

ASA Board Meeting

November 26, 2018

Minutes

Attendees: Margaret Core, Marc Garufi, John Mingus, Jason Mugg, Mia Petree, Sabine Schlorke, David Tyahla, Paul Bobeczko, Allie Signorelli, Jane Rudolph. Adam Brick was absent due to illness.

The meeting was called to order by Allie at approximately 7:30 PM.

1. **Minutes:** The October 2018 minutes were approved.
2. **Special Guest – Jane Rudolph, Director of Parks and Recreation for Arlington County**

A. Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP)

- The PSMP is a 10-year plan forming part of the county's Comprehensive Plan covering 11 elements of public services and facilities including transportation, solid waste, parks, and recreation, among others. Jane co-chairs a committee which reports to the County Manager and which is tasked with updating the PSMP, a three-year process last undertaken in 2005. The 2005 plan did not address fields lights beyond saying that when fields are converted to turf, field lights "should" (not "shall") be installed.
- Currently there is a debate among residents over increasing the amount of field space vs. casual use/open space. The Parks for Everyone advocacy group believes the county already has too many diamonds fields and that some of them should be converted to casual use/open space; however, the County's current Level of Service document calls for two additional diamond fields and nine additional rectangular fields by 2035 to keep pace with population growth.
- Parks for Everyone base their argument on a utilization model that requires a number of assumptions about how many hours of use each field gets in a year; those assumptions are based on demand for field use permits, not actual field utilization.
- The county has employed a consultant and looked at four peer communities, surveyed residents, and compared what we have to typical levels of service nationally.
- We are increasingly using diamond-field outfields for rectangular-field sports. We can't turf the outfield while leaving grass in the infield due to the trip hazard that poses. County will be converting a diamond field at Gunston to turf.
- Parks for Everyone have focused their efforts on Virginia Highlands, which is heavily sports-focused. It is the only park in Arlington County with two full-size diamond fields. To address the concerns of open space advocates, the County switched the fields from "permit use only" to "permit use takes priority" and took down the fences to encourage casual use of the fields when they are not being used for sports.
- Jane's asks for Arlington Soccer:

- Add comments regarding the PSMP to the online comment tool by December 9
- Attend Open Door Monday meetings with members of the County Board (note: no Open Door Mondays scheduled in December)
- Meet with County Board as an organization (individual meetings also helpful)
- Draft an official position letter from Arlington Soccer to the County Board before the adoption of the PSMP
- Increase transparency around field scheduling after the PSMP is adopted, so residents can see exactly how, and how much, the fields are being used
- Attend December 3 Open House, which is a chance to get answers to any questions
- Attend RTA, Planning Commission, and County Board meetings

3. Board Business

- A. Joint Program Committee (JPC) composition: a motion to add the immediate past president of the Board to the JPC (bringing total number of members to 13) was approved.
- B. Restated the need to improve communication at all levels.

4. Executive Director report

- A. Arlington Soccer clubhouse – We are currently in conversations with attorneys and need to complete a title search on the subject property. The Finance Committee is building a model for real estate investment and cash flow. Query: What is the budget impact of the investigatory phase?
- B. A volunteer has stepped forward to represent Arlington Soccer on the Sports Commission.

5. Program reports

- A. **Rec program**– Report sent by John via email.
 - There will be a shortened “return to team guaranteed” period this spring
 - Select player policy
 - This spring, ADP players will not count as select players
 - Recommendation: at 5th grade and up (when team size increases), travel players will no longer be allowed to play on rec teams as well
 - This recommendation will go to the JPC
- B. **Travel program** – Marc Garufi.
 - Currently considering next year’s uniform options
 - Updating the travel program refund policy
 - The draft of the new travel program newsletter, which is anticipated to be issued twice a year, is being reviewed

6. Committee Reports

- A. **Finance** –
 - The Finance committee did not meet last month.

- The committee is developing the business case for acquiring property for practice space/home for Arlington Soccer and has started to develop the framework for the charitable endowment, which will require more background work.
 - Request for budget inputs were sent to stakeholders. First draft of budget will be ready in December, with a vote on the final budget scheduled for March.
 - No financial audit was completed for last fiscal year.
 - Next meeting is scheduled for December 3.
- B. Community Outreach and Fields** – Drafting comments for PSMP.
- C. Fundraising** – Charter is complete. The committee would like some clarity around the strategic plan in order to develop a fundraising framework.
- D. Risk** – Handed out risk assessment questionnaire; assessment should be completed regularly. Needs to staff up the committee. Query: should the Risk committee be part of the Finance committee?

7. Executive session

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.