

[REDACTED]
Alexandria, VA 22314
November 20, 2009

Parks and Cultural Activities
Attn: William Chesley
1108 Jefferson St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Chesley:

As a resident of the City of Alexandria for the last 30 years and a user of the Chiniquapin Park Recreation Center for the last 20 years, I have seen my 25 card pass go from \$25 to the present \$61.

I am requesting that you do not increase the pass fee for senior citizens. Since using the exercise room for all those many years, I am still using the same equipment since I first started there. With very few exceptions, has new equipment been put in place. I have complained over the years about the fact that the equipment is not well maintained and it took months and months to have a seat replaced on several pieces of equipment. Recently, I have complained about the bicycle seat wearing down to the point that it rubs against ones' legs and still nothing has been done. You have also done away with the third lifeguard in the pool area which prevents some of us from swimming or exercising in that area. Pretty soon there will not be a reason for any of us to use those facilities.

Senior citizens are always told by their physicians to exercise, but if you continue to raise the rates, they will no longer be able to do so. Seniors live on fixed incomes and pay mighty heavy taxes for the privilege of living in Alexandria.

Perhaps, in order to save money, you could close the recreation centers on the holidays that Alexandria closes its administrative officers. No overtime needs to be paid and it will follow the city in holiday closures.

I have noticed that a room has been set aside for young children with a lot of equipment being placed therein, along with the floor and walls being worked on. I do not know if the city paid for this or the equipment was a donation. If the city paid for this room which I believe is underused since I never see anyone in it except possibly in the summer, then second thoughts should have been considered about the use of the funds.

I would appreciate if you would not increase the rates so that we may continue to use the recreation facilities.

Sincerely,

Florence Foelak

FLORENCE FOELAK