

**City of Alexandria, Virginia
Park and Recreation Commission**

**REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, September 15, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Charles Houston Community Center
901 Wythe Street
Alexandria, Virginia**

Agenda

- I.** Call to Order by Chair
- II.** Approval of Summary Minutes from June 16, 2011, July 21, 2011.
- III.** Division Updates:
 - A. Recreation Programs and Service Update - William Chesley
 - B. Operations and Park Planning Monthly Report - Jack Browand
 - C. Office of the Arts Update - Alisa Carrel
 - D. Park Planning Updates - Ron Kagawa, Laura Durham
 - i. Divisional Updates
 - ii. Updates on Aquatics Master Plan and the Needs Assessment
 - iii. Update on the Beauregard Corridor Plan
 - iv. Open Space - Gen-On site discussion (Judy Noritake)
 - v. Jones Point Park Update
 - vi. George Mason Elementary School Field Restoration
 - vii. Miracle Field Update
 - viii. Park Construction Projects Update June -September
 - E. Marketing, Public Relations & Special Events – Cheryl Lawrence
- IV.** Director's Report - James Spengler (verbal updates):
 - A. Update Ft. Ward Park New Advisory Committee
 - B. Update Waterfront Summer Task Force
- V.** Report from Commissioners (verbal updates):
 - A. Waterfront Committee -William Cromley
 - B. Youth Sport Committee - Jeffrey Murphy
 - C. Four Mile Run - Ripley Forbes
 - D. Freedman's Cemetery - Bob Moir
 - E. ACPS & Capital Improvements- Judy Guse-Noritake
 - F. Jones Point Park Liaison Group- Judy Guse-Noritake
 - G. Community Gardens Policy- Next Steps-Judy Noritake
- VI.** Agenda Items for October 2011 meeting and location
- VII.** Adjournment

At the close of the meeting, the Commission will take comments on any other topic from the public.

City of Alexandria, Virginia
Park and Recreation Commission

REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, June 16, 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Samuel Tucker Elementary School
435 Ferdinand Day Drive, Alexandria, VA 22304

SUMMARY MINUTES

Commission Members: Chairperson, Judy Guse-Noritake, Gina Baum, Richard Brune, William Cromley, Ripley Forbes, Bob Moir, Jeffrey Murphy. **Absent:** Clark Mercer, John Sullivan, Anthony Zamora and Mollie Timmons.

RPCA Staff: Director James Spengler, Deputy Director William Chesley, Jack Browand, Laura Durham, Aquatics Director Ralph Baird, Robin DeShields. **Absent:** Roger Blakeley, Alisa Carrel.

Guests: Kevin Post, Councilman-Hunsaker, Mark Hatchel, Kimley Horn and Associates, Chyrell Bucksell, resident James Bland housing.

I. Call to Order by Chair: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. In response to a question from Mr. Forbes, the Chair noted that RPCA maintains a separate attendance report for Committee members that distinguish between excused and non-excused absences. The report is available for review, and is submitted annually to the Secretary for Boards and Commissions.

II. Aquatics Master Plan Update - Consultant Presentation - Kevin Post, Councilman/Hunsaker (CH), and Mark Hatchel, Kimley Horn and Associates, (KHA). See Staff Report and comprehensive Aquatics Facilities Master Plan 2011- Phase I Summary. **For more information or to view presentation goes to www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/Commissions.**

- **Kevin Post of Councilman/Hunsaker (CH)** – gave the introduction and presentation, agenda included a review of Alexandria’s current and projected demographics, existing City pools, aquatic users and trends, common vocabulary, examples of facilities in other communities (regional and national). Following the presentation, the consultants will seek input from the Parks and Recreation Commission on what they believe is needed in Alexandria, what to include, and what not to include in the plan for aquatic facilities for the City. **See Copy of Presentation on RPCA website.**
- Phase 1 has been completed-see summary report - included a Preliminary Needs Analysis, and a Preliminary Financial Impact Analysis (for Phase I these were for overview only, more specifics will follow in final report).
- **Phase II-kicks off tonight** - with Task 3 – which is a more complete in-depth Needs Analysis (defining goals/objectives/public meetings to obtain inputs.) Over the last few days, they have met with various stakeholders to get their perspective. After tonight’s meeting, input will be used to develop a Conceptual Plan, and an in-depth Financial Impact Analysis. An implementation plan will be incorporated into the final report.
- See slide of Aquatic Master Planning Process.

- Preliminary information reviewed demographics; based on 2000 Census Alexandria's population is 128,300. The 2010 Census projects Alexandria's population at approximately 150,000. Final 2010 Census information will be incorporated into final report. A 23% increase is projected for public schools over the next five years. Alexandria is becoming a younger population. Median age is 39.1, highest age groups is 0-5 yrs., and 34-44. There are also more children and young families. Per capita income is \$50,606; median household income is \$79,874. Alexandria as a whole income is above the national average. Conversely, one-third of the City's population makes less than \$50,000.
- Weather is a factor on facilities and the need for outdoor vs. indoor facilities, which provide year-round use.
- Existing Facilities (see slide) - Alexandria has seven pools; only five are currently operational- there is one small pool on the West End (Ewald). Chinquapin was built in 1985 is the only indoor facility. Most facilities are aging, Charles Houston is the newest, built in 2009. Alexandria has a number of private pools in the West End; however, use is limited to residents who live in those apartments or condominiums. These pools do not serve the nearby community. There is one waterpark in the community at Cameron Run - presentation documents other pools in the area within a 10-mile radius (see presentation). Alexandria does not currently have a competitive size pool in the immediate area.
- Benchmarking-what is the right number of pools - Alexandria is bracketed for populations with 100,000 to 200,000. Cities with this population- average is 5 pools. Alexandria's current five pool system is in line with this.
- Definition of aquatics today is changing; there are many new trends from private sector and innovations. Study looked at the university market- these are our future residents-most universities have good aquatic systems. Each year there are more than 360 million visits to recreation water venues. Swimming is the second most popular venue in North America and ranks as the most popular for children. Identifying Key Users - usage of pools revolves around water depth and water temperature. Different age groups have different needs - including competition, recreation, instructional and wellness and therapy.
- Mr. Post reviewed the different types of pools including competitive pools. Mr. Post said only 10% of the population consider themselves competitive swimmers, however many recreation swimmers like to swim laps. Challenge at the City's Chinquapin indoor pool is that when the swim team is there-there is not enough space for others swimmers.
- Expectation of Recreation Users has changed since the 1960 - see slide.
- Youth have different needs, such as the need to be excited to use pools-pools are starting to be designed for different user groups, i.e. water slides, tot slides, thrill amenities, zero-depth entry, and other types of water structures and participatory play features- moving away from square box pools into other water structures (see slides).
- Instruction and Lesson Programs- Learn to swim programs is a number one aquatics program- the Consultants have spoken with the school about adding swimming as part of P.E. to ensure every child knows how to swim for safety (see slide)
- Therapy and Wellness - is the fastest growing user group in aquatics. Aquatics exercise has increased from 5.8 million in 2004 to 7.2 million in 2007. Chinquapin has many lap swimmers and also offers a water aerobics program.
- Review of other examples of facilities, small, medium to large, including both indoor and outdoor pools (see slides).

Next Steps:

- Wrap up Task 3 Items by collecting information and input (see Scope of Work-Next Steps). Begin Task 4- development of a Conceptual Plan, followed by Task 5- complete Financial

Impact Analysis. In order to complete Task 4, consultants will need input on what types of facilities should be located in Alexandria, including desired amenities, and suggested locations for possible future facilities, etc. Task 6- will be Final Report and Presentations.

Questions/Comments from Commissioners:

- **Moir** - Are there funds in the budget for a new aquatic facility?
- **Chair**- the challenge is not just funding, but finding available land in Alexandria large enough for an aquatics facility. Landmark Mall in the West End, is being redeveloped, this may offer a possible site. Another possible site is next to the existing Chinquapin Recreation Center, on King St. - in the center of the City. There has been an expectation that a second and/or larger pool should be added here for some time (a warm water/cold water/competitive pool). Other than these possible locations, we would be taking parkland, however land is scarce.
- **Cromley**- he does not favor aquatics theme parks, Alexandria already has a water park on Eisenhower Ave. at Cameron Run Regional Park. With the limited land available, the City should invest in its core mission of promoting health, safety, and teaching swimming to children, and therapeutics.
- **Chair**- spray parks address the needs of tweens, take up a small footprint, cost less, and can be used during the summer months. She's not certain if a large vision with a resort or university feel, may cause some push back from the community.
- **Moir** - pointed out that Chinquapin pool is over 25 years old, and needs to be rehabilitated. There is some discussion about moving Chinquapin's tennis courts to Minnie Howard School. If this occurs, the current site could be used to build a second pool without decreasing the amount of active recreation space. While water parks are great, he doesn't believe the City can afford a second water park given the current economy.
- **Kevin Post** – he understands concerns about land, however, during the preliminary investigation they tested the size of certain pools in Alexandria. The Old Town Pool site would accommodate a medium-size aquatics facility – that would fit inside its existing footprint. Regarding parking, as ACPS looks at redeveloping the Jefferson Houston site, they will consider shared parking between the new school and the pool site. The consultants are not recommending a second water park; the City has one at Cameron Run. However, in order to encourage children to use pools and get fit, it helps to give them incentives (e.g., some play structures, etc.), this helps get them excited and interested in swimming. If square pools are rebuilt - usage may not change. Consultant said two small or small to medium facilities would meet the need of the whole family and also reduce operating costs-and be more sustainable.
- **The Chair**- said she could see doing a water therapy pool at some of the older facilities such as Nannie J. Lee. Looking at the Capital Improvement Budget, we must consider pool replacements vs. doing a new 25-meter pool at Chinquapin. A new 25-meter pool and some spray parks would likely be in 2020 the earliest- this is a long-range vision. Small pools will need to be replaced soon. What would be the trade-off between; doing two small summer facilities vs. an indoor facility that could be used year-round.
- **Kevin Post** –They will bring information back, including costs and financial analysis. The City actually needs more outdoor pools to handle the summer capacity. Indoor pools cost three times more than outdoor pools. Outdoor pools make the most sense, in terms of being more efficient and financially sound. The problem is that this would limit indoor competitive pools and pools for

therapeutic users. Therefore, both outdoor and indoor pools are needed throughout the whole system.

- **Chair** – said the presentation is based on the population getting younger. While there may be more young people, year-round pool use by adults for fitness and therapy will also increase.
- **Cromley** – We could consider doing both, there is a need for passive vs. active uses, and also look at expanding the useable area around the pools.
- **Baum**- who lives in Old Town, said she took her young children to a splash facility in the area, and they really enjoyed it. Commissioner Baum and the Chair suggested adding a splash facility in Alexandria as a start. Baum- said regarding Old Town pool site, she believes space may be available to have an additional indoor facility-amenities are already there. Additionally, Nannie J. Lee may be a good place for an indoor facility.
- **Kevin Post**- with the potential of a Miracle Field being built at Nannie J. Lee Center, this would be a good location for an indoor therapy pool that could be used year-round.
- **Forbes**- As part of assessing the City’s needs, did the aquatics study look at NVRPA Water Park in Eisenhower Valley, or consider expanding Cameron Run pool?
- **Kevin Post**- yes-they met with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority (NVRPA), Blythe Russian, to discuss plans; they support more community pools- that don’t directly compete with them, information from meeting will be incorporated.
- **Chair** - while there are a number of pools in the Alexandria community, the City falls short on aquatics and health and safety.
- **Forbes** - looking at the chart, # of pools - Alexandria appears to be on par. What is the public health metric that we should look at for comparison? The City has no standards to use as to if children should be taught swimming, what is the outcome? *The Chair pointed out that most pools in Alexandria are small and non-competitive size.*
- **Kevin Post**- there is no standard – the National Recreation Park Association (NRPA) tried to establish a standard for the number of pools for a community, i.e. one for every 20,000. The Aquatic Master Plan tried to balance the needs out, based on the functional use and meeting aquatic needs of community; making sure all needs are met, i.e., competitive, recreational, instructional, therapeutic, and both summer and year-round use.
- The metrics are based not only on the number of pools, but also on how pools are used. Communities that are meeting the needs of their aquatics users have a one-to-one ratio of population-to-number of visits each year. The City of Alexandria is about 1/3 of that. (i.e., Alexandria aquatics have 50,000 visits per pool per year, but should be at 150,000 visits. The City is not meeting the needs and expectations of residents and community. *Chair commented that Chinquapin pool might not have the capacity to meet this need. It is at capacity most of the time.*
- **Chair**- she has spoken with the Mayor and Council members about providing swim lessons to low-income children who don’t know how to swim. There are many pools in the West End of the City, but no programs exist to teach children swimming there. Part of the solution may be to hire instructors (or traveling swim coaches) to teach swimming to children in the summer at pools, including privately owned pools (condo/apartment/home owners associations, etc.)

- **Forbes-** said these statistics may be misleading (use may be higher). Many people in the Alexandria community swim, but don't use the public pools.
- **Kevin Post** - said all communities where this metric has been used also have other (non-public) facilities, such as HOA pools and YMCA, private fitness clubs, etc., therefore this factor is accounted for in the 1:1 standard. This is a benchmark of City Aquatics: its small children, the low income, non-private users.
- **Laura Durham, Open Space Planner** - reminded the commission that Alexandria has several aging facilities in place. What is the next step to meet these needs? It is critical that this be addressed. We need to make a decision for the future on how and where to spend money.
- **Action:** The Chair and Commission members will review results and make a decision before the fall budget cycle.
- Director Spengler said that a work session on the Aquatics Master Plan is being planned with City Council. The Chair suggested including a discussion on the Needs Assessment, at the same time.

III. **Approval of Summary Minutes from April 21, 2011 and May 19, 2011:**

April 21, 2011: Bob Moir noted a correction to top of page 4. Delete text, ~~and is part of the Alexandria Soccer Association (ASA).~~ Mr. Cromley motioned to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Forbes seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

May 19, 2011: Mr. Forbes commented (Re: Item VII-E, Alexandria Aces - proposal to sell alcohol at games), said that the minutes/discussion should better distinguish between alcohol consumption vs. alcohol sales. The Director said he would address this and clarify RPCA's policy under his report. Mr. Forbes motioned to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brune. All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

IV. **Next-Steps on Creation of an Adult Sports Advisory Group** – See Copy of revised FY2012 Adult Sports Programming Report, dated May 19, 2011 submitted by RPCA Sports Section. Mr. Chesley, Deputy Director, Recreation Services, said there are no new updates at this time. Staff is seeking direction from the Commission.

- The P&RC discussed clarifying what the next steps should be for the creation of the group. The Chair said she would like to see the momentum started by Mac Slover, Director of Sports, and his staff continues. There should also be a broader discussion with other adult stakeholders and groups. She recommended developing an outline of the proposed composition of the group, the goals and tasks to be completed.
- **Director Spengler** said the need for the group would be similar to the Youth Sports Advisory group, to look at programming and scheduling of outdoor space that is at a premium. Staff should operate on the assumption that the adult sport demand has been artificially depressed due to a lack of field space, and because adult sports are currently not organized. Mr. Spengler said by next meeting, if desired, he could present for discussion a draft Charge of Work, and a list of suggested appointees. The adult sports group, once established, could serve in an advisory capacity and help establish on-going dialog with the P&RC.
- **Commissioner Forbes-** recommended waiting for the results of the Needs Assessment survey, which will be out soon, to see what the priorities are. He said this will help determine a plan of action and what goals to focus on. Additionally, Mr. Forbes asked if there is a standard that tells us how the City is doing in the area of adult sports. **Mr. Spengler** said he is not aware of any

standard, other than national averages for participation. It's really being pro-active in terms of quality of life. Sometime ago it was decided that the RPCA organization would be primarily youth serving. Focus at that time, was not on serving adults - infrastructure is currently lacking to meet this need. Further information will come out of the Needs Assessments.

- The Chair suggested that possibly RPCA staff can do a two-page white paper on the process and what the goals would be to get adults more active in the community; across the spectrum of age and physical capability.
- Mr. Forbes- said regarding white paper, that typically in area of adult's sports, success of programs is usually not due to staff, but to involvement and support from community groups. The path to success will have to be a public/private partnership. Masters soccer is successful because it is run by the community.
- The Chair suggested staff do a quick search of NPRA for articles on how they conduct outreach for adult programs and provide copies to P&RC. There was no further discussion.

V. 2011 CIVIC Award Nominations - Jack Browand:

- Commissioner Brune reported that he and Commissioner Forbes, who served on the CIVIC Awards subcommittee, had met and reviewed the nominations.
- **Award Recipients are as listed:**
 - A. **Individual Awards (3)** - Jim Clark - for his volunteer cleanup activities in Monticello, and Chinquapin Parks; Bill Rivers - for establishing the Miracle Baseball League; and David Dexter - for his work at with the "Friends of Dora Kelly Park", and for his advocacy for increasing open space in the City's West End.
 - B. **Group Award (1)**: Kevin Beekman, Melissa Russell, and Nick Paartee; for their overall vision for the improvement of the Arlandria/Lenox Place community through the beautification of park properties, and creation of the Four Mile Run Farmers and Artisans Market. Each individual will receive a plaque.
 - C. **Corporate Award**: for Whiting Turner and Century Contracting Corp.

Action: Rich Brune motioned to accept the nominations. The motion was seconded by Chair Noritake and Mr. Forbes. All were in favor. Copies of nominations and letters are kept on file in the department of RPCA. The sub-committee returned one nomination because it was for a chairperson of an existing organization.

Bob Moir, Vice Chair will present the awards at the City's Birthday Celebration on July 9. The Chair encouraged members to attend, she and Mr. Brune, will be out of town.

VI. Draft Annual Report and Attendance Report- Jack Browand.

Mr. Browand presented the draft annual report to the Commission for their review. Mr. Browand requested that the Chair and Commissioners forward comments to him by July 8. The P&RC will vote on acceptance of the report, along with receipt of the annual attendance report at the next meeting July 21.

VII. DIVISION UPDATES: See Staff Reports: To View Full Staff Reports go to www.alexandria.gov/Recreation/Commission reports.

- A. **Recreation Programs and Service Update** - William Chesley – See Staff Report.
- B. **Operations and Park Planning Monthly Report** - Roger Blakeley (absent), See Staff Report. Commissioner Forbes asked what the maintenance schedule is for Ft. Ward Park; he mentioned that there is a tear in the carpet/turf near the Braddock Rd. side. Jack Browand, RPCA will follow-up with staff to inspect site, and repair as needed.
- C. **Office of the Arts Update** - Alisa Carrel (absent) - See Staff Report.

D. **Park Planning Updates** - Ron Kagawa, Laura Durham

- **Divisional Updates-See Staff Report**- no comments from Commission.
- **Alexandria Sanitation Authority-South Carlyle Planning District** - See Staff Report.
- The Chair commented on the report. The Alexandria Sanitation Authority (ASA), which is a non-City entity, will be building a single large wastewater treatment tank (30 ft. above & 30 ft. below ground). On top will be space to put a full-size synthetic athletic field with lights. The Chair said this is a brilliant plan to utilize space and a good addition for the City. Planning & Zoning will give a presentation to the P&RC in July. The plan will go before the Eisenhower East Review Board, June 30, and tentatively to Council in September.

- **Jefferson Houston School Replacement Update**: Ron Kagawa, Division Chief, Park Planning and Capital Projects reported that ACPS has formed an interdepartmental steering committee comprised of Planning & Zoning, T&ES, & Code Enforcement. An RFP was recently issued for project management. Chair Noritake said this is a positive step for ACPS to seek professional guidance. The P&RC will have input; Commissioner Cromley, who has a design background and lives in the community, may be appointed the liaison to work with the community group, once formed.

- **Windmill Hill Park Implementation Update:- See Staff Report**
Chair-There is some, but not enough, money available to start the bulkhead replacement. Community expressed concern that not enough improvements were since 2003. Pending receipt of funds to complete bulkhead, the goal is to see what can be done now, staff is seeking advice from the Commission. **Action**: The Chair and Commissioners Baum and Cromley, will meet and make a recommendation. The Chair will arrange a convenient date and time. Ron Kagawa from Dept. of RPCA will be involved.

- **Miracle Field at Lee Center- See Staff Report**.
Chair- a preliminary discussion was held with neighbors living near the field, regarding the lights (35 ft. tall), there is no opposition to date.
Bob Moir mentioned that Harmon Killebrew, baseball Hall of Famers (of the Minnesota Twins and Washington Senators) recently passed away; he was very supportive of the Miracle Field community. His foundation is looking to donate to various facilities. Bill Rivers, President, Youth Sports Advisory Group has put together a packet requesting \$150,000 in donations. One issue is they may request the field be named after Killebrew. Kelly Cares was originally to be afforded naming rights.

VIII. **Director's Report** - James Spengler

- A. **Jones Point Park Update** (See Staff Report for update). The next stakeholders meeting is September 13, 7:00 p.m., at Lee Center. The project is on schedule. Chair Judy Noritake, is liaison for the P&RC.
- B. **Francis Hammond Lights-Update** – Planning Commission approved the SUP application. A City Council public hearing is scheduled for Saturday June 25 to review request. However, as part of process, a letter of determination was requested by Nancy Jennings, President, Seminary Hills Association, to clarify if the Planning Commission has the authority to approve the SUP. Letter was to be issued today. Seminary Hills Civic Association would have 30 days from date of letter to file an appeal. Appeal would need to go through the Board of Zoning Appeals; earliest date for hearing would be September. Item will not go before City Council in June; this may cause a six-month delay on project. ACPS is debating whether to proceed with building the field this summer, or to wait for approval of the lights. Kagawa- Approved site plan does not include electricity. Electricity and lights were bid as an alternate, so turf could be

installed. Chair- current field at Hammond is not in good shape, if installation of artificial turf field were delayed, this would be problematic.

- C. **Follow-up on Alexandria Aces -alcohol sales request-** At the May meeting a presentation was held by the Aces' regarding their request for permission to sell alcohol at baseball games held at Four Mile Run Park. The P&RC recommended tabling this discussion until a later date.

Update - Director James Spengler: the MOU for the Alexandria Aces was processed without the provision for alcohol sales included, as this was not approved. It is against City ordinance to consume alcoholic beverages, or to sell alcoholic beverages in a park unless granted a permit. RPCA procedures –allow for the consumption of alcohol at picnics as a part of a permit process only, i.e. at Ft. Ward or Hensley Parks. Permit does not allow for the sale of alcohol. City and Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) regulations, both apply. RPCA and ABC would have to approve this. The Alexandria Aces' requested RPCA to allow both the sale and consumption of alcohol at baseball games. RPCA does not support the request to sell alcohol at games, issue/problem because alcohol sales would occur near schools where minors attend.

- D. **Follow-up on Council Request Regarding No-Smoking at City Birthday Party**
See Attached copy of COA Contact Us: City Birthday Party- “Can we designate a smoking area to protect kids”, dated 6/16/11 request from Commissioner Forbes. Director Spengler- said the request was assigned to RPCA and staff is preparing a response. The COA requests voluntary designation of a non-smoking area at the City's birthday celebration on July 9. Currently staff handles smoking by making verbal announcements each hr. requesting that smokers move toward the outside of the crowd, along with those who have pets. According to the City Attorney's Office, the City does not have the authority to ban smoking at this event, this is a State of Virginia responsibility. Main concern, is if a “smoking area” is designated, this creates a quasi-regulation, which may create more problems than it solves trying to enforce voluntary compliance. The City Attorney and City Manager left the decision at the discretion of the Director of RPCA. Mr. Spengler said he is not sure a designated area will be successful; he asked for input from the Commission before making a final decision. Commissioners held a brief discussion, there was some agreement that the signs may pose more problems than they solve. Mr. Forbes was still in favor of installing signage, particularly since signage for playgrounds and parks will be installed soon discouraging smoking there. Director- current direction is to post signs at playground areas only.

IX. Retreat Action Items: No Action was taken on this item.

- A. Next Steps on Draft Bylaws
- B. Other Items for Discussion

X. Report from Commissioners (verbal updates):

- A. **Waterfront Committee** - William Cromley reported that City Council action on the Waterfront SAP was deferred to the fall- he expressed disappointment with Council's decision to delay action on the Waterfront SAP, in light of the substantial amount of volunteer time that has gone into developing inputs into the Waterfront Plan. The Chair said the Waterfront Committee is taking the same position as P&RC recommending relocation of the ODBC parking lot, in order to create a continuous path along the waterfront.
- B. **Youth Sport Committee** - Jeffrey Murphy – no report.
- C. **Four Mile Run** - Ripley Forbes – no report.
- D. **Charles Houston Memorial Project** - William Cromley – no report.
- E. **Freedman's Cemetery** - Bob Moir – no report.

- F. **Beauregard Corridor**- Chair Noritake - A meeting will be held next week, the Chair is pushing a field to be included.
 - G. **ACPS & Capital Improvements**- Judy Guse-Noritake – no report.
 - H. **Jones Point Park Liaison Group**- Judy Guse-Noritake – no report.
 - I. **P&RC Awards** - Ripley Forbes – no report.
 - J. **Community Gardens Policy**- Chair Noritake - discussion will continue in fall.
- **Other**- Gina Baum asked the status of the proposed Old Town Harris Teeter grocery store. The Chair said this had been approved. Durham- improvements are being made to Montgomery Park.

XI. Agenda Items for July meeting and location:

Report on Needs Assessment, Beauregard Corridor SAP, Alexandria Sanitation Authority Field Presentation - Location TBD.

XII. Adjourn: 9:15 p.m.

At the Commission meeting's close, public comments on other topics were received:

Chyrell Bucksell - Resident of James Bland housing, President, ARHA Resident Association, Commissioner on the ARHA Board, and member of the Parker-Gray Roundtable, spoke at the meeting:

- **Lack of recreation facilities-Edsall Rd**: Ms. Bucksell, a single mother of two, spoke about how the lack of recreation facilities contributes to crime and teen pregnancy. There is no recreation center in walking distance of the Edsall Rd. area. The closest recreation center to where residents on Edsall Rd., who live in Brent Place, is William Ramsey on Sanger Ave. Children go home and then to the Center, it is not walkable.
- **Swim Lessons**: Ms. Bucksell thanked Ralph Baird, Aquatics Director, for helping the Carpenters Shelter get 10 children swimming lessons.
- **Sports for Families**: Regarding expanding programs for Adult Sports, she did a 5k walk at Samuel Tucker Elementary School. She supports having more sports programs for families as an important health and recreation activity and a way to build parent-child bonds. She exercises and takes her children to sporting events regularly
- Ms. Bucksell said she is thankful for the scholarships that helps residents like her, afford recreation classes and activities.

Responses/Comments:

- The Chair said regarding the lack of recreation facilities in the Edsall Road area, the pending redevelopment of Landmark Mall might offer a chance to locate some recreation activities in area.
- The Chair agreed with the importance of finding ways to provide swim lessons for children; she has spoken with the Mayor and Council about the need to provide more access to swim instruction for children for safety reasons, noting that a whole group of children is at risk, especially low-income families. She has called for an aggressive City outreach to provide swimming instruction to youth. Gina Baum suggested offering family swim lessons, as well; she noted that her own children had been able to learn to swim at Chinquapin due to scholarships.
- The Chair, agreed that offering family sports – in addition to youth and adult sports - is a fabulous idea.

The P&RC and staff toured Ben Brenman Park, including the soccer field, after the meeting.

City of Alexandria, Virginia
Park and Recreation Commission

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 21 2011, 7:00 p.m.
Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center
5750 Sanger Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia

Summary Minutes

Commission Members: Chairperson, Judy Guse-Noritake, Gina Baum, Richard Brune, Clark Mercer, Bob Moir, Jeffrey Murphy, Mollie Timmons. **Absent:** William Cromley, Ripley Forbes, John Sullivan, Anthony Zamora.

RPCA Staff: Director James Spengler, Ron Kagawa, Dana Wedeles, Laura Durham, David Ghezzi, Robin DeShields. **Absent:** William Chesley, Jack Browand, Alisa Carrel.

Guests: Faroll Hamer, Director, Planning and Zoning, and Gary Wagner, Principal Planner, Planning and Zoning. Cathy Puskar, Walsh Colucci Lubeley Emerich & Walsh, PC, and Ron Vine, Leisure Vision.

I. **Call to Order by Chair:** the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **Planning and Zoning - Presentation Alexandria Sanitation Authority - Proposed New Field:**

- Faroll Hamer, Director, Planning and Zoning (P&Z), and Gary Wagner, Principal Planner.
- **See Staff Report and background information provided by Department of RPCA ([www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/commissions/July 21](http://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/commissions/July_21).)**
- The proposal involves installing a partially above ground storage tank system and associated facilities with an athletic field above. The athletic field will be atop the roof of the tank and would be large enough for a regulation size multi-purpose field (360 ft. by 210 ft.), that would be publicly accessible and programmed. The field would have 20 ft. run out areas on all sides, and be lit.
- **Gary Wagner**, Principal Planner, provided a brief overview of the Alexandria Sanitation Authority (ASA) expansion plan, onto land purchased within the South Carlyle Planning Area of the Eisenhower East SAP. Other properties in the area are owned by a consortium of property owners who want to develop an overall concept plan that will incorporate the ASA Plan.
- A density transfer of approximately 680,000 square feet, from the ASA site to other blocks within the South Carlyle area, was approved by City Council on June 25, 2011.
- The consortium of landowners hired a consultant, FX Fowle, to produce a plan to show how the transferred density would work on the northern properties. The overall concept plan for the South Carlyle planning area, and ASA site includes the following:
 - A large green amenity area
 - Expansion tanks will be sunk approximately 30 ft. into the ground (10-15 ft. would be exposed); a playing field will be built on top of tanks.
 - There will be four levels of parking garage, below the deck that will service the offices, residences, and ball field.
 - A Development Special Use Permit (DSUP) for the ASA expansion site has been submitted to P&Z, and is under review. The Applicant hopes to go to Planning Commission in September or October. This is a very complex site plan, that involves a new facility that has to meet federally mandated discharge standards. It includes a Nutrient Management facility—consisting of large tanks, pump stations, etc., all below the ball field.
 - Consideration must be given to how pedestrians and emergency vehicles would access the field. A 20 ft. wide path will allow emergency vehicles to get to playing field.
 - There will be an odor control area on east side of tanks with stacks above playing field approximately 50 ft. high. Maintenance gallery runs between the tanks below the deck.
 - Temporary restroom facilities will be at the playing level of the field. Permanent facilities will be provided in the future ASA office building.

- ASA wants to do an interpretative trails with description of operations to educate people walking along trails. Area is shown for future ASA office building – in the interim site will serve as a temporary gravel parking lot and staging area for ASA use, area will be fenced in - no access to public.
- Parking – 33 spaces are available on-street. In addition, they will be working with Zell to provide long-term parking inside garage.
- Update - See project schedule - process to date and anticipated schedule:
 - May 2011 met with Eisenhower East (E.E.), Design Review Board
 - June 16 - P&RC was given an update
 - June 25 - City Council approved density transfer- 680,000 ft. FAR
 - June 30 - E.E. Review Board reviewed application
 - Tonight - July 21 to Park and Recreation Commission
 - August 3 – will meet again with E.E. Design Review Board, before going to Planning Commission and City Council.
 - October to Planning Commission, then to Council.
- Questions/Comments from Commissioners:
- Q. Brune - only access is from Eisenhower Ave. from Holland Lane. Is there a possibility of another access point to Eisenhower Ave.
- R. Wagner- Access is from Holland Lane and Eisenhower Park Dr., which turns into Truesdale Dr. that goes directly into the City jail. Police Department is concerned with security of area. ASA wanted to have parking in this area, and P & Z felt entrance into site was critical in terms of first appearance of the field. They did not feel it was appropriate to have parking here, but wanted to maintain area as a soft green space with berms and landscaping.
- Discussed doing a pavement change where the public street meets the private access road to the jail facility in order to discourage the public from driving down the private street since there will be no turn around ability.
- Wagner - In the master plan Eisenhower Park Drive, was to wrap around, and connect to Holland Lane. ASA decided against providing a trail in this area for security reasons.
- Potential trail on southern end of site, this would be an extension of the trail system near Cameron Run. Possible location, being discussed with T&ES. Proposed trail would come up to the playing field, continue around the site, and go all the way to Eisenhower Ave. The trail will allow pedestrians and bicyclists to go through site. Staff is still exploring the possibility of bringing the trail around site within the RPA. Problem exists, crossing around Hooffs Run is very difficult. A portion of the trail was built by VDOT and dead ends on the east side of Hooff's Run.
- Chair- important to remember, when this was a pivotal development site- there was a greenway along Cameron Run. While she applauds the new field, attention needs to be paid to what occurs there in the RPA. She understands the difficulty of the trail crossing Hooff's Run but a trail was always envisioned.
- Q. Chair- will there be an agreement to allow the Department of RPCA to schedule the field. In addition, who will be responsible for maintaining the field, and replacing the synthetic turf with new carpet, when needed? This should be determined early in the process.
- R. Wagner- if is an asset- management issues need to be determined.
- Q. Chair - when is the field expected to come on-line?
- R. Hamer- the DSUP will go forward in the fall, field will be under construction within a year.
- R. Kevin Wise-ASA- There is a regulatory deadline, the field will be completed by the end of 2014.
- Chair Judy Noritake, and Vice Chair, Bob Moir thanked P&Z staff for their presentation. Mr. Moir said the Carlyle area will be very populated soon, it is important, that each time a community is built, there be consideration of having recreational fields plus facilities for

jogging and walking. This is a great area for development. The Chair said Eisenhower East will have lots of young adults, living there that will want to use this field.

III. **Beauregard Corridor Open Space Presentation by Development Team** - Discussion.

- **Cathy Puskar, Attorney -Walsh Colucci Lubeley Emerich & Walsh, PC**
- Ms. Puskar gave a brief oral presentation on the Developers' Beauregard Corridor Open Space Concept Framework Plan - **See Handouts**. Ms. Puskar represents two property owners: Home Properties, near Hammond Middle School, and JBG Properties who owns the Hamlets Apartments (Mark Center). She is working with the citizens group, developers and stakeholders on redeveloping sites within the Beauregard Corridor Plan, involving: Home Properties, Washington Realty and Investment Trust (WRIT), Southern Towers, Duke Properties, Hekemiam, and JBG Properties, who owns the largest parcel, with about 130 acres. The focus is on maintaining, and creating additional open space throughout the Beauregard Corridor plan area. Proposed redevelopment includes residential, commercial, hotel and retail –broken up into different neighborhoods.
- **See open space exhibit**. There is some existing green space now. The Plan tries to consolidate open space into more meaningful/coordinated areas.
- There are some existing residential communities: Southern Towers has existing open space that would remain to serve the existing buildings consisting of 2300 rental units (estimated 5,000 residents). They will also be creating some new open space areas within the development, as well as on the Hekemian properties. These areas have not yet been programmed. Home Properties would have new green spaces as well.
- Q. Chair- what is the anticipated increase in number of residential units planned for area?
- R. Puskar - she is unsure, for JBG Properties – 6000 estimated units. They have spreadsheets and charts; she can make these available at a later time.
- The existing community consists of market rate affordable housing units built in the 1960's. These are smaller units, with lower rental prices serving families with children. With the redevelopment, the demographics will change slightly.
- The proposed development includes a new fire station on the N.W. corner of Beauregard St. and Sanger Ave. The development plan also includes a new artificial turf, lighted athletic field adjacent to the William Ramsay Elementary School. The siting of the proposed field will try to minimize the impact to existing trees. The development plan will also provide additional opportunities for recreational uses and/or a dog park. In addition, a community garden is desired. The project is still in the framework/planning stage, working with-citizens and staff. The goal is to get the field completed with the construction of the fire station Kagawa - field size will be 360 ft. x 210 ft.
- Chair-the field will be located on existing open space, on a site owned by the City and ACPS. ACPS is excited about having an artificial turf field for use by children. In the future the City should not build fields without restrooms. At this location, patrons will be able to use restrooms at the William Ramsay Recreation Center. When planning for the field, attention should be paid to preserving as much mature tree canopy in development as possible. There is a need to discuss this with residents in neighborhood and "Friends of Dora Kelly" park soon – before this is finalized.
- Parking- Ms. Puskar said at the last staff meeting, they discussed locating parking between the field and recreation center, this will provide alternative parking for the recreation center.
- Puskar- the fire station could be built as soon as possible, similarly to the athletic field. Residential units are not slated to come on-line for the next 15 to 20 years. Staff may want to push to get the field and lights installed now.
- Chair- you spoke about smaller areas on the other side - connecting the greenway, and the two ½ acre (.5) acre open space parcels (total of one additional acre of open space) and the field. There are other places where there will be small-scale recreational activities.
- Puskar - said diagram is not reflective of all open space, is more focused on public space (see Framework Diagram). There will be additional open space around townhouses, multifamily areas, and other areas where there would be community amenities.

- Chair- said distribution of open space is important. While drive-by open space makes for beautiful communities, it limits the amount of open space for recreation activities. The Winkler Botanical Preserve is a private open space, it benefits the neighborhood, but is not part of development.
- We also need to be concerned with the ownership and management of open space areas, from the larger public spaces managed by RPCA to the smaller areas that may be owned and maintained by the homeowners association. As the P&RC and staff develops a community garden policy, she would encourage that in dense developments like this, residents take ownership of gardens, and have the first right to these parcels. We need a mix of public and private gardens. The Chair said that private maintenance should be encouraged of small gardens, as well for dog parks.
- Ms. Puskar- said there are certain things that they would be responsible for on their properties, such as community amenities. However, dog parks which will serve the surrounding area, will be considered public areas, and should be maintained by the City.
- Q. Chair - what are open space requirements for this type of development?
- R. Hamer - P&Z does not have standardized open space requirements, each plan is viewed on a case by case basis. This is a good opportunity for a field and to use natural areas that connect to each other.
- Chair- the next presentation is an overview of the Recreational Needs Assessment, one of the top desires is for more natural trails. Puskar - They have spent a lot of time with the community trying to improve walkability and bikability, and have also incorporated shared use paths and trails, this will get refined over time.
- Chair- Are designers and owners are looking to get LEED ND Certification for the neighborhood plan?
- Puskar- this does apply to JBG properties, JBG is considering this.
- Hamer- it is important for some of the open space to be visible from public streets – in order to help ensure public space feels public, and not like private space.
- Chair- regarding storm water retention ponds, she doesn't see these as open space, even though developers sometimes present them as such. In extreme weather conditions causes problems, i.e. Cameron Station, Ben Brenman Park- people see the water and think it's a lake that kids should be able to play in. They just cannot be made to serve that kind of function. Proposed SW facility should be privately maintained - constant maintenance problems for RPCA when these are "open space".
- Moir- asked if consideration could be given to adding a second dog park in the development at the other end (one exists by William Ramsey School).
- Chair- once the number of residential units is known, she will be able to provide an estimate to Ms. Puskar on the number of dog parks needed to serve area.
- Puskar- recommendations also include providing safe areas for children and teenagers to play, both active and passive uses.
- Chair- When thinking about small-scale active recreation, staff should think in terms of contemporary, small-scale recreational activities like rock climbing or bouldering walls. Baum- spray parks should also be considered.
- Bush - when City receives compensation from the BRAC project, perhaps funds can be dedicated to the field.
- Chair- the BRAC site converted a lot of open space. Funds should probably be used to acquire additional open space in this area.
- The Chair asked if there were additional questions – there were none, she asked that Ms. Puskar keep her informed of the project status. Ms. Puskar mentioned that a bus tour will be given this weekend - to drive to different developments to discuss design issues. The tour will go through Alexandria and Arlington, 73 people have registered so far.

IV. **Needs Assessment Presentation** - Ron Vine, President –Leisure Vision, and

- Dana Wedeles, RPCA, Park Planning- **See RPCA Staff Report and L.V. Executive Summary, Major Findings - Item IV.**
- **Ron Vine:** the survey questions were developed based on site visits with RPCA and cover a full range of usage questions, customer satisfaction and priorities-see presentation.
- The goal was to complete 600 surveys, 601 were completed. Results have a 95% level of confidence + or – 4%. The survey was administered through a combination of mail and telephone: to reach demographics close to the 2010 census: Latinos represent 13% of the population; and 13% of respondents. African Americans represent 22% of the population; and 18% of respondents. They also had a good breakdown of ages of households, representative of the Alexandria population.
- **Background** - Leisure Vision has completed 600 park and recreation surveys (12 or more in the state of Virginia). L.V. has clients in 46 states, and has the largest database in the U.S.A., which allows them to be able to compare Alexandria to other areas of the county. Cross tabular analysis were done for: households with children, and without children, age of respondent, race and ethnicity, if they use parks, or not, how long client have lived in the Alexandria, if they have dogs or not, income and gender.
- **Presentation/discussion will focus on three key areas:**
 1. Current Department’s strengths
 2. Opportunities for further meeting cultural and recreation activity needs.
 3. Citizens’ vision of the community and recreation, parks and cultural activities.
- 1. **RPCA’s major Strengths:**
 - **Park usage; participation in recreation programs; usage of website; and the desire for cultural and special events, were are all rated high.** The Department of RPCA is considered the top community provider. See: **Organization Used for Recreation and Cultural Activities:** - 60% used the City’s parks, recreation and cultural activities services in last twelve months. RPCA is the dominant player for households with children under 10 years of age. RPCA is in the top two brackets in every age bracket, households with kids 10-18, and households without kids.
 - **Park usage:** 81% of residents have parks within walking distance from home. See Visitation - 85% of households have **visited** parks in the last year; national average is 72%.
 - **Participation in programs:** 46% of households participate in recreation programs; national average is 30%. Alexandria is doing outstanding in this area. The 46% represents households with young children, older children, and households with adults 55 and over. Alexandria rates high in all these areas, over the national benchmark. Conversely, the largest gap area is in households with no children, or where everyone is between the ages of 19 and 54. Overall Alexandria is doing very well compared to other communities.
 - **Special Events:** Alexandria is second community across U.S. where the desire for farmers markets is the number one. Desire for special events in Alexandria is high 61%; Nationally Special Events is 39%.
 - **Ways Households Learn About Services Offered:**
The two most important ways are newspaper, and from friends and neighbors (both rated at 46%). Other ways are from the website 34%; national benchmark is 16%; Brochure/program guide is 29%.
- 2. **Major Opportunities - to improve excellent rating of parks:**
 - **Increase usage of Program Guide; address unmet needs, for Parks and Recreation and cultural activities; address needs of empty nester households, and increase awareness of offerings.**

- Usage of program guide is 29%; national average is 53%. Staff discussed, some possible reasons for lower usage of guide, may be that the guide can be easily accessed from RPCA's website. Additionally, guide is currently only sent to users of programs. Mr. Spengler said limited distribution of guide is partly due to budget cuts.

Park usage is 85%; however, only 23% say conditions of parks are excellent; nationally average is 31%. Mr. Vine said it is not unusual for a high usage system, to cause stress on park conditions. 63% of responders say conditions of parks are good. From a policy standpoint RPCA needs to decide if good is adequate.

- When asked what the reasons are "Preventing Households from Using Facilities or Programs More Often": 41% stated "I don't know what is being offered." The second highest response was "I don't not know location of facilities, 20%.

3. Citizen/Community Vision for the Future:

- Vine: a significant opportunity exists for met needs, but more for unmet needs. Some items citizens envision as the perfect park system for their households are: Having Farmers Markets, and Cultural and Special Events.
- Respondents felt programs should be paid for through a combination of fees and taxes, depending on the age of the user group. Respondents are most willing to spend their tax dollars on improving trails and passive usage of neighborhood parks, requiring open space.
- The highest need is for walking trails: 85% said they have a need. Natural Areas, wildlife habitats was the second highest, 67% said they have a need.
- 31% have a need for athletic fields (including both rectangular and diamond fields), though youth athletic programs are the number one need in households with children age 10-19 (21% of households have youngsters that are school age.) The Chair pointed out that the need for indoor swimming pools is higher at 52%.
- Need for Fenced dog areas: 27% households say they have a need, Unfenced rated 20%. Nationally 25% of households have dogs.

Question 6c in presentation shows the number of households in Alexandria whose need for Recreation Amenities are only being met - 50% or less. The biggest unmet needs are in natural areas and wildlife habitats, followed by indoor exercise facilities, walking trails, and indoor and outdoor pools. This shows where the greatest focus needs to be for facility improvements as the needs are not being met.

- **Recreational and Cultural Programs:**
- 19,000 households have less than 50% of met needs in special events; this is the highest ranked program with unmet needs.
- 18,207 households have less than 50% of met needs for farmers markets.
- Mr. Vine commented that the community really likes participating in park and recreation and in cultural activities. There are a lot of unmet needs, more than seen in the average communities.
- **Amenities that are most important:**
- Walking Trails - 57% desire walking trails, followed by biking trails, natural areas, and then playgrounds.
- Playgrounds - are the #1 priority for households with children under 10 years of age. 60% of households in this household age group say playgrounds are priority- the next highest need in this household type walking trails (44%).
- Walking and bike trails – are # 1 for households with children ages 10-19; soccer & lacrosse was #2.

- Walking and bike trails are number one priorities for empty nesters households. Vine - looking to the future, for empty nesters it is really key to look at what is the most important item for various age groups.
 - **RPCA recreational and cultural programs that are most important (O9).** In general, 25% said Farmers Markets, followed by cultural and special events.
 - Learn to Swim programs- are the #1 priority for households with children under 10.
 - Youth Athletic Programs- are the #1 priority for households with children 10-19.
 - Farmers Markets - are the #1 for empty nesters households.
 - **Activities that households are most willing to support with tax dollars - see chart.**
 - In order: (1) Improving existing walking and bike trails; (2) purchase land to preserve natural areas, (3) develop walking and biking trails that connect parks and (4) improve existing passive use in neighborhood parks
 - Mr. Vine said the Planning Director also spoke about some of these things (connecting trails) in the previous presentation (Beauregard).
 - As RPCA, and the City moves forward with its strategic plan they should incorporate survey findings and look for ways to address community desires and unmet needs.
- Questions/Comments:
 - Jane Yeingst, “Buddie Ford” Nature Center- asked why the Nature Center was not mentioned.
 - Mr. Vine- said the survey did not ask questions about specific centers. Natural areas and wildlife habitat speaks to what the Nature Center is about. Dana Wedeles, RPCA said survey was asking about outdoor facilities and programs.
 - The Chair said it is important what was shown as for priorities for the Department, in terms of advocacy, budgeting and planning. In terms of future population forecasting for the City; she believes that in 10-20 years from now Alexandria will be composed of many young families with children living in multi-family buildings. These families will require more recreational space because they will not have yards. The City should be planning for this.
 - Vine- They did not do projections for future populations. A survey is just a tool to help decision makers. The key is to look at data under: households with children under 10, households with children ages 10-19, empty nesters 20-54 years of age. This will be a good indicator on how to plan for the next five years.
 - Brune- regarding occupations and employment –was question posed, are you going to be living in the area for long term?
 - Vine- good point, this question is frequently asked when we are doing comprehensive planning surveys. The survey completed for the City however, considered other demographics they thought were more germane.

Mr. Vine thanked the Commission and RPCA staff for the opportunity to complete the City’s survey. He said that Dana Wedeles, Park Planner has been great to work with. Ms. Wedeles said the final report will be available soon-there are a few changes. There will also be GIS footage. Director Spengler said both the Needs Assessment and Aquatics Plan will go to Council in the fall.

- V. Approval of Summary Minutes from June 16, 2011 – Deferred.
- VI. Adoption of FY 2011 Annual Report, and Attendance Report submission - Jack Browand.
 - The Annual Report and attendance report was approved by the Commission as submitted. The reports will be forwarded to Rose Boyd, Secretary for Boards and Commissions.
- VII. **DIVISION UPDATES: To View Full Staff Reports go to:**
www.alexandriava.gov/Recreation/Commission reports.
 - A. Recreation Programs and Service Update - William Chesley (absent) - See Staff Report.

- B. Operations and Park Planning Monthly Report – Jack Browand, Acting Deputy Director for Operations - See Staff Report.
- C. Office of the Arts Update - See Staff Report by Alisa Carrel (absent) – The Office of the Arts was awarded a \$5,500 grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts for the construction of a performance stage at the building formerly known as the Duron building, now called the Conservatory. The estimated cost for the stage is \$11,000 \$5,000 has been received to date in the form of the state arts program. Durham-is getting updated estimates-stage will be up soon.
- D. Park Planning Updates - Ron Kagawa and Laura Durham.
 - i. Divisional Updates - Active Park Planning Projects - See Staff Report. Ron Kagawa said new report format was developed by his staff in MSAccess.
 - ii. Jones Point Park Update- See Staff Report.
Bob Moir – said he visited JPP, this is a very large park (64 acres) it is unfortunate that the park will not be able to be used or programmed by RPCA; park is under the control of VDOT. Ron Kagawa said parking is still an issue under the bridge, there are some amenities: four basketball courts, a playground, a comfort station, etc.
 - iii. David H. Ghezzi, AIA LEED AP - New Team Member - See Staff Report. Ron Kagawa, Division Chief, Park Planning, introduced new team member and Architect David Ghezzi. Mr. Ghezzi will work with staff on the CFMP and park standards, among other projects. The P&RC staff welcomed Mr. Ghezzi to the meeting.

Other: 1 & 7 East Del Ray Ave, will be finished and delivered August 15. Durham- said with the exception of plantings that will be completed in the fall.
- E. Marketing, Public Relations & Special Events – Cheryl Lawrence- See Staff Report.
 - o Director James Spengler commented that the recent City Birthday Celebration held July 9; at Oronoco Bay Park was one of the largest and most successful events he has seen.

VIII. Director's Report - James Spengler

- A. **Ft. Ward Park New Advisory Committee Update** - See Attachment: Docket item # 27, 6/28/11. Consideration of a Resolution Re-establishing an Ad Hoc Ft. Ward Park and Museum Area Stakeholders Advisory Group (Res. #2460).
Discussion: City Council appointed a new Ad Hoc Ft. Ward Park Advisory Group. The new group will serve for a two year term. Group's Composition (See docket memo pgs. 2 and 3): *Three members to be recommended by the Park and Recreation Commission Chair.*
Mr. Spengler said recommendations are due back to the City Manager by August 2. The new group will begin meeting in September. The main purpose of the new group will be to determine the project scope for a master plan for Ft. Ward Park; help staff with selection of a consultant, and participate in the development of the master plan over a twelve to sixteen month period.
Chair – the original Ft. Ward Advisory Committee had three members from the P&RC: Rich Brune, Ripley Forbes, and Bob Moir, each worked on the committee for a year, and helped draft the report/recommendations. Mr. Forbes would like to serve on the new committee, Mr. Brune and Mr. Moir did not wish to continue if other arrangements could be made to represent the P&RC. As an alternative, staff is recommending possible appointment of active park users. Laura Durham said she is doing outreach to recreational users of park. The Chair asked Ms. Durham, to follow-up with Linda Reis to determine if she would like to serve as one of the P&RC representatives. Commissioner Moir said that the Ad Hoc Ft. Ward Stakeholders group's written report and recommendations will serve as a good guide for new appointees. Action: The Chair will submit names by August 2.
- B. **Waterfront SAP Summer Task Force**- See Attachment: Docket item #21, 6/28/11, Consideration of a Resolution to Establish a Waterfront Plan Work Group.
Mr. Spengler reported that a meeting was held in June with City Council to discuss the future plans for the waterfront. City Council did not vote on the Waterfront Plan in June, but took action to form a new committee to further study the Plan. The new group will consist of: five at-large citizen members; a representative from the Waterfront Committee (Chair, Nate Macek); a representative from Old Town Civic Assoc. and a non-voting member from City Council. The group will begin meeting in the summer and make recommendations to City Council in the fall. Laura Durham will forward information on the upcoming meeting on July 27-Enews will be out today.

IX. Reports from Commissioners (verbal updates):

- A. Waterfront Committee -William Cromley (absent).
- B. Youth Sport Committee - Jeffrey Murphy (absent). See Hammond Lights.
- C. Four Mile Run - Ripley Forbes (absent). The Chair reported that a meeting was held. Breakout tables discussed that Four Mile Run park needs to be master planned to make better use of it. Concurrent planning may be done with Arlington Co.
- D. Charles Houston Memorial Project - William Cromley (absent).
- E. Freedman's Cemetery - Bob Moir- project is moving along.
- F. Beauregard Corridor - **See discussion - Item #III**
- G. ACPS & Capital Improvements - Judy Guse-Noritake
 - o **Hammond Lights Update**- Planning Commission (P.C.) approved the SUP for lights (SUP #2010-0079). Neighbors challenged the decision. Issue is whether the P.C. had the authority to grant the variance for lights. The Plan will now go before the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) for approval - project will be delayed until September. Nancy Jennings, President of the Seminary Hills Association, submitted a Freedom of Information Act Request (FOIA) requesting copies of all information on the project. The Department of RPCA responded and submitted information to the City Attorney's Office.
- H. Jones Point Park Liaison Group- Judy Guse-Noritake said the group meets quarterly, next meeting is Sept.
- I. Community Gardens Policy- Next Steps - Judy Noritake. This item will be taken up in the fall.

Other- Youth Policy Commission - Clark Mercer received a letter from the Mayor thanking him for his work on the now defunct commission. The commission was disbanded when the City formed a new consolidated commission to work with children, youth and families.

- X. Agenda Items for September 2011 meeting and location:** Aquatics Master Plan, Miracle Field Update, invite a representative from the swim meet, location-TBD.

- XI. Adjournment:** 9:00 p.m.

At the close of the meeting, the Commission will take comments on any other topic from the public, there were none.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: WILLIAM CHESLEY, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011 COMMISSION MEETING - ITEM III-A
RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES REPORT

Youth Activities

- ACCT held Anti-Bullying Puppet Theatre Workshops at multiple recreation centers in August. This is the second year our staff has collaborated with the City's Joblink program to train youth to create skits to convey anti-bullying messages to youth audiences.
- RPCA/Division staff partnered with ARHA to implement the Youth Arts Festival At the Jefferson-Houston Elementary School on July 30, 2011.
- The Campagna Center honored Margaret Orlando in a ceremony at the Campagna Center on August 25 for her collaborative work and efforts with the Campagna Center and other youth serving organizations in Alexandria.
- Staff designed the "**Power Play**" Fitness and Sports program to improve children's overall health and to teach them the fundamentals of the fitness and sports related activities. The program is a comprehensive fitness and sports program geared towards getting more children involved in physical activity through active participation in traditional and non-traditional fitness and sports activities. This program will provide the youth of the Out of School Time Power On Program with age appropriate recreational Health & Fitness programs geared to meet their variety of skill levels. The program will focus on building skills, knowledge of fitness, team sports, games and activities. There will be two Field Days during the year in December and June. Participants from each center will engage in competitive traditional and non-traditional fitness and sporting activities. The program will begin on Monday, September 19 at the neighborhood recreation and afterschool centers as part of their Power On and Power Up programs.
- The Titan Youth Football Program began in early April. League games begin on September 17. Staff implemented a summer youth football camp in July. Eighty-five children participated in the camp.
- The Youth Rugby Program concluded its season in August. Enrollment in the program increased from 55 children in the summer of 2010 to 125 children in the summer of 2011.
- We will introduce the "Titan Lounge" after school program in collaboration with T.C. William High School administrators and staff. As you may recall, I reported that we

were working with T.C. Williams' administrators scheduled to pilot this program in the spring of 2011.

Adult Activities

- Virginia Cooperative Extension staff conducted nutrition and other health related workshops for youth and senior adults at recreation centers, schools and the St. Martin Seniors Center.
- Staff implemented a Coed Marathon Softball Tournament at Hensley Park on August 26-26. Six local teams competed in the tournament.
- Staff is conducting registration for fall adult sports programs. Play will begin in September and run through November. Senior Adult Coed Early Morning Softball and Soccer Leagues have been advertised as well.
- Staff work on senior programming continues through the Senior Programming Work Group. We held a planning meeting with interested seniors on August 18 to discuss programming opportunities. We are planning a follow-up meeting with seniors in late September or early October also meet with seniors to continue our efforts to get input from seniors on programming opportunities.
- Staff is preparing to assist with the annual Northern Virginia Senior Olympics scheduled in Arlington later this month.

Recreation Centers

- There were 1,213 children enrolled in the 2011 summer Power-On and Power-Up programs. Enrollment increased in the programs by 8% over last year's registration total. The programs generated \$28,171 in revenue. We enrolled 1,123 children in the Power-On and Power-Up programs last summer.
- The summer "Let's Go Green" theme was well infused in the program activities this summer. The centers and playgrounds displayed their recycled art projects including "trashions," clothing and accessories created with discarded materials, trash-bags and other items, refinished and painted furniture, and artwork at the Youth Arts Festival held at Jefferson-Houston and Durant Recreation Center on Saturday, July 30. In addition, youth performed through song, dance, spoken word and creative movement with a focus on ways to protect the environment, recycling and nature. The participants will have opportunities to do arts and crafts projects, service projects, take field trips, and participate in activities related to the environment. There were also interactive exhibits with artists including the City's Poet Laureate, face painting, paper bag puppets, digital connections and more. The Department collaborated with the Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority to produce the Second Youth Arts Festival.
- Charles Houston Recreation Center and the Summer Power-Up Program collaborated to create a "Trashion Fashion" show held at Charles Houston Center on August 18. Youth walked the runway constructed in the gym in their recycled outfits that were amazingly creative. The music, presentation and poise of the youth gave the feel of a true fashion show with a finale recreating a wedding scene in their formal "trashions."
- The Summer Food Service Program sponsored by the Department each summer also concluded on August 19. During the month of August, over 19,000 meals were served to city youth at the recreation centers, Campagna Kids program, Boys & Girls Club, Urban League and other sites throughout the City. More than 59,000 meals were served from June 27-August 19.

- The division is currently collecting surveys for the 2011 Summer Power-On and Power-Up Programs. At this time, 147 surveys have been entered into Survey Monkey and the overall satisfaction rating for the programs is 93%. The highest rated area is the child's overall enjoyment at 95% and the lowest area is improved physical fitness and overall health at 89%.
- The National Safe Place (NSP) is on track for implementation September 2011. We will hold kick-off activities at all recreation centers on September 30.
- We have linked our on-site recreation center "Red Box" customer satisfaction survey to Survey Monkey to increase utilization of the survey by our customers. Staff will attach the survey to all email correspondence to increase the number of surveys received from customers.

Aquatic Program

- We implemented a water safety program for children enrolled in the Summer Power-On program. We designed the program to teach children how to be safe around water.
- Staff continues to work with Park Planning staff and the Aquatic Consultants in support of the Aquatic Master Plan.
- The 2011 Wahoo Swim team experienced its first winning season in over a decade. We served more than 135 children in the program this summer.
- We initiated an independent Incident Review Committee to review the July 1, 2011 Warwick Pool incident involving a child who nearly drowned at the pool. The Committee provided a report of its findings and recommendations to the Director of RPCA. Staff has implemented some of the recommended changes and will implement all other recommendations at the start of the 2012 outdoor pool season. A copy of the report is included with this report.

Environmental Education

- Nature Center staff implemented a Traveling Nature Center Program in June. Multiple visits were made to recreation centers and playground program sites this past summer.

Other

- Staff and I completed the division's three-year business plan (FY-2012-FY-2014).
- Thirty RPCA employees completed the three and a half day LERN Program Management Institute (PMI) and 80% of the employees completed and passed the certification exam.
- Staff implemented a free open play program at Brenman, Fort Ward and Minnie Howard Fields. The program began on July 9 and with the exception of the Brenman Field, the Program ended on August 14. We extended the program at the Brenman Field because field use by the community was high during scheduled open field times.

Stephen A. Haering, MD, MPH
Health Director

TO: William Chesley
Deputy Director of Recreation Services
Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities

FROM: Stephen A. Haering, MD, MPH
Health Director
Alexandria Health Department

DATE: July 11, 2011

SUBJECT: Aquatic Safety Recommendations – follow-up to Warwick Village Pool Incident

Summary of AHD Observations

On July 1, 2011, at approximately 1:35 pm, there was an aquatic safety incident at Warwick Village Pool located at 3301 Landover Street, Alexandria, VA. The Alexandria Health Department arrived at Warwick Village Pool on July 1, 2011, at approximately 2:30 pm. Below is a summary of the events surrounding that incident based on the incident report completed by the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities and the assessment conducted by the Alexandria Health Department.

Warwick Village Pool lifeguards were alerted to a six-year old boy in distress in the shallow end of the pool by other children swimming near the boy. The boy was reportedly swimming in four feet of water with the assistance of a noodle when he fell off of the noodle, **unsuccessfully reached for another swimmer's noodle, and began to struggle. At that time,** another swimmer screamed for help. Two lifeguards – who were not poolside at the time of the incident – responded by lifting the boy from the pool, assessed his condition, and requested additional assistance from a third lifeguard. The third lifeguard performed rescue breathing; after four breaths the boy began to vomit. One of the first two lifeguards and the pool manager applied an oxygen mask to the boy who began to cough and wheeze. The EMT arrived and transported the boy to **National Children's** hospital. The Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities Aquatics Director accompanied the boy to the hospital.

At the time of the incident between 50 and 55 patrons were in the pool: pool patrons were comprised of approximately 35 children between the ages of five and twelve who were participating in a City-sponsored summer camp and approximately 15-20 neighborhood patrons. The camp arrived at approximately 1:00 pm and the boy was a camp participant. Four counselors chaperoned the campers; one counselor was in the pool with the campers at the time of the incident.

KING STREET
4480 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 746-4996

CASEY HEALTH CENTER
1200 N. Howard Street
Alexandria, VA 22304
(703) 746-4886

TEEN WELLNESS CENTER
3330 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 746-4776

ARLANDRIA (WIC)
3802 Executive Ave. #D-2
Alexandria, VA 22305
(703) 519-1957



Warwick Village Pool is an L-shaped pool, with the bottom of the L housing the deep end and diving board. The diving board was open to patrons. One lifeguard chair is located on the pool deck outside of the deep end and this chair was occupied by a lifeguard at the time of the incident. The top of the L houses the shallow end of the pool, which ranges in depth from three to five feet. Three lifeguard chairs are located on the pool deck outside of the shallow end. One chair, the chair nearest the stairs immediately outside of the bathhouses, was occupied by a lifeguard at the time of the incident. There is a basketball hoop located a few yards to the right of the occupied stand (facing the pool). The area surrounding the basketball hoop is reportedly the most populated area of the pool. The incident occurred in four feet of water a few yards to the right of the basketball hoop (facing the pool). The Alexandria Health Department verified that the location of the incident was not a blind spot for the occupied lifeguard stand in the shallow end of the pool.

According to the Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities incident report, there were a total of eight lifeguards in the pool area at the time of the incident. Only two lifeguards were occupying poolside lifeguard chairs.

Meeting between Alexandria Health Department and Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities

On July 6, 2011, Alexandria Health Department representatives (me, Environmental Health Supervisor Kristin Garcia, and Environmental Health Specialist Stephen Hughes) met with you and four Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities representatives to review the incident and to discuss Alexandria Health Department's recommendations that might enhance aquatic safety. Below is a review of the six recommendations that we discussed.

Alexandria Health Department Recommendations:

1. Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities should develop a policy (and should develop procedures for lifeguards to follow the policy) which mandates an increase in the number of lifeguards poolside for situations in which there might be a higher risk for pool patrons. Such situations include times when there is a concentrated number of patrons in an area (or areas) of the pool and/or times when there is a lot of activity in an area of the pool that might obstruct **lifeguards' views of patrons or might lead** to a challenging environment for less-adept swimmers (e.g. around basketball hoops or other water games that create crowding).

(Note: The Aquatic Health Ordinance requires one lifeguard poolside for every twenty-five patrons in the water. At the time of the July 1, 2011, incident, there were two lifeguards poolside and 50-55 patrons in the pool. The vast preponderance of the patrons was in the vicinity of the basketball hoop which was located near one of the lifeguards; the other poolside lifeguard was at the other end of the pool (the deep end). Implementing policies and procedures that may maximize aquatic safety via an increase in lifeguards poolside under certain circumstances would be prudent.)

2. Camp counselors should actively supervise campers in the pool at all times. Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities should clearly define **"active supervision"** (i.e. whether this means being in the pool with the swimming campers, and/or whether this means being physically within 2 feet of the pool edge and actively surveying the swimming campers) and train and monitor counselors accordingly. Additionally, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities should have an established policy by which

swimming campers with limited or absent swimming skills and abilities are directly accompanied with a counselor (ideally with a 1:1 counselor:swimmer ratio, but not more than 1:2 counselor:swimmer ratio) at all times while in the pool.

(Note: In the July 1, 2011, incident, one counselor was actively supervising 35 campers at the time of the incident; according to the Recreation incident report, the boy involved was a non-swimmer. Four counselors actively supervising 35 campers may offer counselors a more manageable responsibility and may provide additional support to lifeguards.)

3. The provision of basic lifesaving training to camp counselors would provide additional safety for swimming campers. Therefore, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities should ensure that camp counselors are trained in basic lifesaving skills.

(Note: Camp counselors are currently certified in CPR and First Aid approximately one week before the first City camp session commences – this pro-active training is commendable; it should be enhanced for counselors who will be supervising swimming campers. The Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities Aquatics Supervisor has the knowledge, skills and abilities to provide training in basic lifesaving skills to camp counselors).

4. It is critical to the safety of each camper for Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities staff to know **campers' (and other pool patrons') swimming skills and abilities**, especially those who do not possess, or have limited, swimming skills and abilities. Summer camp participants should be assessed for their swimming skills and ability and for their water safety knowledge by at least two methods:
 - a. The Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities summer camp brochure/application should include a section for parents/guardians to complete that provides the parent/guardian assessment of **the camper's swimming skills and abilities** and water safety knowledge.
 - b. Prior to allowing campers (and other pool patrons) to swim, Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities **should conduct a practical assessment of each camper's** swimming skills and abilities.
5. A lifeline should be placed in the shallow end of the Warwick Village pool at the three to four feet depth change. A lifeline may provide swimmers in distress with a preliminary rescue option.
6. Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities should keep the Alexandria Health Department apprised of incidents and potential incidents. Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities should consider using the Alexandria Health Department as technical advisors in the assessment and development of policy changes affecting the health and safety of patrons at City operated pools.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JULY 28, 2011

TO: BRUCE JOHNSON, ACTING CITY MANAGER

THROUGH: JAMES B. SPENGLER, DIRECTOR
RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES 

FROM: WARWICK POOL INCIDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: WARWICK POOL INCIDENT REVIEW REPORT

CDC drowning data from 2000 shows approximately 1 fatality in pools for every 162,000 swimmers. There is no record of a drowning or near drowning like the aquatic incident that occurred at Warwick Pool in a City of Alexandria public pool in more than thirty years. Even though this demonstrates that the City's existing policies and procedures are working, the Warwick Pool Incident Committee (The Committee) was created to review the near-drowning incident of a six year old swimmer that occurred at the Warwick Pool on Friday, July 1, 2011, at approximately 1:35pm. The Committee members included the following individuals:

- Rick Willsey, Risk Manager, City of Alexandria
- Karen Snow, Assistant City Attorney, City of Alexandria
- Yon Lambert, Deputy Director, Alexandria Department of Transportation & Environmental Services
- Kristin Garcia, Alexandria Health Department
- Derric J. Bolton, Risk Manager, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority

The Committee met on Tuesday, July 12, 2011, 10:00 am at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson Street. The Committee members reviewed the Recreation Department Incident Report Form (Attachment 1) and the follow-up memorandum from the Alexandria Health Department Director, Stephen A. Haering (Attachment 2). Kristin Garcia explained that the Health Department is the supervising agency responsible for regulation of aquatic facilities as outlined in the Aquatic Health Ordinance. The Committee members agreed that the Health Department report would be the foundation of their review. A follow-up meeting was held on Friday, July 29, 2011, at the Lee Center.

The Committee members discussed the sequence of events, the location of aquatic and camp staff, number of guards working, and the emergency procedures followed. The main question asked was, "Did we do what we were supposed to do?" The group agreed that the aquatic staff response implemented skills learned in their lifesaving training. They should be commended for their role in the positive outcome for the young swimmer. Ralph Baird, Aquatic Director, and

Melissa Riddy, Recreation Manager, were interviewed regarding their programs respectively. Ralph is responsible for the Aquatic Operation on a City-wide basis which includes the training of lifeguard staff. Melissa coordinates the Fun Day Camp program which the young swimmer was attending at the time of the incident. Each Manager discussed the training and requirements of their staff at the pools.

The next question asked was “Why did another swimmer find and lift the boy out of the pool?” The Committee learned that it is not unusual for another swimmer to be the first identifier of another swimmer in distress. There are more swimmers than guards and swimmers are in close proximity to each other. In the Warwick Pool incident, Erin Boyle (age 13) noticed the boy under water and brought him to the surface where she called for help from the lifeguards. The Committee agreed that Erin should be recognized for her contribution in saving the young boy’s life.

Although the outcome of the Warwick Pool incident was a positive one, The Committee makes the following recommendations to the Aquatics Operation of the Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities:

The following items have been implemented or will be done so immediately:

- Implement item number 1, first part of item number 2, item number 5, and item number 6 of the recommendations made by the Alexandria Health Department in the memo dated July 11, 2011;
- Implement a standard for the minimum number of guards for Warwick Pool to be 3 lifeguards in elevated chairs with at least 1 lifeguard walking the deck to exceed the 1/25 guard to swimmer ratio as outlined in the Aquatic Health Ordinance and recommendation number 1 in the Alexandria Health Department in the memo dated July 11, 2011;
- Evaluate activities that create concentrated large clusters of swimmers such as water basketball that may have an impact on the safety of other swimmers;
- Emphasize scanning techniques for lifeguards at all in-service trainings;
- Prohibit inflatable or floating devices for recreational swimming by non-swimmers unless used as an instructional tool on a one-to-one basis by a parent or teacher; and
- Require all guards to wear a safety pack when on the pool deck.

For short term action to be implemented by the close of the 2011 summer season:

- Implement item number 4b of the recommendations made by the Alexandria Health Department memo dated July 11, 2011;
- Develop a standard for the minimum number of guards for the other pools under the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities;
- Provide Coast Guard approved life jackets for non-swimmers to be used in shoulder depth water with the following guidelines
 - Provide only Coast Guard approved life jackets
 - Place in a visible location and encourage pfd use
 - Use of pfds by children require direct one-on-one adult supervision
 - Use of pfd are not permitted in water over their shoulder
 - Use of pfds permitted only in designated shallow areas
 - Use of inflatable tubes and rafts are not permitted as swimming aids; and
- Develop assessment guidelines for swimmers who are part of a group for shallow and deep water access.

For long term action to be implemented by the start of the 2012 summer season:

- Implement the second part of item number 2, item number 3, and item number 4a of the recommendations made by the Alexandria Health Department memo dated July 11, 2011;
- Evaluate several lifeguard training certification programs offered by the American Red Cross, Jeff Ellis and Associates, National Aquatic Safety Company or American Lifeguard Association and consider the best fit for the City of Alexandria;
- Participate with the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority pool managers in the Lifeguard Management Training in 2012; and
- Conduct joint in-service training with Alexandria Fire and Rescue and Aquatic staff.

Attachment 1 Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Incident Report dated July 1, 2011

Attachment 2 Alexandria Health Department Memorandum for Aquatic Safety
Recommendations – follow-up to Warwick Pool Incident

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: JACK BROWAND, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PARK OPERATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION - ITEM III-B
PARK OPERATIONS UPDATE

HURRICANE IRENE RESPONSE

Park Operations staff responded to the hurricane response in providing support in cleanup activities associated with downed trees and limbs. The City's Operations Emergency Operations Center (EOC) opened at noon on Saturday, August 27 and operated continuously through 7 pm Sunday, August 28. During the height of the storm, personnel were responsible for maintaining access to public rights of way and responding to emergency clearing of public trees on private property. Cleanup and removal of citywide debris began Monday, August 29.

Hurricane Irene Stats

- **176:** Service Requests responded to by staff/direct storm damage (9/27-9/30)
- **50:** Service Requests in support of solid waste/debris removal (8/30-9/2)
- **46:** Park Operations' staff members participated in storm related activities (9/27-9/28)
- **785.5:** Staff hours – 668.5 (Overtime & Seasonal) and 117 (Compensatory Time)
- **\$18,887:** Direct staff cost (668.5 hrs Overtime & Seasonal)
Note: 117 hours of compensatory time equates to approximately \$4,300 indirect cost
- **\$19,200:** Contractual services for debris removal
- **\$3,000:** Supplies purchased in support of storm response activities

FLOODING ACTIVITIES – WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5-9

Staff continue to assess damages associated with the flooding activities resulting from excessive rain during the week of September 5-9, 2011. Moderate to extreme damage occurred on bike and walking trails (Dora Kelly), damage to the irrigation at Armistead L. Booth Park, erosion of banks and mulching areas, and the loss of one large tree in Fort Ward Park. Photos attached.

PROJECT UPDATES

- Scorers/Press Box Rebuilt at George Washington Middle School - **Complete**
- Hillside Park security and landscaping improvements, and mulching to improve erosion abatement – **Complete**
- George Washington Middle School Field #1 Turf Rehabilitation – **Complete**
- Playground surface enhancements with engineered wood fibers at Powhatan, Mason Avenue, Sunset and Simpson Parks – **Complete**
- Simpson Park Little League Athletic Field lights have been replaced with a Musco (4) four pole design – **Complete**
- Installation of solar light for flag illumination at Ben Brenman Park - **Complete**
- Simpson Park Little League Athletic Field fence is being replaced with six feet of green fencing with an additional nine feet of netting to enhance safety of participants at new multipurpose rectangular fields and dog park – **Ongoing**
- Sidewalk repairs at Chinquapin Park Recreation Center and Tennis Courts – **Ongoing**
- Volunteer Activities
 - September 23-25: Beverley Park Stair Replacement – Eagle Scout Project
 - September 24: Angel Park weeding mulch beds, debris cleanup, painting, etc.

Flooding Damage: September 5-9, 2011

Armistead L. Boothe Park



Fort Ward Park



Dora Kelly Park Walking and Biking Trail



City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: ALISA CARREL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF THE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: **SEPTEMBER 2011 COMMISSION MEETING, ITEM III-C
UPDATE ON THE OFFICE OF THE ARTS AND ARTS COMMISSION
ACTIVITIES**

Please see Attachment:
OFFICE OF THE ARTS MONTHLY STAFF REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2011.

**OFFICE OF THE ARTS MONTHLY STAFF REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2011**

GRANTS PROGRAM:

Alexandria Commission for the Arts Grants Program

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: Arts organizations submitted their FY2011 final report forms. Staff has verified their accuracy. The Virginia Commission of the Arts has awarded the City of Alexandria a \$5,000 Local Government Challenge Grant for FY2012. Staff has distributed the FY2012 award letters to the grant recipients.

The Grant Program Review Committee held two focus group meetings (August 9 & 10) to meet with representatives from arts organizations who had applied to the Commission for funding over the past 3 years. The purpose for the meetings was to obtain insights about the grant program from the grant applicant's perspective. Forty-five people attended the two focus group meetings representing 37 different arts organizations.

The Committee summarized the outcomes from the meetings. While more significant changes will be made for the FY2014 grant cycle, staff worked with the City's webmaster to implement a number of textual changes to the FY2013 grant cycle. It is anticipated that the FY2013 online grant application site will be live by Friday, September 16.

Four FY2013 Grant Workshops are scheduled. Commissioners are also encouraged to attend and participate in the workshops. Please let staff know if you can assist. The FY2013 grant application deadline is Friday, November 18.

Important Dates: FY Grant Workshops, Tuesday, September 13, 7 p.m.; Thursday, September 22, 2 p.m.; Wednesday, October 5, 7 p.m.; and Wednesday, October 26, 2 pm. FY 2013 grant deadline is Friday, November 18.

PUBLIC ART POLICY:

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: Meetings will be scheduled within the next two weeks.

PUBLIC ART PROJECTS:

BRAC – Art Wall and Sculpture

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: A letter from the Mayor supporting the public art project and artist Heidi Lippman was submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers. Staff is awaiting word on final approval from the Secretary of the Army.

Four Mile Run Community Center (formerly called the Duron Paint Building)

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: The installation of the performance stage is nearly complete. The retractable door and screen have been installed. The stage will be built within the next few weeks. We are trying to secure the space as a Film Festival venue.

Contrabands & Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial Sculpture

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) went out on August 19. Artists and arts centers have received notification via e-mails and listservs. The deadline for submitting applications is October 17.

Police Memorial

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: No update.

Charles Hamilton Houston Memorial

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: No update

King Street Gardens Park

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: On Friday, September 22, 5 pm – 7 pm the Old Town Business and Professional Association and the King Street Gardens Park Foundation are sponsoring a Jazz-Filled Supper Under the Stars in the King Street Gardens Park, King St and Diagonal Rd. Tickets are \$25 in advance (call 703-683-0333 or \$30 at the gate. Cash, Master Card, or Visa accepted. Funds raised will help pay for park improvements.

Important Date: **Supper Under the Stars, September 22, 2011, 5 pm – 7 pm.**

PUBLIC ART IN URBAN PLANNING:

Waterfront Plan

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14. Pat Miller has been invited to speak to the advisory group on behalf of the Arts Commission.

ALEXANDRIA POET LAUREATE:

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: Amy Young and the Tenants' and Workers' United have created the "Arlandria Young Poets Club." From August 1-5, youth worked with Amy Young to create poetry, written in Spanish and English. At the end of the workshops, the participants invited their parents and family members to attend a reading of their poetry. The youth also performed several impromptu readings during Del Ray's 2nd Thursday arts night on Mount Vernon Avenue.

Amy Young developed partnerships with the Alexandria Gazette Packet and the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria to host "The Dog Days of August." Ms. Young encouraged Alexandria residents to write poems about their dogs and submit them along with a photo to the Gazette Packet. Fifteen "dog" poems were received. The Gazette Packet published the poems and photos and the Vola Lawson Animal Shelter held a special exhibit.

"Come Write with Me" writers' group sessions are continuing to meet on Monday evenings, 7 pm at the Durant Arts Center. These sessions are open to anyone who wishes to write. Amy Young will lead the group beginning in September. She will also offer "Come Write with Me" workshops to the public in the winter.

Important Date(s): **Writers Group meetings, Mondays, 7-9 pm, Community Arts Room.**

COLLABORATION:

Anti-Stigma/Mental Health Awareness

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: The "Art Uniting People" exhibit moved from the Lee Center to the Beatley Library. The exhibit will remain at Beatley Library until early January. Anti-Stigma/Mental Health Awareness Committee made a commitment to host a similar exhibit in 2012. Dates have not yet been determined. On October 6, the Anti-Stigma/Mental Health Awareness Committee and artists from the Torpedo Factory Arts Center will host a "Mask" workshop. After the workshop, the "Masks" will be exhibited in the Target Gallery.

Important Date(s): **October 6, "Mask" workshop, Torpedo Factory Art Center; "Art Uniting People" Beatley Library exhibit through January 2012.**

Center for Teaching Excellence Program

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: The Virginia Community College System's Northern Virginia Chapter of the Center for Teaching Excellence program will hold their fall seminar in Alexandria, VA. Scheduled for October 21, the seminar will focus on both history and arts in Alexandria.

Overview for the seminar:

- Sushmita Mazumdar, artist, writer and member of Empowered Women International, is the project manager for seminar.
- Date/Time: October 21, 2011, 9 am – 5 pm, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Gadsby Tavern Museum and The Lyceum.
- Theme *“Exploring Inspiration: The Art and History of Old Town Alexandria.”*
- Sessions for the day: The Creative Process & the Artist; Keynote address: History of Torpedo Factory; Turning Notes into Music; Art & the Public; Bringing History to Life in Local Museums; and, Being Comfortable with Uncomfortable History.

The seminar is funded by the Virginia Community College System. Volunteers may be needed to help to act as escorts. Please inform Cheryl Anne Colton about your availability to assist during the day.

Important Date(s): Fall VCCS Seminar, *“Exploring Inspiration: The Art and History of Old Town Alexandria,”* October 21, 9 am – 5 pm, Torpedo Factory Art Center, Gadsby Tavern Museum and The Lyceum.

Torpedo Factory Art Center Banner/Signage Project

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: Phase II of the project (installation of waterside banners and signs) has been completed. Take a walk to the waterfront to see.

ARTS MARKETING INITIATIVES/SPECIAL EVENTS:

Branding Project

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: Work continues with Belmont Design. Materials have been delivered to the consultant for their review.

Kaleidoscope Arts Festival

Arts Forum Project/Team Leads (Staff): Alisa Carrel, Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: The Virginia Quilt Museum provided 20 quilts for the Kaleidoscope Arts Festival's exhibit located in City Hall's Vola Lawson Lobby and the Communication's Office. These quilts will remain up until the second week in November.

On Saturday, September 10, 400 people attended a free concert: Autumn Serenade. The Alexandria Singers, TBD – a group from the Alexandria Harmonizers, and DC's Singing Capital Chorus provided entertainment throughout the evening. The concert was funded by Howard Alan Productions and the Office of the Arts. The concert is part of the Kaleidoscope Arts Festival, a celebration of visual and performing arts from Labor Day to Halloween presented by the Alexandria Arts Forum and Access Through the Arts.

The Kaleidoscope Arts Festival had a presence at the King Street Festival of the Arts (September 10 & 11). At their tent, they provided information about the arts events in the City of Alexandria, sold Kaleidoscopes, collected names/emails, and collected donations for the Kaleidoscope Arts Festival. To obtain a complete list of Kaleidoscope Arts Festival events visit their web site: www.artskaleidoscope.com

Important Date(s): September 5 through October 31, 2011, various Alexandria locations.

Film Festival – November 3 - 6

Team Lead: Alisa Carrel

Status: More than 200 film submissions were received this year – a 36% increase over last year's submissions. We have also increased the number of countries submitting films by 47% over last year. This year's films represent: USA, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, South Korea, Spain, Germany, India, China, Brazil, France, Lebanon, Peru, Japan, Israel, South Africa, Mexico, Sweden, Austria, Bangladesh, The Netherlands, Greece, United Arab Emirates, Afghanistan and El Salvador. We have had more success than ever with connecting with the Embassies. Nearly 50 active judges watched and scored the films over the summer. Thank you to the Arts Commissioners who participated. The Programming Committee is finalizing the schedule. Passes and opening night tickets will be on sale this week.

The venues selected are: Masonic Memorial, Athenaeum, Old Town Theater, Alexandria Black History Museum, and the Four Mile Run Community Center (to be confirmed).

Sponsorship packets went out the end of July. So far, we have raised \$10,425 - with a goal of \$20,000. Major sponsors include: Jen Walker Realtor, The Grille at Morrison House, Pulte Homes at Potomac Yards, and Alexandria Hyundai. Postcards were distributed at the Festival of the Arts. For more information, visit: www.AlexandriaFilm.org.

Important Dates: Next Meeting September 21, 7pm, Durant Arts Center; Film Festival November 3 – 6, various Alexandria Locations.

Youth Arts Festival

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: No update. Youth Arts Festival meeting has been scheduled.

Important Date: Youth Arts Festival Debriefing Meeting: Friday, September 16, 10 am, Durant Arts Center.

CITY GALLERIES PROGRAM:

Call for Artists/Placements

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: On Thursday, September 15, Young at Art will receive and jury pieces at the Durant Arts Center. The Young at Art program is celebrating its 25th year of supporting artists 55 years and older. The program is a partnership between the Goodwin House Foundation and Senior Services of Alexandria.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Internship Program

Team Lead: Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: Three interns are secured for the fall. Their project descriptions follow this report.

RESEARCH:

Local Arts Index

Team Leads: Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton

Preliminary reports are anticipated to be ready for review in early October. A larger roll-out should occur in the first quarter of 2012 – to coincide with the National Arts Index update.

Important Date: September 14, 3:30pm, Durant Arts Center.

Arts and Economic Prosperity IV Study

Team Leads: Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton

Status: No update.

Submitted by Alisa Carrel and Cheryl Anne Colton

###

CALENDAR [September 2011]

Arts Education Committee

Tuesday, September 13, 6 pm, La Madeline, King Street

Grant Workshops Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Tuesday, September 13, 7 pm and Thursday, September 22, 2 pm, Durant Arts Center

Arts Research Committee

Wednesday, September 14, 3:30 pm, Durant Arts Center

PAC 3 Meeting

Wednesday, September 14, 6 pm, Durant Arts Center

Public Art Committee

Wednesday, September 14, 6:45 pm, Durant Arts Center.

Youth Arts Festival Planning Committee

Friday, September 16, 10 am, partnership with the Alexandria Commission for the Arts and the Alexandria Redevelopment Housing Authority, Durant Arts Center.

Executive Committee Meeting, Alexandria Commission for the Arts

Friday, September 16, 3:30 pm, Durant Arts Center

Alexandria Commission for the Arts

Tuesday, September 20, 7 pm, Durant Arts Center.

King Street Gardens Park Foundation

Wednesday, September 21, 7 pm, Durant Arts Center

Film Festival Committee

Wednesday, September 21, 7 pm, Durant Arts Center

Alexandria Arts Forum

Thursday, September 22, 12 noon, Durant Arts Center

Supper Under the Stars

Thursday, September 22, 5 pm, King Street Gardens Park, King St. and Diagonal Rd.

Young At Art's Artists Reception

Thursday, September 22, 5 pm, Durant Arts Center

City Galleries:

- **Art in City Hall**, Alexandria City Hall, 301 King St, 2nd Fl, Monday - Friday, 8 am – 5 pm
Bi-Annual Art in City Hall Juried Exhibition, through December 17, 2011
- **City Council's Office**, Rm 2204, City Hall, Linda Bankerd, paintings, through January 2012
- **Mayor's Office**, Rm 2331, City Hall, Polk Elementary School students, Norman Rockwell-inspired "Saturday Evening Polk" photographs, through January 2012
- **Department of Planning and Zoning**, 2nd Floor, Rm 2100, City Hall, Noel Harris, architectural drawings, through January 2012
- **City Manager's Office**, Rm 3500, City Hall, Robert Keating, wildlife photography, through January 2012
- **Vola Lawson Lobby**, Kaleidoscope Arts Festival's Quilt Exhibit, quilts provided by the Virginia Quilt Museum, through November 7.

- **Market Square Lobby**, City Hall, Living Legends of Alexandria, photographed by Nina Tisara, through January 2012
- **Department of Transportation and Environmental Services**, 4th Fl, City Hall, Melissa Schleuger, painting, through January 2012
- **Employee Lounge**, 5th Fl, City Hall, Regina Barker-Barzel, paintings, through January 2012
- **Charles E. Beatley, Jr. Central Library**, 5005 Duke St, Foyer, Rick Jones, bust sculptures, through January 2012
- **Main Gallery, Beatley Library**, “Art Uniting People: A Celebration of Creativity and Mental Health,” mixed media, through January 2012
- **Lee Center**, 1108 Jefferson Street, **Upstairs Gallery**, Andrew Zimmermann, black and white photography, through December 2011; **Director’s Gallery**, Farah Ahmed, paintings, through October 2011
- **Durant Arts Center**, 1605 Cameron St., upcoming exhibits, Young At Art, **Main Gallery** and **Community Arts Room**, Ryan Schering, paintings.

INTERNS – Fall 2011

Amelia Jane Gordon, August through December 12, 240 hours (Monday-Wednesday, 9 am – 4 pm), Recent graduate, BA Graphic Design Major, Marymount University, Arlington, VA. Ms. Gordon is managing the City Gallery Program. She will work with Rachel Wallach to create a “call for artists” for placement of artists for FY2012-2014.

Ashlee Liedkte, September 13 – December 12, 120 hours, BA/Fine Arts Major, Senior, Marymount University, Arlington, VA. Ms. Liedkte will assist with soliciting and managing volunteers for the Alexandria Film Festival. She will also assist with hanging shows for the City Galleries Program.

Rachel Wallach, September through December 12, 240 hours, (Tuesday-Friday, 9 am-4 pm), BA Communications Major, Senior, Emerson College, Boston, MA. Ms. Wallach is currently participating as a student with the Washington Center for Internships and Seminars. Ms. Wallach will work with Amelia Gordon to create a “call for artists” for placement of artists for FY2012-2014. She will also track entries for the Contrabands and Freedmen’s Cemetery public art project.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF
LAURA D. DURHAM, CITY OPEN SPACE COORDINATOR
BETHANY A. CARTON, ASLA PARK PLANNER
DAVID H. GHEZZI, AIA LEED AP ARCHITECT
JUDY LO, ASLA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
DANA W. WEDELES, PARK PLANNER

SUBJECT: **ACTIVITIES UPDATE AUGUST, 2011**
OVERVIEW – SELECTED PROJECTS AT A GLANCE, ITEM III-D-i.

See Attached Project Update

###

Active Park Planning Projects

Tuesday, September 13, 2011

8:46:16 AM

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
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VDOT/NPS/PCC

Jones Point Improvement/Renovation RMK JB 12-Jun-12
 Notes: RPCA Staff as City lead. Community Liaison Group meeting scheduled for 09.13.

VDOT

Four Mile Pedestrian Bridge DW RK 01-Mar-12
 Notes: Contract drafting between NVRC and design consultant, Olin. Once complete, memo to staff and press release needed.

Freedman's Cemetery LD RMK 01-Nov-12
 Notes: Construction start anticipated Fall, 2011 and completion estimated for 2012. Pre Construction Meeting held 8/18/2011.

Freedman's Cemetery Sculpture AC RK Preliminary Plan
 Notes: Alisa Carrel coordinating RFP for artists. Timing based on anticipated construction schedule.

Witter BC RK 5% CA 01-Jun-12
 Notes: Construction is underway and earthwork/retaining wall operations are in progress. Anticipated project delivery Spring 2012.

TE&S

Holmes Run trail Feasibility Study DW 15-Feb-12
 Notes: TE&S is working with consultant team to improve trail between Brookvalley Park and 395.

S. Washington St. Improvements RPCA: DG, RK, J
 Notes: RPCA to perform existing tree metrics. Meeting was held with TES on 26-July. TES to investigate and finalize project scope. Project Delivery anticipated 12.2012

RPCA

1 & 7 East Del Ray LD JL 90% 01-Aug-11
 Notes: Playground open to the public in mid-August. Plantings held until Sept. 2011 due to weather.

ADA Study RK JL DW
 Notes: Scope of work needed. DW and JL to begin.

Aquatics Master Plan LD RMK 30-Nov-11
 Notes: Consultant team of KHI/Cousilman-Hunsaker and Brailesford-Dunaway completed Phase I May 2011. Phase II initiated and presentation at June PRC. Preparing final reports and presentations for Fall 2011

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Ben Brenman Lighting	JL WP	0%	
	Notes: Replace 13 lights; Cost estimates finalized. Scheduled for Fall, 2011 implementation.			
	Ben Brenman Supervisor Room	DHG		
	Notes: Drawings provided to Park Ops for construction on 09.16. Permit requirements to be determined by D. Claytor.			
	Boothe Park Playground Renovations	JL, BC		01-Jun-12
	Notes: Concept design underway. Second internal review scheduled for week of 07.25. Third internal review done 08.05. Schedule ACPS Admin staff meeting. Samuel Tucker staff meeting scheduled late Sept.			
	CAPRA Policies	JB RMK		
	Notes: Ongoing to sustain accreditation requirements.			
	Chinquapin Pool Improvements	DG RB		19-Sep-11
	Notes: CFMP Items under construction during scheduled Sept. 6-19 Center closure.			
	Chinquapin Sidewalk Repair	DG		19-Sep-11
	Notes: Lobo's proposal for work was accepted. RPCA issued a P.O. number to Dale Norman, TES for processing. Work window is between 9/5 and Sept. 19/19/11. Under construction.			
	Court Lighting Replacement	BC RJ CL		
	Notes: APO submitted to Finance Sept. 07 Construction expected for November/December. Existing lights are currently operational due to recent repairs.			
	Drainage Issues into Colasanto Center	AC RK		
	Notes: Site visit performed in early June. Anticipate engineering design in Fall, 2011.			
	Dugouts and Press Box	WP BC		
	Notes: To be replaced as part of the FY12 CIP. DG to inspect. BC to coordinate with Mac on scheduling.			
	Forest Park Bridge Replacement	JL, RMK	95%	02-Sep-11
	Notes: Solicitation provided to Purchasing 11/2010. ITB issued 5/3/2011. Closing date 5/17/2011. Project awarded to Ft. Meyer Construction. Completed Sept 2 with temporary railing. Final completion Oct.			
	Four Mile Run Restoration	DW, RMK	90% design	
	Notes: 90 % design comments complete. Construction commencement anticipated in Summer, 2012, pending solicitation and permitting. \$65,000 needed in FY13 CIP requests to cover administrative costs.			
	Ft Ward Park	LD		
	Notes: Interdept. MOU signed by all depts. Sept. 2011. Funding for addl. implementation is contingent funds for FY12, including management plan. Advisory Group to hold first meeting Sept. 14, 2011.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Furniture Replacement	DW BC & Ops		
	Notes: DW to begin list of priorities based on inventory. Orders to begin in Nov. 2011.			
	Hooffs Run Basketball Court Renovation	KW BC	90%	14-Sep-11
	Notes: Resurfacing and color coating complete. Minor site re-grading to be completed in Sept. Waiting for optimal germination window to perform grade and seed work.			
	Irrigation Study	BC RMK		
	Notes: Internal Park Operations training with Rainbird personnel in August/September.			
	James Bland	LD RK		
	Notes: Phase with City park site is in final site plan review with expected construction starting in Fall 2011.			
	King Street Gardens Improvements	AC		
	Notes: To be scheduled around farmers market (ends Oct., begins May)			
	Landover Park Irrigation	KW RT DC	90%	
	Notes: Still working with electrical contractors to determine source of power for the system but the irrigation has been installed. Project is delaying planting.			
	Little Simpson Fence Replacement	BC KW	80%	14-Sep-11
	Notes: Work scheduled for August 8-19. Chainlink fence installed. Net delivered on 9/6/11, installation pending, weather holding.			
	Luckett Field Improvements	TT BC		
	Notes: Backstop and Raise Net - part of FY12 CIP			
	Marina Electrical Upgrades	JH DW		
	Notes: new Electrical wiring for cameras; Divide 30 Amp receptacles for transient boaters G/H pier; reduce amp at E/F and 2 amps at E/F			
	Maxicom Audit	KW BC		
	Notes: Complete audit of existing irrigation at Charles Houston to enable full Maxicom functionality. Park Operations staff is receiving Maxicom training. Connection issues under review by ITS.			
	Mount Jefferson Playground Renovation	JL	65%DD	01-Jun-12
	Notes: Concept design released to community late May. Open house/informational meetings on-site in June, 2011. Grading plan and contract documents to commence in September, 2011.			
	Needs Assessment	DW	90%	01-Aug-11
	Notes: Consultant work complete. Next Steps: interdepartmental presentations; press release. Rec to review 9/7.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Oronoco Bay Observation Deck	RJ CL		
	Notes: Randy met with Harry Braswell on 7/8/11. Demo work to begin in Fall, 2011.			
	Oronoco Trail Improvements	JL RJ		
	Notes: Purchase Order Request submitted to Finance in June, 2012.			
	Park Inventory	DW	90%	14-Sep-11
	Notes: All data collected. Minor edits in GIS remain. Organization of information to be completed.			
	Park Standards	BC JL		
	Notes: Standards draft complete for park furnishings and playgrounds. Draft production in progress for remaining sections. Anticipate Park Operations and Recreation review late September.			
	Parking Improvements	BC WP		
	Notes: Investigating parking options with T&ES OEQ Staff.			
	Pathway to Field	BC WP		01-Sep-11
	Notes: Developing estimates for work.			
	Piling Replacement	JB JH		
	Notes: City received the permit to schedule piling replacement. Anticipate Fall, 2011 delivery. Pilings greater than 40 ft required. Question to fiberglass need?			
	Potomac Yard Soccer Goals	KW MS BC	0%	30-Sep-11
	Notes:			
	Powhatan Basketball Renovation	BC KW		
	Notes: Published as FY 2010 Project			
	Rehabilitation of new Parcels	LD	10%	01-Jul-11
	Notes: Park Plan approved by PRC in March 2011. Implementation of Phase I through fall 2011.			
	Timber Improvements	KW DW	20%	
	Notes: All hazardous nails and timbers removed. Quote for replacement of entire timber structure underway. Follow up with KW. JJJ Contractor not responding to email/phone inquiries.			
	Waterfront Light Replacements	JB JH		
	Notes: Delivered. Have not yet been installed because bases need to be replaced. Bases est to cost \$15,000 total. CO being processed by Park Ops-Marina			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Windmill Hill Court Renovation	RJ CL BC		
	Notes: Project currently being processed through Procurement. Anticipate renovation in September/October.			
P&Z				
	Arlandria Implementation	LD DW	80% Planning	
	Notes: Ongoing planning and implementation of Phase I of Four Mile Run Park Expansion and Community Building project implementation over late Fall 2011.			
	Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan	LD RMK	90% Planning	
	Notes: Developer framework plan submitted Aug. 2011. Open space and park contributions are being discussed. City Council work session being planned for September 19 2011.			
	Braddock Small Area Plan	LD	90% Planning	
	Notes: G. Services providing property mgmt for open space property on N. Henry with 18 mo. Tenant lease signed in 2/2011. Ongoing discussions with P&Z on remaining open space - meeting held August 23.			
	Eisenhower ASA	BC, RMK		
	Notes: Concept Plan for ASA tank/field is currently in progress. A DSUP is anticipated to be heard at Planning Commission in October, 2011.			
	Eisenhower Avenue Widening	BC RMK	30% Design	
	Notes: 30% Submission Drawings under review. Comments to be transmitted to T&ES August 29.			
	Eisenhower Station	BC, RMK	40% Design	
	Notes: Eisenhower Metro Station Square concept design completed internally. Coordination with the developer pending.			
	Four Mile Run ASA	RMK BC DW	10% Design	
	Notes: Scoping underway. Significant coordination with field scheduling, and Four Mile Run Master Plan anticipated. Concept Plan approved Sept. 12.			
	Landbay K	BC RMK		01-Oct-12
	Notes: Construction commenced June 27, 2011. Completion expected Fall/Winter 2012.			
	Mount Vernon Village Center	RK BC LD		
	Notes: Project impacts adjacent Four Mile Run Park. Ongoing negotiations with applicant. Submission deemed complete for review Sept. 14. Hearing planned for late fall/early winter 2011.			
	Potomac Avenue	BC RMK	80% Construction	30-Sep-11
	Notes: Construction ongoing. Anticipate completion September/October 2011.			
	Potomac Greens	BC	85% Construction	
	Notes: Construction complete. As-Builts expected Fall/Winter, 2011.			

Lead	Project Name	Team	%Complete	Est. Completion
	Potomac Yard/Landbay I/J	BC		01-Jan-13
	Notes: Review complete. Anticipate construction early 2011 and acceptance by the City for phase one (Custis) late 2012 and phase two (Howell) late 2013			
	Public Safety Center	RK	70% Construction	01-Sep-12
	Notes: Under construction. Planting installation at 90 percent.			
	Ramsey House Visitor's Garden	JL RK		
	Notes: Garden Club of Alexandria and PZ BAR Staff project. Project scoped only. MOA to be developed upon receipt of additional materials. No activity in May-September, 2011. Project likely dead.			
	Route 1 Improvements	BC	90% Design	
	Notes: Construction on Phase I anticipated to commence this fall. Design coordination with with T&ES for Phase II Mass Transit project.			
	Simpson/Potomac Yard Field Replacem	BC	95% Construction	01-Sep-11
	Notes: Construction complete, establishment expected to be complete Fall 2011.			
	Waterfront Plan	LD RK		01-Sep-11
	Notes: The City Council hearing on the Waterfront Plan was held on May 14 and June 11, 2011. Advisory group established with Council decision deferred to Fall 2011.			

ACPS

	Hammond Upper Field	DW RMK		
	Notes: Synthetic Turf Field, walking track and field lights. Approved by Planning Commission on 6/7/2011. BZA Hearing scheduled for 10/13/2011.			
	Jefferson-Houston	DW RMK		01-Sep-14
	Notes: School site renovation and transition to pre-k thru 8. Educational Specs proposals received. Project Management interviews complete. AE solicitation due 09.19.			

MEMORANDUM

City of Alexandria, Virginia

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: DANA WEDELES; URBAN PLANNER, RPCA
LAURA D. DURHAM; CITY OPEN SPACE COORDINATOR, RPCA

**SUBJECT: PARK PLANNING UPDATE:
AQUATICS MASTER PLAN AND CITYWIDE NEEDS ASSESSMENT-
ITEM III-D-ii.**

AQUATICS MASTER PLAN

Park Planning and Aquatics staff met in August with the consultant team of Kimley-Horn/Councilman-Hunsaker. The professional consulting services of these firms have been retained to complete a Master Plan for Aquatics Facilities for the City of Alexandria. The team presented to the Park and Recreation Commission in June 2011 after meeting with multiple stakeholders over a two day visit. Based on their findings from these meetings and the Park and Recreation Commission's feedback, the consultants will complete the next and final steps in their scope of work, which include:

- *TASK IV – CONCEPTUAL PLAN*
- *TASK V - FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS, and*
- *TASK VI – FINAL REPORT AND PRESENTATION*

Details and an outline of each of the tasks above can be found in the attached memo from the consultants dated August 3, 2011. Staff and the consultants are currently working to refine the concept plan for a work session with City Council this fall (date TBD for October/November).

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The 2011 Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment material, including the presentation and report, are now available on the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities website. Park Planning staff has presented the findings internally to the Recreation Division and meetings are being scheduled for the end of September/early October to present the material to Planning and Zoning and Transportation and Environmental Services. Staff is also synthesizing the information to be interpreted as it relates to specific user groups, including sports programs, special events, playground users, seniors, and recreation center neighborhoods. Findings from the needs assessment will advise future capital improvement and recreation program decisions in order to better reflect the needs of Alexandria residents.



PROJECT MEETING NOTES –MEETING #4 (Internet)

Subject: Aquatics Facility Master Plan
City of Alexandria, VA

Purpose: Review Findings of Task IV – Conceptual Design and
Task V – Financial Impact Needs Analysis (Phase 2)

Date: August 3, 2011

TASK IV – CONCEPTUAL PLAN:

Task IVA - Based on the completed aquatic needs analysis, the Consultant will prepare a toolbox of aquatic facility options to meet the needs of the community. Typically these concepts consist of a variety of aquatic facilities including indoor/outdoor, competition, recreation (large / medium/ small family aquatic facilities), and splash pads.

Task IVB - The Consultant will prepare an opinion of probable construction cost each toolbox option. Recent project bid figures of similar projects will be used as well as national estimating guides and local cost adjustment factors. The hard construction cost figures will be supplemented by a development cost factor, which will include such "soft" costs as professional fees, survey, geotechnical report, document reproduction, advertisement for bids and all anticipated expenses related to the administration of the project. The sum of these two cost figures will be the total project cost so that the Client will have a comprehensive overview before making an informed decision about the project. The toolbox options and costs will be presented to the Client in an internet meeting work session to receive comments and direction.

Task IVC - The Consultant will then hold two additional "reality-check" public meetings (North/South or East/West) to discuss the findings of the initial public meetings and to review the corresponding toolbox options of aquatic facilities types. This discussion will include images and/or video presentations with commentary on features of the options, facility costs, and an open-forum question-and-answer session to discuss the quantity and potential location of aquatic facilities to meet the Client's aquatic programming needs.

Task IVD - Following the meetings, the Consultant will document the findings, review the findings with the Client, and make revisions to the toolbox options.

Travel: Two Three-Day –Two Night Trip for Mark Hatchel (KHA) and Kevin Post(CHA)

TASK V - FINANCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS (Phase 2):

A. The Consultant will prepare a preliminary Financial Impact Analysis inclusive of the following information:

- 1. Other Area Aquatic Providers*
- 2. Market Area Demographics Population, Age, Income*

3. *Area Aquatic User Groups Historic Usage and Project Level of Growth*
4. *Facility Management Outline*
 - Facility Operating Schedule*
 - Facility Capacity Limits*
 - Organization Chart*
 - Wage Structure*
5. *Opinion of Probable Revenue*
 - Market Penetration*
 - Seasonal Usage*
 - Develop Fee Structure Options (Low, Medium, High)*
 - Opinion of Attendance By User Group*
 - Opinion of Revenue*
6. *Opinion of Probable Expenses*
 - Labor Demand*
 - Chemical Demand*
 - Supply Demand*
 - Maintenance and Repair Demand*
 - Utility Demand*
7. *Opinion of Financial Impact*

B. The findings of the financial impact analysis will be presented to the Client in an internet meeting work session to receive comments and direction.

Wednesday 8/3/11

On this date, Ron Kagawa, Laura Durham, Kevin Post , and Mark Hatchel participated in an internet meeting to review the work items in Task IV and Task V. Initial comments and notes are as follows:

- 1) Ron and Laura inquired about construction costs used. Kevin reviewed how we adjusted the costs for inflation and Washington, D.C. area premiums. Mark and Kevin asked them to review them with City staff for any comments. We will make any final adjustments to costs prior to the final presentation and report.
- 2) Ron and Laura will want to review the overall park concept for Chinquapin and provide comments at a later date due to the multiple considerations (parking near street, etc.)
- 3) Mark will add parking to the Old Town concept -similar to the Patrick Henry site.
- 4) Mark will prepare a concept plan for Colasanto and forward it to Kevin and the City.
- 5) Site concepts and cost projections will be adjusted prior to the final presentation and report.
- 6) Colosanto costs will not need to include any fencing since it is an open plaza and fountain concept.
- 7) Laura suggested we check the parking ordinances for Alexandria and verify City requirements vs. actual provided parking and vs. suggested parking.
- 8) Mark and Kevin will note the existing pool acreage vs. the minimum required for the new pools and preferred required acreage for the new pools.
- 9) Demographics show that the west side has the population and right age groups to support a west side pool.
- 10) The demographics near Lee Center indicate that Lee is a good location for a wellness and therapy pool.
- 11) Need to finalize terminology on plan “recommended”, “sustainable”, etc.

- 12) The City Council will want detailed information in advance of the presentation. However, the presentation should be simple and focus on the findings.

Next Steps

- 1) This internet meeting completes Task IV and Task V once any comments are incorporated from staff.
- 2) The consultant will set a call with staff to receive any additional comments near the end of the month.
- 3) Next opportunity to get on a City Council work session may not be until October or November.
- 4) Between now and then, staff can review the initial findings and provide comments so the recommendations and presentation can be finalized.
- 5) If possible, Mark and Kevin will try to get back in for an in person meeting with staff prior to Council.
- 6) The final project steps are as follows:

TASK VI – FINAL REPORT AND PRESENTATION

Using the information gathered from the process above, Consultant will prepare a final Aquatic Facilities Master Plan to document the recommended facilities and improvements to the City of Alexandria aquatic program. Recommendations shall include:

A. Location of all aquatic facilities with recommendations for types of facilities and simple guidelines for site selection criteria (i.e. population, October 11, 2010 demographics, service area, adequate space/infrastructure/parking and combined with other park facilities such as community centers/athletic field areas/community parks.) The plan shall explain how major decisions were made.

B. A list and description of other area providers and a description of the types of current-day aquatic programming.

C. Recommendations for improvements to existing aquatic facilities remain (if applicable). The program will list the type of facility with amenities, services, and including a program for improvements if the site is to a specific staffing plan outlining the number and type of employees needed to accomplish requirements that the site will host shall be included.

D. Cost estimates for each facility including planning, design & construction.

E. Implementation scenarios and recommended phasing plan.

F. Financial Impact Analysis inclusive of detailed operating expenses and potential revenue based upon pricing structures.

G. During this phase, the consultant will submit one initial review draft consisting of five (5) hard copies for review and comment by Client representatives and one final review draft consisting of five (5) hard copies

for final review comments by the Client representatives.

H. The Consultant will produce the final hard copies of the City-wide Aquatic Facilities Master Plan and deliver twenty (20) hard copies of the final version with one (1) complete electronic copy.

I. Upon completion of the Project, the Consultant will attend one final meeting with the Parks Board and City Council (if requested) when Council is ready to adopt the Citywide Aquatics Facility Master Plan.

Travel: One Two-Day –One Night Trip for Mark Hatchel (KHA) and Kevin Post (CHA) Task IVA - Based on the completed aquatic needs analysis, the Consultant will prepare a toolbox of aquatic facility options to meet the needs of the community. Typically these concepts consist of a variety of aquatic facilities including indoor/outdoor, competition, recreation (large / medium/ small family aquatic facilities), and splash pads.

Note: These notes were prepared by Kimley-Horn and Associates (Mark Hatchel) as an accurate accounting of the discussion items on these dates. Should any modifications need to be made, please provide written comments/corrections within seven (7) days of receipt of these notes.

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF
JACK R. BROWAND, CPRP DIVISION CHIEF

SUBJECT: JONES POINT PARK; UPDATE AUGUST, 2011- ITEM III-D-v.

The purpose of this update is to provide an overview of activities related to Jones Point Park construction which commenced on November 18, 2010, for the month of August, 2011. Project status as of September 07, indicates that 50.30 percent or 294 contract days have been expended and that the installed work is equivalent to 50.70 percent of total project completion. There is no change to the contract completion date – which remains anticipated as June 25, 2012. The Commission will be similarly updated at its regularly scheduled meetings until completion of construction.

VDOT-COMMUNITY LIAISON INFORMATION GROUP – NEXT MEETING DATE

The next VDOT-Community Liaison Information Group meeting is currently scheduled for 7:00 PM on Tuesday; September 13, 2011 at Alexandria's Lee Center. Proceedings of the meeting will be provided with the October, 2011 Commission Update.

VDOT-COMMUNITY LIAISON INFORMATION GROUP

To ensure that construction activities continue with little disruption, and to provide a forum for open dialogue with the surrounding community, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), with participation of the National Park Service and City of Alexandria, has created a Community Liaison Information Group on Jones Point Park Construction. The group is comprised of a representative from resident groups that may be most impacted by ongoing work at Jones Point Park.

The Community Liaison Information Group will meet quarterly to discuss the project and to allow for members to ask questions and to be briefed on ongoing work. The meetings are open to the public and include representatives from the project's managing parties - VDOT and the National Park Service, as well as staff from City of Alexandria. Members of the Liaison Group have been identified as direct points of contact for gathering information on neighborhood concerns or questions, and will have direct contact to VDOT to address such items as they arise.

ADDITIONAL & FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION

Information regarding Jones Point Park construction is continuously updated on Alexandria's Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities department website at <http://alexandriava.gov/recreation> and VDOT's website for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project at <http://www.wilsonbridge.com/>. These links include information regarding community meetings, construction updates and other information and resources including how citizens may stay informed by subscribing to E-News or other advisories. The Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities website includes a continuously updated overview of construction activities for a three week look-ahead schedule of anticipated work. The September 08, 2011 "Construction Schedule at a Glance" with activities related to progress for the past month is attached below.

###

**Jones Point Park Restoration Project
Construction Update at a Glance:**

Date: 09.08.2011

The following provides an overview of major tasks undertaken by the project General Contractor. Future Scheduling Week and Work Anticipated Items are subject to change in response to construction activities, weather and project conditions.

Week	Work Anticipated:
10.17.2011	not available
10.10.2011	not available
10.03.2011	not available
09.26.2011	Royal Street Install conduit Grade and install curb and pavement Restricted Access Road Complete rock mulch at bridge piers Park Paths Install lighthouse path Floating Dock Install landing Lighthouse Install roof shingles Comfort Station Install interior plumbing and electric
09.19.2011	Royal Street Shift fence and trail location Install electrical conduit Finishing Pier Repair Light House Install brick pavers Interior framing Install interior plumbing

South Ball Field
Install topsoil and grade
Place watering system

Comfort Station
Install roof decking and blocking
Install interior walls

09.12.2011 Royal Street
Relocate bike path and fence
Demolish existing sidewalk and curbing
Install electrical conduit

Access Road
Install grade and subbase

Park Paths
Install Light House path

Floating Dock
Construct Landing
Repair Finishing Pier

Light House
Frame shed

09.05.2011 No work on-site September 04-05

South Ball Field
Place new topsoil
Install irrigation system

Fishing Pier
Install timber piles
Install deck

Playground
Establish rough grade

Floating Dock
Install timber piles and deck
Install landing

Light House
Whitewash exterior
Complete south deck and stairs

Comfort Station
Rough in for Electrical and plumbing systems
Rub concrete walls
Paint steel roof areas
Begin interior walls

08.29.2011 No work on-site September 02-03

Restricted Access Road
Install grass at V-Piers
Install irrigation system

Light House
Install sill and pavers
Install brick pavers

Playground
Establish rough grade

South Ball Field
Establish rough grade
Place new topsoil
Install grass
Relocate fence

Comfort Station
Install roof steel and deck steel
Waterproof concrete walls

08.22.2011 Restricted Access Road
Install grass on shoulders and adjacent slopes

Park Paths
Install Light House path

Finishing Pier
Repair existing pier

South Ball Field
Relocate fence
Establish rough grade
Place new topsoil

Fishing Pier
Install timber piles
Install deck

Floating Dock
Install timber piles and deck

08.15.2011 Restricted Access Road
Path and parking area subbase
Establish grade at V-Piers
Install grass at V-Piers
Install bike path and parking subbase
Install bike path entrance and subbase
Base paving
Install irrigation system

Park Paths
Install at Craneway
Base paving
Install shoreline path
Install Lee Street path
Install Light House path

Finishing Pier
Prepare grade for tieback system
Install deadman/tiebacks/concrete

Fishing Pier
Install timber piles

Light House
Stone retaining wall mockup
Backfill retaining wall
West Porch and Catwalk
Roof Shingles and Chimney

Invasive Species Removal
Periodic for new growth

Wetlands Mitigation
Apply species seed and mulch

South Ball Field
Relocate fence

Comfort Station
Install roof steel and deck steel
Complete floor slab

08.08.2011 Park Entrance Road
Grade slopes and backup asphalt

Restricted Access Road
Path and parking area subbase
Establish grade at V-Piers
Base paving

Park Paths
Install at Craneway
Base paving

Finishing Pier
Prepare grade for tieback system
Install deadman/tiebacks/concrete.

Light House
Stone retaining wall mockup
Backfill retaining wall
West Porch and Catwalk
Roof Shingles and Chimney

Invasive Species Removal
Periodic for new growth

Wetlands Mitigation
Apply species seed and mulch

North Ball Field
Apply seed and mulch

Comfort Station
Install roof steel
Complete floor slab

08.01.2011 Park Entrance Road
Grade slopes and backup asphalt

Restricted Access Road
Path and parking area subbase
Establish grade at V-Piers
Base paving

Park Paths
Install at Craneway
Base paving

Finishing Pier
Prepare grade for tieback system
Install deadman/tiebacks/concrete.

Light House
Stone retaining wall mockup
Backfill retaining wall
West Porch and Catwalk
Roof Shingles and Chimney

Invasive Species Removal
Periodic for new growth

Wetlands Mitigation
Apply species seed and mulch

North Ball Field
Apply seed and mulch

Comfort Station
Install exterior concrete walls

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MEMORANDUM

City of Alexandria, Virginia

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2011

TO: PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION
YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

FROM: JUDY LO; LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, RPCA
JACK BROWAND; ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, RPCA
MAC SLOVER; SPORTS DIRECTOR, RPCA
RON M. KAGAWA; DIVISION CHIEF, RPCA

**SUBJECT: GEORGE MASON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD RESTORATION
2601 CAMERON MILLS ROAD- ITEM III-Dvi**

At the Fall, 2011 Fields Meeting hosted by RPCA on August 10th a question was raised regarding the disposition of ongoing drainage improvement work on the east side of George Mason Elementary School. The following provides an update on the progression of work and completion.

Overall, the site disturbance is a part of upgrades associated with the George Mason Site Drainage Improvements project that is being managed by the City's Department of Transportation & Environmental Services. Portions of the athletic field have been impacted by the work due to construction staging, minor topographic changes and other site disturbance. Restoration of effected grass turf areas is required and the Contractor is obligated to perform this work to satisfaction of the City. The site does not possess a water source for irrigation or hand watering.

Initial post-construction attempts at turf area restoration during this Summer's sustained heat and dry conditions, experienced variable success as evidenced by bare soil areas and uneven finished grading due to resulting erosion. On August 29, staff from Transportation & Environmental Services and RPCA reviewed current site conditions with the Contractor and agreed upon next steps to remedy outstanding areas related to the existing field restoration. The Contractor will provide and install additional topsoil in eroded areas, hand rake and remove debris, stones and other detritus, perform soil aeration, and thereafter fully re-seed and stabilize each of the insufficient areas. Temporary orange fence will be installed with informational signs to protect the designated areas and provide opportunity for turf establishment. This remedy work is scheduled for September, 2011 to take advantage of cooler temperatures greater opportunity for rain. City staff will continue to monitor the conditions, and recommend additional remedy measures, should they be deemed necessary.

The subject facility is shared with Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS). Such areas (as is the case of the 1.9 acre George Mason site) typically do not have a turf management program, possess an irrigation system or have an accessible water source. Current operations support maintenance activities such as periodic mowing, field lining and replenishing diamond infields only.

If an increased level of turf maintenance were desired, the following provides an estimate of probable costs for the George Mason site.

Program	Estimated Quantity	Estimated Cost	Schedule	Notes
Option 1				
A. Aerate Soil.	1.90 acres	n/a	Mid-Sept.- Oct.	Preparation for application of grass seed.
B. Apply Grass Seed.	20-30lbs at a rate of 10-15lbs. per acre	\$1,400.00	Mid-Sept.- Oct.	Power seeder-tractor drawn application after aeration. Drought tolerant fescue.
Option 2 (in addition to Option 1)				
A. Soil testing	2	\$40.00 ea.		
B. Apply Soil Amendments, Compost, Fertilizer based on soil tests.		\$4,550.00 \$1,311.00 \$551.00	Mid-Sept.	Application rates based on results of soil testing.
Option 3 (in addition to Options 1 & 2)				
C. Install Irrigation system including new water source, meter, and automated control system	1.90 acres	Minimum of \$42,500		Does not include cost for water service connection and meter. Add 7,500-10,000.

MEMORANDUM

City of Alexandria, Virginia

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: DANA WEDELES; URBAN PLANNER, RPCA
DAVID GHEZZI; ARCHITECT, RPCA
MAC SLOVER; SPORTS DIRECTOR, RPCA
RON M. KAGAWA; DIVISION CHIEF, RPCA

SUBJECT: MIRACLE FIELD UPDATE – ITEM III-D-vii

FUNDRAISING

The Miracle League of Alexandria has been established as a 501c(3) in partnership with the Kelley Cares Foundation. Fundraising efforts by the Miracle League of Alexandria are underway, with a goal to raise \$250,000 in contributions, matching the City's FY13 CIP obligation. Over \$60,000 has already been pledged. League board members are setting up meetings with potential local corporate donors.

On September 1st, 2011, the League staffed a table at First Night Del Ray and spoke with several people who stopped by to learn about the field. League President, Bill Rivers, set-up an informational booth at the Nationals Game the following night. He had a great response from attendees, many of whom were interested in contributing. The next marketing event will be held on September 24th as the Nationals host "Alexandria Night" at Nationals stadium. Tickets to the game will be available through the Miracle League of Alexandria for \$6.00 each.

The Miracle League will hold its fall season at the Lee Center every Saturday at 1:00pm from September 17 through October 22, 2011. The public is encouraged to attend to cheer on the team and learn about the Miracle League. More information on both the Team and the Miracle League of Alexandria is available at www.miracleleagueofalexandria.com.

DESIGN

Park Planning, Design + Capital Development team has been working with Transportation and Environmental Services to develop a site design and grading plan for the Miracle Field (see attached draft plan). The site design is expected to be complete by December 2011, with a goal to have construction begin in July 2012. A Special Use Permit is required to allow for field lighting. Staff has submitted an SUP and it is anticipated to be heard before the Alexandria Planning Commission on December 6, 2011 and City Council on December 17, 2011.



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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2011

TO: PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: PARK PLANNING, DESIGN & CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM
BETH CARTON, PARK PLANNER, RPCA
JUDY LO, PARK PLANNER, RPCA
RON M. KAGAWA, ASLA LEED AP DIVISION CHIEF

**SUBJECT: PARK CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UPDATE
JUNE-SEPTEMBER, 2011 – ITEM III-D-viii.**

The purpose of this update is to provide an overview of activities related to various Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities construction projects for the months of June-September, 2011. The Commission will be similarly updated periodically as construction projects commence and are completed.

FOREST PARK – KINGSTON AVENUE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

The new pedestrian bridge opened to the public on September 2, in advance of the Citywide first day of school-including MacArthur Elementary. Fort Myer Construction began construction in mid-August. The existing bridge was removed and new bridge foundations were installed. The new pre-fabricated steel bridge was delivered on August 23 and placed the same day. The bridge is located on a trail that links MacArthur Elementary School, TC Williams High School, and Chinquapin Park. Storm damage from August 2010 had impacted the long term stability of the bridge and replacement was necessary.

1&7 EAST DEL RAY AVENUE PARK

The new play area opened to the public in mid-August. Construction for this phase of improvements is now complete. New grass seed has been installed, and the black silt fence will stay in place until the new seed is established. The new stormwater management system has been functioning properly during the recent wet weather. Final plantings will be installed early Fall to ensure successful establishment and growth. A park dedication has been tentatively set for October 15.

WITTER RECREATIONAL FIELDS

Witter Recreational Fields is part of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Settlement. Construction of the project, including two synthetic multi-purpose fields, one natural grass softball field, parking, park circulation and preservation of a historic cemetery, began in March, 2011. Construction progress to date includes rough grading, storm water pipe and infrastructure installation, retaining wall construction, and minor utility work. Construction of the two synthetic turf fields is expected to be complete next spring. Construction activities for the softball field are expected to be complete in the Fall of 2012.

POTOMAC YARD PARK/LANDBAY K

Potomac Yard Park is a project under construction by the developer Potomac Yard Development, LLC. The approximately 24 acre park will be dedicated in phases to the City upon conclusion of construction and a maintenance period. The first phase will be the Potomac Yard Final Fields adjacent to Simpson Park. The fields are currently 90% complete and transfer to the City is expected this Fall. The main body of the park, east of Potomac Avenue, commenced construction late June 2011. Construction is anticipated to require 18 to 24 months.

SIMPSON LITTLE LEAGUE FIELD LIGHTS

The old athletic field lights at the Simpson Little League field were replaced in August with a new state-of-the-art lighting system. The new system reduced the number of required poles and fixtures and improves the energy efficiency and amount of light directed toward the field. The system is controlled via satellite link and programmed by the department according to the activities scheduled for the field. Field users can activate the system by a push button on one of the poles, and turn off the lights by pushing the button when play is concluded.

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City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

TO: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

FROM: CHERYL LAWRENCE, ACTING DIVISION CHIEF
MARKETING, SPECIAL EVENTS & WATERFRONT

SUBJECT: PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MARKETING, SPECIAL EVENTS & WATERFRONT
DIVISION UPDATE – ITEM III E

SPECIAL EVENTS MANAGEMENT:

The City's Special Events Committee is working on upgrading the City's Special Events application to become interactive for applicants to submit online. The format will also allow credit card payment using the Plug and Play software currently used by the Department. Staff will continue to work with the City's IT staff to have the application ready by late January in preparation of the annual renewal and acceptance of new event applications for 2012 calendar year.

CITY MARINA/WATERFRONT:

The City Marina has several projects underway that will enhance services in the pier area. The electrical upgrades will enhance services in the pier area for the electrical wiring for the camera as well as for the transient boaters in the G/H pier and reducing the amps in the E/F pier. Completion of the project is set for the end of September.

City staff is working with T&ES on the repairs of the walkway in the Marina area north bound. The walkway and the old tree wells will enhance the appearance and safety issues in the general area. Anticipate completion of this project by the end of September.

City Marinas is working on the replacement of missing and damaged pilings at the City Marina. Work to remove nine damaged pilings is moving forward. Staff is working on a new order to increase the pilings greater than 40 feet as required.

Hurricane Irene did not damage the City Marina area. The strong winds produced a "blowout" that led to very low tides. No major cleanup is needed. Staff worked diligently contacting the boaters on the weather alerts to secure their boats. Staff received very favorable comments from the boaters for a job well done.

WATERFRONT PROJECTS:

The Windmill Hill Park basketball renovation is moving forward painting the court, relining and adding benches. Anticipate renovation completion in October as the weather permits.

The Montgomery Park tennis court lights replacement is scheduled for late November possibly December as the weather permits. Staff identified rusting in the electrical box and shortages on the lights. The lights are operational and this made many customers happy and thankful to staff. Staff posted signage when operational problems occurred.

The waterfront lights have arrived, however, the base to attach the light needs replacing, and staff is working on new bids to expedite this project by November.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER

- | | | |
|----------|---------|---|
| Sept. 17 | Sat. | 10 am – 1 pm - Alexandria Story Festival - Jefferson Houston ball field |
| Sept. 19 | Sat. | 7- 9 pm - Taste of Old Town North - Montgomery Park |
| Sept. 22 | Thur. | 5-7 pm - Supper Under the Stars- King Street Garden Park |
| Sept. 25 | Sun. | 9-11 am - 4 th Annual Old Town Doggie Walk - Market Square |
| Oct 1 | Sat. | 10 am – 6 pm - Art on the Avenue - Del Ray Mt. Vernon Avenue |
| Oct 2-10 | Sun. | 12 pm - God Speed Tall Ship Visit - City Marina |
| Oct 2 | Sat. | 7:30 am – 11 am - Woodrow Wilson Bridge Half Marathon |
| Oct 8-9 | Sat/Sun | 10 am – 7 pm & 10 am – 5 pm - Alex. West End Art & Wine Festival - Ben Brenman Park |
| Oct 8 | Sat. | 10 am – 2 pm - Family Fall Festival - Armistead Booth Park |
| Oct 22 | Sat. | 8:30 am – 10:30 am - Walk to Fight Breast Cancer - Hoffman Town Ctr. |
| Oct 30 | Sun | 4pm – 6 pm - 1th Annual Del Ray Halloween Parade - Mt. Vernon Ballfield |