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**Board Minutes
Of the Friends of Lafayette Park
February 27, 2018**

Attendees: Co-President Jeff Stoiber, Co-President Elizabeth Engel, Tad Stewart, Keith Jones, Patty Myler and Judy Goodman.

Minutes: Minutes for the January 10 and January 29, 2018, FOLP board meeting and community meeting were approved without revision.

“Friends” Application to DC DPR: Regarding the renewal application for official “Friends” status from DPR, the application and the necessary accompanying documents are nearly complete. It will be filed soon with DPR.

Treasurer’s Report: Dennis Smyth, who could not attend the meeting, will be submitting his report at a later date.

Park and Rec Center Plans: Following the community meeting held by the FOLP, and other input from the neighborhood, there seems to be little interest in building a large rec center to replace the existing one on 33rd Street. The board discussed how these views could best be transmitted to the ANC and to DGS and DPR; and more importantly how the FOLP could participate in the planning process. Much of the planning for the new rec center has been done quietly within the city departments, with little public input, the board feels.

The board discussed working with the city to take action to correct the erosion problem in the park, with water flowing down the top hill across the ball field and onto 33rd Street during storms. The problem has not been addressed in several previous work projects in the park, and the board feels erosion has been a serious problem for some time.

There is also a problem with the new drainage system for the new ball field. Water collects in the middle of the field.

The board plans to try to work with the ANC representative to be involved in the rec center planning and to address the erosion problem, as well as the drainage issue on the ball field.

Lighting in the Park: While most of the comments expressed at the community meeting in January generally were opposed to installing lighting for the tennis courts and basketball court, the school has designs for limited lighting for the upper field of the park and pathways. The board wants to see more detailed plans for the school’s lighting project.

Garden Group: The garden group has been meeting to discuss the scope of work needed in the park over the full year, and what to present to landscaping contractors to obtain estimates. The FOLP budget is tight, but the board agreed to spend as much as is affordable to try to maintain the gardens for as much of the season as possible (the city does not maintain the gardens). The number of garden volunteers is dwindling as volunteers are aging after decades of work.

Spring Clean-Up Day: The FOLP spring clean-up day for Lafayette Park is scheduled for April 28, 2018.

Next Meeting: The next meeting was scheduled for April 17, 2018, at 7:30 p.m.