
From: Heather Greenfield
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 9:48 PM
To: RestonMasterPlanSpecialStudy
Cc: Crowell, Elizabeth A; Lambert, Richard; Darab, Faheem; Harrison, Goldie
Subject: language addition request for Reston Master Plan II - regarding historic cemetery
Attachments: Cemetery history.docx

We have a wording request regarding language that would rezone the Hunt Club from private recreational to quadruple the allowable housing density on page

50 of the Reston Master Plan II. We live on the north side of the property that is bordered by Lake Fairfax Park to the south and Buttermilk Creek to the west. As noted in various Fairfax County documents, there exists what is most likely a former slave cemetery (Fairfax records refer to it as Unnamed Cemetery FX242) on what was once the Mildred Johnson family land in 1860. We are attaching a document summarizing the research we've done on the Johnson family with the help of Mary Lipsey, former president of the Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association.

Thanks so much to the Fairfax employees for looking into this and visiting the site. I would very much appreciate it if you could share this research with the Fairfax archeology office and seek their guidance on an appropriate buffer for an historic cemetery whose boundaries are likely unclear, given that some graves may not have been preserved. Our research indicates 500 feet would be appropriate. Since the current language recognizes the historic importance of the log cabin and recommends a 1 acre buffer, it seems like this would also be the appropriate place for language revisions that would both preserve the cemetery and clarify an appropriate buffer to ensure that the graves are indeed preserved.

Please see suggested edits to the current language of the latest draft of the Reston Master Plan II as shared at the most recent community meeting.

Requested edits/suggested language to replace item #5 on page 50 of the Reston Master Plan II

5. 1321 Lake Fairfax Drive (Tax Map parcel 18-1 ((1)) 2) is planned for private recreation use. A log building associated with the Fairfax Hunt Club is on the property and a Civil War era cemetery, listed in Fairfax records as Unnamed cemetery #FX242, is located on or adjacent to the property. The Fairfax Hunt Club clubhouse is eligible for listing in the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites and should be retained and preserved. In addition, the Cultural Resource Management and Protection Branch of the Park Authority should be consulted about required surveys and studies for the cemetery. When the extent of the graves is discovered, it is recommended the cemetery should be preserved with a 500 foot buffer around it. As an option to the current private recreation use, the parcel may develop as residential use at 0.5-1 dwelling units per acre. A lot size of one acre or larger is recommended for the Fairfax Hunt Club clubhouse to retain enough of its cultural landscape in relation to its rural history. In the event this parcel is redeveloped for residential use, then the new residential neighborhood should be incorporated into the planned community of Reston, if possible.

Please let us know if you need any additional information on the Johnson family, property history or photos of the cemetery.

Thanks,
Richard Sheehe and
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