

SALONA PARK TASK FORCE

Public Meeting
October 4, 2012



WHY THE SALONA PARK TASK FORCE WAS CREATED

- ▣ The Park Authority's public comment meeting demonstrated clearly that there were many alternative ideas for how to develop the Salona property into a park that would best serve the McLean community.
- ▣ Many reflected a broad recognition that Salona is a very special place, with a rich history and a prime location at the heart of McLean.

SUGGESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE

- ▣ Create two rectangular athletic fields
- ▣ Preserve, interpret, and make accessible the historical and environmental features of the property
- ▣ Create a sense of identity for the community
- ▣ Create a sense of community for seniors
- ▣ Build a bluebird trail; build hiking trails
- ▣ Preserve hedgerows and meadows

SUGGESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE

- ▣ Eliminate invasive species
- ▣ Emphasize conservation and natural areas
- ▣ Build a nature/history center; green building
- ▣ Leave the land as is for now
- ▣ Provide an opportunity to give outdoor experience to children
- ▣ Create community gardens, garden plots, and farm to table program
- ▣ Reserve areas for families to picnic
- ▣ Build a playground
- ▣ And many others

MCLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION

- ▣ The McLean Citizens Association passed a resolution regarding Salona.
- ▣ It urged the appointment of a Task Force
- ▣ Task Force to conduct an open process to consider ideas “to ensure that the unique, historic, cultural, and natural history resource values of the Salona property are protected....”

APPOINTMENT OF THE SALONA PARK TASK FORCE

- ▣ Supervisor John Foust and Dranesville representative to the Park Authority Board Kevin Fay agreed to appoint a Task Force composed of representatives of the community

TASK FORCE COMPOSITION

- ❑ Northern Virginia Conservation Trust
- ❑ McLean Citizens Association
- ❑ Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce
- ❑ McLean Youth Athletics
- ❑ Fairfax County History Commission
- ❑ Surrounding Neighborhoods
- ❑ Conservation Easement Grantors/Landowners
- ❑ One representative appointed by Supervisor Foust
- ❑ One representative appointed by Dranesville FCPA Representative Fay

The Supervisor's office provides administrative support to the Task Force

The FCPA provides support on an as needed and available basis.

Their representatives attend the Task Force meetings.

THE MISSION OF THE TASK FORCE

- ▣ The Task Force will serve as an advisory body
- ▣ Its members will represent a wide range of public interests
- ▣ The Task Force shall expand on efforts to bring the diverse ideas and perspectives of the community into the park planning process
- ▣ The Task Force shall reach out to the community and interested groups to solicit and develop recommendations that can be incorporated into the Master Plan
- ▣ The recommendations adopted by the Task Force shall seek to reflect the consensus of the community and be consistent with the conservation easement and the financial investment made by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and FCPA

OUR WORK TO RESPOND TO THE MISSION

- ▣ Since we began our work last September we have
 - walked the site
 - visited other public parks
 - listened to presentations on many important issues

WE HAVE HEARD THE VIEWS OF:

- ▣ Sports groups
- ▣ Seniors
- ▣ Schools (FCPS, George Mason, Potomac School)
- ▣ Friends of parks organizations
- ▣ Neighboring community organization
- ▣ Fairfax County Master Naturalists

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS

- ▣ McLean Historical Society
- ▣ Conditions of the Salona easement agreement
- ▣ Learning experiences of student groups
- ▣ Green building
- ▣ County experts on environmental and archaeological issues and conditions

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

- ▣ Salona offers many opportunities for McLean residents of all ages
- ▣ In making our recommendations, we need to take into consideration:
 - The rich history of Salona, including its potential archaeological findings
 - What the community wants and needs
 - The environment – streams, drainage, existing vegetation
 - Costs - initial and ongoing
 - Impact on traffic and parking
 - Terms of conservation easement

INFORMATION THAT IS NEEDED

- ▣ Archaeological conditions
 - evidence of Salona's historical experience
- ▣ Environmental conditions
 - Drainage
 - Resource Protection Area
 - Soil issues

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

- ▣ Visit our stations –
 - History and Archaeology
 - Active and Passive Recreation
 - Education
 - Environment/Natural Resources
 - Green Building
 - Conservation Easement/Traffic and Parking
 - Neighborhood Concerns

Ask questions

Share your views

**WHAT WE LEARN FROM YOU
WILL BE CRITICAL TO OUR
RECOMMENDATIONS
REGARDING THE FUTURE OF
SALONA PARK**