Grist Mill Park Master Plan Revision

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

March 4, 2019, 7:00 P.M. At Woodley Hills Elementary School

Meeting Summary:

A Public Information Meeting was held on the evening of March 4, 2019 to kick of the public master plan revision process for Grist Mill Park. Public comments on the draft master plan were provided by the approximately 25 attendees signed in at the meeting.

The meeting began with introductions by Judy Pedersen, Public Information Officer, Fairfax County Park Authority. Opening remarks were provided by Linwood Gorham, Supervisor, Mount Vernon District followed by Sam Hudson, Park Planning Supervisor.

Other Officials and Staff in Attendance:

Daniel G. Storck, Board of Supervisors, Mount Vernon District Linwood Gorham Park Authority Board, Mount Vernon District Dr. Albena Aidoo, Park Authority Board, At Large Barbara Nugent, Director, Resource Management Division Dave Bowden, Director, Planning Development Division Phil Hagar, Area Manager Sam Hudson, Park Planning Manager Andy Galusha, Project Manager Kristen Sinclair, Natural Resource Section Branch Manager Paul Shirey, Planning Development Division Christin Bratt, Deputy PIO

Staff Presentation

Sam Hudson provided a brief overview of the Park Authority.

Andy Galusha, project manager for the Park Master Plan, provided a brief history of the site, site conditions, and surrounding context, master plan process, timeline, and described the draft plan.

Discussion Session:

Following the presentation, Judy Pederson moderated an open public comment period so those in attendance provide input on the draft plan. The following is a summary of each speaker's comments expressed during this session, after which, the meeting adjourned.

Speaker Number Group/Organization:

1 Mount Vernon Civic Association

Concerned about lights and the effect on the neighborhood sky, would like info about when the lights will be on and how they will be managed. What is the reasoning behind the revised access with 20 extra spots, could the current access with a pipe stem to the additional spots provide the additional parking? In regard to the barn, some sort of use for entertainment or picnics would be a good idea but may need to be even more parking spots.

2 Woodlawn Manor

Is the county planning to form an oversight committee to obtain input from surrounding community? In 2002 lights were a concern, need to look at the current facilities in the area that already have lights, lights will still be a concern for the neighborhood. Strongly suggest an oversight committee.

3	
	Keep it as green as possible. No alcohol allowed. (inaudible)
4	
	Parking needs to be addressed. On the soccer field the sprinklers are on during the rain. Lights will be a concern
4	
	Elevated soccer field drains to backyards and street. Picnic area (inaudible) Soccer people park on neighborhood streets 20 extra parking spaces will help with existing condition. Three people hit by cars the connections missing
5	
	Parking is a problem, cars going in and out are a problem. Not a lot of good places to go for kids middle school to High school, the barn could offer a good opportunity for dances, revivals etc for young people. Maybe have wifi or AV stuff for them.
6	
	Live in the area, soccer coach. Parking is a problem. Use the barn for indoor soccer so young kids can use in when it rains and alternate for lighting field. Lot of options for the barn. Maybe a nature center for kids.
7	
	Consider using the barn for storage of equipment used in nearby garden plots and also construct racks inside barn for storage of kayaks and canoes used by neighbors. Barn is useful and historic, should be preserved. Parking is also an issue.
8	
	Barn, if set up properly could be a great dinner theater. Would draw the tourism in the area.
9	

Parking is a concern as well as the water runoff. Keep the barn.