

Regular Meeting of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks  
Held at the Falls Church Community Center, Kenneth R. Burnett Building  
223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church, Virginia 22046

**Minutes**  
April 6, 2016

**1. Call to Order**

Charley O'Hara called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Introductions of board members were made.

Members present were Kathy Chandler, Charley O'Hara, Leslie Rye, Lori Lafave, and Lawrence Webb. City Council Liaison Marybeth Connelly was present. Staff members present were Danny Schlitt, Director of Recreation & Parks, and Keke Sidik.

**2. Receipt of Public Petitions and Board Member Petitions – No Petitions**

**3. Minutes**

Kathy Chandler motioned to approve the March 2 Meeting Minutes. Leslie Rye seconded the motion. Upon unanimous voice vote, the motion passed.

**4. Recreation Director's Report**

Danny Schlitt discussed staffing changes. Teen/Summer Camp Supervisor Kenny Burrowes resigned and current Recreation Specialist LaShawn Timmons will be promoted to his position. We will begin recruiting for her former position. We are also recruiting for maintenance positions, as one will be transferring to Public Works and one has resigned.

Danny discussed soccer field shortages, which is still the first priority with soccer. We are moving quickly to find field space, as it's a critical need and is a matter of funding. Turfing Larry Graves Field is ultimately the most viable solution.

Everyone discussed potential options and solutions to find more space and the logistics and prices involved. Lynn Place, which is currently back on the market, was included in this discussion. Other options discussed were playing fields on roofs of large buildings and/or parking facilities in the future.

Danny discussed special events; the Easter Egg Hunt was well-attended and went well and the AAUW Book Sale is coming up.

Danny discussed the recent increase in insurance premiums, budgets, and current and expected future revenue. We've increased instructor fees, but get that back in revenue. We're on the same track as last year, and expect more than 2 million in revenue next year in FY17.

Everyone discussed budgetary concerns and revenues including donations, senior discounts, promotions, and funding for parks.

## **5. New Business**

Charley O'Hara raised the issue of banning smoking in parks. Everyone discussed the topic of banning smoking in parks. Danny Schlitt said he will look into other jurisdictions, nationally, and with the City Attorney on whether banning smoking in parks is a trend or becoming a trend.

## **6. Old Business**

Big Chimneys Park, Master Plan Update and Revision:

Everyone discussed the Big Chimney Master Park Plan. Danny Schlitt wanted to confirm the changes made to the Master Plan that night and brought up the question of whether Council would need to approve every revision that was to come. Marybeth Connolly suggested he bring to Council every revision that is made and everyone agreed; Charley O'Hara suggested editorial changes to be made so that titles do not fall on the bottom of pages; Kathy Chandler suggested the document itself include in the footers of each page each time each revision is adopted by the Advisory board and approved by Council.

Leslie Rye motioned to approve the Plan. Lawrence Webb seconded. Kathy requested to have time to read the document first and vote during the next meeting. Motion to approve was tabled and all were in favor.

Everyone discussed the W&OD. Danny raised the issue with the trail next to it, and thanked Leslie for obtaining feedback regarding concerns with the W&OD. Leslie stated that most liked the W&OD but the biggest concerns were cost, overdesign and annual maintenance. Everyone discussed the wording of plans, approvals, and motions and the need to make them clearer.

Leslie brought up the issue of pet refuse bags. Everyone discussed the need to have pet refuse bag stations back in the parks and discussed the options, logistics and costs that would be involved, including hiring contractors, posting signs, dog licenses, sponsors, and maintenance.

Charley raised the topic of Lynn Place and it being back on market with no current plans. He suggested land-banking it for future development and suggested Danny first check to make certain it was back on market and send in writing to Council that it was still for sale and should be land-banked for future development. Lori Lafave motioned, Leslie seconded, and all were in favor.

## **8. Adjournment**

Leslie Rye motioned to adjourn the meeting; Lori Lafave seconded the motion. Under unanimous voice vote, Charley adjourned the meeting.

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