

Bruin Park

Master Plan Revision

Public Information Meeting, December 1, 2014
Herndon Middle School

Meeting Summary

A Public Comment Meeting was held on the evening of December 1, 2014 for the purpose of inviting public comment and input toward the draft master plan revision.

Introductions and Opening Remarks

In attendance:

John Foust Supervisor, Dranesville District

Park Authority Staff

Judy Pedersen	Public Information Officer
Sandy Stallman	Manager, Park Planning Branch, PDD
Sara Baldwin	Deputy Director/COO
Pat Rosend	Project Manager, Park Planning Branch, PDD
Wayne Brissey	Manager, Area 6 Operations
Patricia Dietly	Garden Plot Coordinator

Staff Presentation

Overview

Judy Pedersen provided an outline of the evening's agenda as well as an overview of Fairfax County Park Authority.

Site Conditions and Background

Pat Rosend, Project Manager for the Master Plan Revision, provided a brief history of the park, the community garden proposal and the plan amendment. The presentation detailed the potential addition of garden plots to the park.

Public Comments:

After the staff presentation, a period of open discussion was provided to allow those in attendance to share their thoughts and suggestions for Bruin Park. A summary of the comments.

- A representative of the Herndon Environmental Network (HEN) spoke about the community building value of garden plots. Gardens provide educational and cultural resources to the community. They also provide a low cost food opportunity. Herndon Environmental Network (HEN) proposes to manage the garden plots and Town of Herndon residents would have priority. Gardening activities general take place in the morning or evenings when the day is cooler.

- Another HEN representative spoke about working with the FCPA to find a site in the Herndon area to develop the garden plots. They polled residents at local farmers markets in the Herndon area and found strong support from Herndon residents for a community garden.
- A local resident commented that she was in support of the garden plots as she lived in a townhome and did not have an area to garden.
- A local resident commented that he was in favor of the garden plots for Herndon, as the FCPA plots were all reserved and there were long waiting lists.
- A town resident spoke to the fact that her son's Eagle Scout project was building a community garden and that HEN was very helpful in providing knowledge and guidance for the project.
- A local resident commented that the park seems underutilized. Would like to see more people use the park. Feels that garden plots would be a good facility to draw more people in.
- Another local resident also commented that she was unable to garden in her townhomes limited back yard, and would like the opportunity to have a plot at Bruin Park.
- A local resident commented that she lives in a townhome and would like to be able to expose her two sons to gardening and being outdoors. Feels that gardening is a good family activity.