

DRAFT

**SALONA PARK TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
October 30, 2013**

Chair Margaret Malone called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Members Present: Richard Bliss, Sybil Caldwell, Beth Chung, Dan DuVal, Carole Herrick, Joel Stillman, Mark Turner and Margaret Malone. Guests included Peggy Stevens and Shannon O’Neil from the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust; and Jane Scott Jones and Matt Richardson from McLean Youth Athletics. Also present, Andrew Galusha representing the Fairfax County Park Authority and Jane Edmondson representing Supervisor John Foust.

Announcements:

- Margaret reminded everyone that the Task Force will meet on November 12 and 19, and, if necessary, on **December 3 and 17.**

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the October 8 meeting were approved unanimously. During the discussion of the minutes a Task Force member reiterated objections that he had expressed in a memorandum presented to the Task Force at the October 8 meeting. His memorandum was a response to a memorandum by Sybil Caldwell on behalf of the neighborhood. He expressed the view that there were inaccuracies and unsubstantiated information in the Caldwell memorandum and that it constituted an inappropriate attack on his organization. The matter was discussed by the Task Force. No action was proposed.

Discussion of Recommendations for the Development of Salona Park:

The Chair mailed a copy of a draft report regarding recommendations for the development of Salona Park to members of the Task Force prior to the meeting.

The Task Force briefly discussed issues related to the development of the Park, including:

- whether Salona Park should be established as a History and Environmental Center
- how a learning center could protect and preserve the historical and natural resource qualities of the property
- whether there should be a “green” building to serve as an indoor learning center
- whether there should be a community farm included in the Park
- whether there should be vegetative screening to provide privacy, protect neighbors, and enhance the landscape
- whether parking traffic, and safety issues should be addressed
- whether the development of the Park should be phased in
- whether Park features should be placed at sites that meet RPA requirements, reflect archaeological findings, and take into consideration soil conditions
- how to involve the community
- the need for a cooperative effort to develop athletic fields to meet community needs

- the need for athletic fields at Salona

It was agreed that the names of the individual members of the Task Force should be included in the Task Force report along with the organizations and individuals that they represent.

General Discussion: It was agreed that there would be future meetings to discuss and finalize a Task Force report to be submitted to the Park Authority, Supervisor John Foust, Park Authority Board member Rip Sullivan, and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

The following issues were raised:

- whether the report should include recommendations on governance and a possible financial model
- language regarding the creation of a Friends of Salona organization
- whether the draft as presented was inappropriate to the mission of the Task Force in that it does not reflect the views of the athletic community or include relevant data such as the result of the views expressed by persons who attended the public meeting
- the need to provide advice on the best use for the land rather than to reflect the most vocal in the community
- whether there should be a majority and minority report
- the importance of aiming for a united, not a divided, community

It was agreed that Task Force members will submit to the Chair their recommendations for changes, additions, and deletions to the draft Task Force report.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m. in Supervisor Foust's office.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.