

Memorandum

Date: September 14, 2011

To: Jones Point Park Community Liaison Information Group

From: Kate Maxwell, Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project, Community Relations

Subject: **Jones Point Park Community Liaison Information Group Meeting Minutes**

The third meeting of the Jones Point Park Community Liaison Information Group was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the Nannie J. Lee Center in Alexandria, VA.

Attendance

The following groups were represented as follows:

- Alexandria Park & Recreation Commission – Judy Noritake
- Fords Landing Homeowners' Association – Michael Reed
- Jones Point Park Community Gardens—Royal Street – Barbara Lynch
- Old Town/Hunting Creek Civic Association – Maureen Dugan
- Old Town Civic Association – Yvonne Weight Callahan and Tim Elliott

The following people joined them at the head table:

- Kate Barrett, Landscape Architect, National Park Service (NPS)
- Jonathan Jacobsen, WWB Executive Project Manager, Potomac Crossing Consultants (PCC)
- Jalal Masumi, WWB Deputy Project Manager, VDOT
- Brad Pittsnogle, Project Engineer, Jones Point Park Improvements Project, PCC
- Jennifer Lavin, Community Relations, Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project, PCC
- Kate Maxwell, Community Relations, Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project, PCC

Ron Kagawa from the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities was also in attendance. In addition, there were approximately three community members in attendance.

The indicated representatives for the following groups were invited but unable to attend:

- Old Town Village Homeowners' Association – Herve Aitken
- Yates Garden Citizens Association—Teresa Miller and John Wilson

Presentation

Mr. Jacobsen kicked off the meeting with introductions. He then updated the group on the progress that has taken place during the last quarter. He shared construction progress photos of the various features of the park. The full presentation is available online on the City of Alexandria website.

The following topics were discussed as a group:

1. **Light House Shed** – Meeting attendees had questions regarding the purpose of the shed construction that is in conjunction with the light house. It was explained that the building is being added as a historic feature and is a replica of one that was previously adjacent to the lighthouse.
 - a. Status: The shed is currently under construction, and will ultimately be enclosed with siding. There will not be a wayside panel specifically for the shed, but there are three in the area that will explain its historic significance.
CLOSED
2. **Bridge lighting** – Residents expressed concern that the lighting under the bridge is inadequate, creating a safety concern.
 - a. Status: Project goal is to install lights before it starts getting dark earlier. Once the contractor installs the conduit (within a couple of weeks), wiring will be completed by Dominion Virginia Power. Their schedule can be difficult to pin down.
OPEN
3. **Stone path underwater and laden with mud** – Part of the trail was heavily impacted by recent weather events, and proved to be unusable after the heavy storm.
 - a. Status: The path construction is complete, and this is final. While construction was done to best accommodate for rainfall, certain events will still have an impact on usability of the trail. Path was checked following recent rain event; it is clear of mud.
CLOSED
4. **Soccer Field runoff** – Residents fear that water runoff will flood the walking path due to increased elevation of soccer field construction.
 - a. Status: Pipes have been installed beneath the path to redirect water drainage to the river. There is no way for the project to stop river inundation, but they can implement measures to control surface water, and they have already done so.
CLOSED

New Business

The following topics were brought up by members of the group:

- A graphic representation of current park access was requested. The project will work on this and will distribute a PDF to group members and post it on the City of Alexandria website upon completion.
- Concerns were raised about fisherman walking on newly-seeded areas. Spanish signs were requested. The contractor will skirt the area with orange plastic fencing to discourage admittance and activities in lieu of signs.
- St. Mary's School turnaround traffic appears to have been impacted by the relocation of the recycling center. –It was determined that the park project is not the main reason for this, St. Mary's is doing their own construction as well. Jen and Brad met with the Principal previously to discuss potential solutions, but they will call again to follow up on the issue.
- Residents requested more trashcans along the trail.

- Residents requested that the tall fence around the recycling area be extended to the gate at Royal Street in order to deter outsiders from seeing into the garden area. Trees will be planted to create a natural visual barrier and this should alleviate the problem. A six-foot chain link fence will be installed along the north side of the ditch, tying into existing boundary fences.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the same location.