ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Department of Parks and Recreation

2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 414, Arlington, VA 22201
Phone: 703 -228-7529
www.arlingtonva.us

April 17, 2026

Honorable Matt de Ferranti
Chair, Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22201

Re: Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) 2025 Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award (BTPVA) Nominee

Dear Chair de Ferranti,

The Park and Recreation Commission (PRC) is pleased to formally nominate Noreen Hannigan for the 2025 Bill Thomas Park Volunteer Award (BTPVA).

Ms. Hannigan has been a dedicated volunteer for Arlington's parks, nature centers, and native plant nurseries since at least 2015. Her work spans a wide range of critical environmental activities, including hands-on habitat restoration, leadership in volunteer training, and commission-level policy support. She is recognized for her exemplary leadership in recruiting volunteers and her proactive commitment to projects that enhance the County's natural capital.

Strategic Stewardship: As a Park and Tree Steward, she managed the restoration of parklands through the removal of invasive species and planting of native trees and shrubs.

Workforce Multiplier: Her leadership of twice-monthly workdays generated nearly 400 volunteer hours in a single year; additionally, her training sessions for the Arlington Regional Master Naturalists have successfully educated over 100 new volunteers.

Policy & Advocacy: As a member of the Forestry and Natural Resources Commission, she serves as a critical liaison between advisory bodies and active volunteer cohorts.

Commission Members

Jill Barker, Chair
William Way, Vice Chair
Erika Allen
Andrew Damitio
Nelson Dimpter
David Earley
Daniel Garay
Sara Hwong
Jeff Loftus
Adam Rasmussen
Melissa Riggio
Carly Rogers
Alex Sanders
Gary Shinners

Ms. Hannigan translates technical expertise in botany and ecology into community action. She is equally effective at organizing Scout troops for park restoration as she is at monitoring wildlife impacts on the tree canopy or providing rapid-response stewardship during time of urgent environmental needs.

Ms. Hannigan's deep, lasting contributions directly support the County's Forestry and Natural Resources Master Plan goals. The PRC recommends her for this award with the highest enthusiasm; her work truly exemplifies the 'steward-leader' model that the BTPVA was designed to honor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Barker



Chair – Park and Recreation Commission

cc: Members, Arlington County Board