

VRPS NORTHERN SERVICE AREA
February 27, 2019
Huntley Meadows, Fairfax County, VA
Minutes

Attendees: Dana Wedeles, Kathy Blevins, Karen Lussier, Katie MacCammon, Emilie Shumate, Julie Frederickson, Sarah Oberther, Tyrone Green, Nick Burt, Matt McCall, Karen Brutsche, Amy Youngs, Kaveh Tajalli, Kathleen Fish, Julie Miles, Roberta Korzen, Michelle Alexander, Melissa Nester (GoToMeeting), Abby Kimble (GoToMeeting)

Agencies Represented: City of Alexandria, Vienna, Fairfax County Park Authority, Fairfax City, Ft. Belvoir, Reston Community Center, Falls Church, Prince William County, Herndon, Fauquier County

- I. Call to Order:** by Kaveh Tajalli at 10:05 AM
- II. Introductions/Round Room**
- III. Review & Approval of Agenda** –motion to approve by Amy, second by Julie. Agenda Unanimously approved
- IV. Review & Approval of Minutes**-. Minutes from 11/28/2018 - First **Kat**, Second **Julie**. Minutes Unanimously approved
- V. Treasurer's Report (Amy Youngs)** Winter social brought in \$710 with \$488 remaining after expenses.
- VI. Board Liaison Report: (Kat)** –
Annual Awards Update -Upcoming Conference Dates
 - Tysons: Sept 7-10, 2019
 - Norfolk: Oct 3-6, 2020
 - Harrisonburg: Oct 23-26, 2021
 - VA Beach: Nov 5-8, 2022
 - James City County: Sept 9-12, 2023Utilize the VRPS Website, stay in tuned with the important Bills currently on the floor
 - <https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.vrps.com%2FResources%2FLegislative.aspx&data=02%7C01%7Cdana.wedeles%40alexandriava.gov%7Cdb17520a3c414928574d08d69c0e3af3%7Cfeaa9b3143754aeeadccc76ad32a890b%7C0%7C1%7C636867982260796316&am;odata=ipwnGl6egPXSfCPKXi9SEdMwdB%2B8l%2FgB3bjUy1MOqbM%3D&reserved=0>
 - Aquatics Resource Group AFO Course - March 13 and 14 Herndon
 - Senior Resource Group Trips and Tours Workshop - March 25 Berryville
 - Upcoming Scholarship Deadlines: Annual Conference April 30
- VII. Chairman's Report (Kaveh):**
 - Encouraged attendees to get involved with the board
 - 2019 Work Plan will be posted on the website in the upcoming weeks:
<http://www.vrps.com/AboutUs/ServiceAreas/NorthernServiceArea.aspx>
- VIII. Old Business:**
 - Winter Social held on January 11 at Meadowlark and sponsored by Cunningham Recreation with 35 attendees.
 - 2019 VRPS Management Conference February 23-26, 2019
- IX. New Business:**

- 2019 Meeting/Social flyer (see attached)
- Seeking location for fall business plan meeting
- VRPS 2019 Conference update:
 - i. Contact board members if interested in being on a committee
 - ii. Education Committee extended the submission deadline to March 15 and seeking more sessions related to programming; registration preferred, but not required to speak
 - iii. Marketing Committee has grown and in full force for outreach
 - iv. **Abby** reported that the award submissions are due by April 30th for a reduced fee or by May 31 at a full fee. *Note: the population categories have changed. Please use 2018 Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service Virginia Population Estimates.*
 - v. **Kat** will be soliciting for volunteers for the conference soon – will need people to host a room or at the registration table.

X. Next Meeting - April 11 at Dulles South Recreation Center, 10am-12pm followed by spring workshop

XI. Aquatics –

- Aquatics Resource Group AFO Course - March 13 and 14 Herndon, sign up by 3/1 for \$275 or by 3/2-3/8 for \$300. Lunch provided.

XII. Discussion and Roundtable

Construction/Traffic Patterns:

- Jurisdictions vary in how they find out about disturbances including from alert systems, advisory councils, Director, Monthly meetings with Town Manager on upcoming developments
- Discussion on center closures for renovations:
 - Suggestion to reach out to neighboring centers and jurisdictions to find alternative spaces
 - Key is managing expectations well in advance in a positive setting such as an event (rather than typical community meeting)
 - Road closures impacting events can be reported to waze/GPS systems to redirect drivers
 - Offer free demo classes to ease burden of construction

Roundtable:

Falls Church – Changes coming to high school and new developments that will have impacts on programming

City of Fairfax – Need more customer service representatives; Fishing day derby coming up; camp registration underway and up.

Herndon – Has new positions posted – encouraged attendees to talk a look and spread the word.

Fauquier – Upcoming events: Vint Hill Theater, Improv Comedy, a different show each month. Upcoming dates: March 30, 7pm, April 5, 8pm, May 25, 7pm. Free egg hunt at Vint Hill, April 13, 3pm; and Trucks and More (aka Touch a Truck) on April 27, 10am-2pm, free.

Alexandria – will have two Deputy Director positions opening this spring in both Park Operations and Recreation; Community Matching Fund application just opened – spread the word: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/recreation/info/default.aspx?id=92701>

Fairfax County Park Authority – Currently dealing with extreme revenue shortfalls due to impacted weather events; Holding creative programming opportunities soon at Frying Pan Park as part of the Cherry Blossom Festival and upcoming events at Burke Lake Park, Huntley Meadows, and Sully Historic Site.

Reston Community Center – Currently looking for alternative locations while center pool is under construction – pool closure is impacting other programs.

Other

- NRPA Revenue School in 2 weeks. Encourage to consider the 2 year program.
- Camp Coalition – Interest in brainstorming on how to get group reconnected. Contact Karen Lussier (karen.lussier@fairfaxva.gov if interested).
- Interns – This is a good time of year to seek summer interns. They are eager to learn, provide new perspective and can help with the budget shortfalls.

XIII. Adjourn

