focus in many of the projects considered in our dealings with site plans and park designs. Areas of tension arise when canopy or green space is compromised in the effort to streamline the pedestrian pathways being constructed as is the case in the Crystal City Water Park. We will look for more opportunities to incorporate pedestrian focused initiatives like Vision Zero into plans moving forward.*
- Plan Lee Highway (Cindy Krech/Julie Mullen)
- Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) Implementation Advisory Committee (IAC) (Bill Ross/Sergio Enriquez)
- Public Facilities Review Committee (PFRC) (Sergio Enriquez)
 - *Cardinal Elementary School (former Elementary School at Reed) Plan Review (Colt Gregory) - Meeting held to receive comments on the underground Storm water Management retention vaults on the site. One significant tree will be removed. No community objection was received. See also staff report.*
- Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) and Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC)
 - 1901 N. Moore St. – RCA Building (Dean Foster)
 - *Participated in the two SPRC meetings on February 11 and March 15. At the request of PRC rep, developer is exploring design for bird-friendly glass for high risk portions of the building facade along Potomac River, particularly those from 8-36 feet on the north elevation and wrapping around the corner of N. Lynn St. For 76 linear feet. Also, there will be increased attention to biophilic features, such as, drought tolerant plants and irrigation efficiency improvements, native and adapted pollinator-friendly planting species to promote year-round biodiversity. As the building will have some above grade inside parking, screening will be lined with active uses, architectural treatment artistic and visual interest. A potentially larger public art community benefit contribution will be discussed with county staff. The community benefits package will include: the affordable housing investment fund, transportation improvements, public art, and open space including access and contribution to Gateway Park.*

- *As of the writing of this report, the county staff is still in discussion with the developer reps over the specifics of the package. I will update with the particulars as soon as I have them from the county's project planner, Krissy Walentisch.*
 - *The project is anticipated to go before the planning commission in May.*
- 2001 S. Clark St. – Crystal Plaza 1 (Colt Gregory)
 - *JBG Smith Project - Proposed re-development of an existing office building into 2 residential towers with ground-floor retail. April 12 joint SPRC/LRPC was presented with the final plan for a 7,200 sq. ft. Pedestrian walkway. Design improvements include public access to future Park/Open Space 8, more green areas in walkway, increased meander and fewer straight-line elements. Overall project improvements included provision of an enclosed underground path/connection for Crystal City Underground, LEED Gold buildings, and use of bird-friendly materials for exterior surfaces up to 3 stories. Next steps include Transportation Commission and Planning Commission reviews.*
- Crystal City Building Heights Study (Shruti Kuppa)
- Fort Henry Gardens (David Howell/Bill Ross)
- Park Shirlington (Dean Foster)
 - *As previously reported, the developer has withdrawn from this project, so it can removed from the meeting agenda.*
- PenPlace Phase I (Shruti Kuppa)
 - *Following the successful Community Kick-Off Meeting, on April 19th the LPRC met with staff and the applicant to begin discussions on the design of the 7 building PenPlace complex. Thank you to David and Bill for helping me consolidate talking points the PRC would like to bring up including storm water access, bird friendly glass, and maximizing the open space outlined in the Pentagon City PDSP. The next LPRC meeting will take place in Mid- May and following that we will begin the SPRC process where we'll be able to heavily influence the parks and rec components of this development.*
- Pershing Drive Special GLUP Study (Sergio Enriquez)
- Potomac Yard Land Bay C -- East (David Howell)
- Sparrow Pond Restoration Project (David Howell)
- Sports Commission (Steve Finn/Mark Lincoln)
 - Discussion from March 25 Meeting:
 - Minutes Approved:
 - *Re-approval of January meeting minutes because the Field Fund Working Group presentation was omitted. Prior meeting minutes were approved.*
 - County and APS Budget:
 - *Discussion and approval of letter on the Arlington County budget. On the APS budget, there is a proposal to eliminate late busses and middle school sports. There is a proposed fee schedule for participation in high school sports. This opened a huge discussion on equity and how the less well-off children in the county will have fewer opportunities after school for activities, sports, and after school academic help.*
 - COVID-19 Protocols:

- *DPR presentation on COVID-19 protocols and then an APS presentation on COVID-19 protocols followed finally by a presentation on the FCPS on COVID-19 protocols. There was also a very short presentation from a representative from the Pacers group who organizes running races in Northern Virginia and their frustration that the various COVID-19 protocols are inconsistent and do not follow WHO and CDC recommended protocols when it comes to running activities outdoors.*
 - *Racial Incident at Marshall High School:*
 - *Discussion of the ongoing investigation and handling of the incident that happened during the Marshall High School versus Wakefield High School football game at Marshall High School. The biggest take away was that the adults on the field, the coaches and the officials, failed to act to handle the issue at the time it happened.*

Discussion from April 22 Meeting:

- *JFAC Presentation & Discussion*
 - *History and mission. Opportunities for collaboration between the Sports Commission and JFAC.*
- *Aquatics Committee Update*
 - *New Chair and Vice-Chair elected at last meeting. Revenue is up and will meet the expected target even with COVID-19 factored in.*
- *C2E2*
 - *Discussion of lighting, the dark sky issue, and plans for turfing fields.*
- *PSMP Comments*
 - *Upcoming meeting on casual use space and utilization.*
- *Chair Updates*
 - *County Board adopted the budget. DPR got some federal money and was able to restore some of the budget items that were previously cut.*
- *Planning for a discussion on racism in youth sports*
 - *Discussion on groups and participants to bring in to discuss experiences and strategies for handling the issue. This all stems from the incident that occurred between the Wakefield High School and Marshall High School football teams.*
- *Sports Commission Mission and Agenda setting brainstorming*
 - *Discussion on a strategy to handle the discussion with Civ Fed and the Livability 22202 group.*

Other Business (8:25-8:30)

- Letters by the PRC:
 - The Crossing Clarendon Center Park: Commissioner Howell will start work on the draft letter for this project.
 - 2000/2001 S Bell (Crystal Plaza 1): Commissioner Gregory will start work on drafting a letter for this project.
 - Vision Zero: Commissioner Hunger will start work on a draft letter of support for this project.
 - RCA Site Plan: Commissioner Foster will start work on the draft letter for this project.
 - Ms. Schirelli's public comment: The Air Force Association may be contacted for this potential issue, as well as contacting the visitor's bureau for Arlington County Economic Development. Commissioner Barker may follow up accordingly.

- Mr. Ahl's public comment: PRC Chair Ross and Vice Chair Kuppa will coordinate further on this effort.
- Mr. Berne's public comment: trail and trail erosion and the questions that should be asked on this issue should be pursued. Commissioner Howell is familiar with this issue, DPR habitat restoration and creation of native plant meadow. *Mr. Rivero will be in contact with Parks and Natural Resources (PNR) staff regarding ingress/egress and natural habitat restoration of this space.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.