

## AHCA July Minutes—DRAFT

### **County Park Facilities**

Robin Leonard from the County's Department of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources presented information about park facilities.

-The Fall 2008 tennis instruction schedule is set. She is looking for community input on the Spring 2009 instruction topics. Contact her at [rleonard@arlingtonva.us](mailto:rleonard@arlingtonva.us)

-There is an on-line reservation system to reserve a tennis court 1-14 days in advance. A fee is charged. See <http://tinyurl.com/67vfzd>. Otherwise, available tennis courts can be used on a first-come basis at no cost.

-Effective August 1, one baseball field at Virginia Highlands Park can be reserved for community use. If there is sufficient demand, the second field will be made available. She reminded members the fields will be closed if they are wet, and no dogs are allowed.

-She will e-mail a monthly schedule of park activities to Bruce Cameron. He will have it posted on [www.aurorahighlands.org](http://www.aurorahighlands.org).

-Ms. Leonard invited members to contact her at [rleonard@arlingtonva.us](mailto:rleonard@arlingtonva.us) if they have any problems or concerns about County parks.

### **NC Plan**

Mr. Cameron thanked Steve Wyner and all who have contributed to updating the AHCA NC Plan. The plan will benefit the community in helping to get the County to fund our needs.

Mr. Wyner provided a brief description of the efforts that have gone into the first update since 1970. An early draft was posted on the AHCA website for comment and the latest version will be posted next week. He emphasized the importance of the August vote on the draft. If approved, the plan will meet the deadline for consideration in the County's upcoming budget cycle. He also noted AHCA can update portions of the plan whenever desired.

Mr. Cameron said printed copies of the draft plan will be available at the library, and he will deliver a printed copy to any AHCA member who cannot otherwise get one.

### **Park Enhancement Grants**

Van Newstrom provided an update on the three proposals she is preparing. They are: install drinking fountains in Eads and Nellie Custis Parks, a shade canopy over the playground area in Nellie Custis Park, and installation of a gated fence around the playground equipment in Eads Park. Two key factors for obtaining County approval are consistency with our NC Plan (the August vote is important) and written expressions of community support. Additional information, including sample letters of support, is posted on [www.aurorahighlands.org](http://www.aurorahighlands.org). Contact Ms. Newstrom at [VANew@comcast.net](mailto:VANew@comcast.net) if you want to volunteer to help or have any questions.

## **Pentagon Centre Site**

Abby Denham, Walsh Colucci Lubeley Emrich and Walsh PC, and Michael Foster, MTF Architecture, provided an update on plans for the Pentagon Centre Site, also known as the Costco Site. Architectural plans are available at <http://tinyurl.com/6ztz6d>.

Community benefits under consideration (but not yet agreed) include:

- commuter store
- bike storage
- three new bus shelters
- green screen on building
- utility fund contribution
- smart trip cards for impacted employees
- Costco cart control
- contribution to recreational facilities (e.g., a spray park)
- space for an urgent care facility

Once the site plan is approved by the County, construction for phase one could start in about 12-16 months and would last about 2 years.

## **Other**

About 35 people attended the meeting. Minutes for the June meeting were approved.