



Board Minutes
Friends of Lafayette Park
April 24, 2018

Attendees: Co-Presidents Elizabeth Engel and Jeff Stoiber, Dennis Smythe, Patty Myler, Keith Jones, Laura Phinizy.

Minutes: Tad Stewart will be sending minutes for the February 27 meeting by email.

“Friends” Application to DC DPR: FOLP now has a “clean hands” certificate. Elizabeth Engel has it.

Treasurer’s Report: Dennis Smythe reported a current balance of approximately \$8400. Of that, \$3875 will go to reimburse landscapers who cleaned and mulched perimeter garden beds in April. Several new members donated in response to listserv postings about the Spring Cleanup. Keith Jones needs to be set up as co-treasurer.

School, Park, and Rec Center Project Updates:

Rec Center --Keith Jones has typed up a “sense of the FOLP” document about the Rec Center and will forward it to the Board for review for official position. Noted we have not heard anything from the city over the past two months regarding the Rec Center or possible meetings.

Playground project – noted that board members observed workers not working, working intermittently. FOLP offered to put in sand in sandbox once construction was complete.

Erosion- noted that Washington Post had run article about RiverSmart, how DC does not have to pay for impervious surfaces but is charging homeowners high fees. Noted erosion has worsened over the spring- home at Quesada and Broad Branch forced to spend thousands of dollars remediating water damage and penetration following excessive runoff from the park. Suggestion was made to make a google folder of erosion photos/videos and add a section to our website. DOEE did walkthrough with Rebecca Maydak (ANC) and Patty Myler/ Jeff Stoiber (FOLP) where erosion was pointed out. Their report in March offers several possible mitigation measures. Concern expressed that erosion might once again be overlooked in another city project (Rec Center). Suggestions were made to contact Rock Creek Conservancy, Pat Collins DOEE, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Mayor, and Brandon Todd.

Lighting – upper field and basketball court lighting problems were noted. Wall pack on back of Rec Center allows nighttime use of basketball court, which is not allowed. On the other hand, lack of lighting on the upper field has encouraged teenagers to gather on late weekend evenings, drinking and carousing. Suggestion was made to ask officers in our PSA to give this area special attention. Laura Phinzy will reach out to Samantha Nolan, Neighborhood Watch coordinator, for suggestions on contact information in the police department.

School punchlist – noted that most of the punchlist still remained, 1 year after walkthrough with DGS. Brandon Todd has been alerted but it was noted that without consistent pressure, the city might continue to delay addressing issues.

Spring Cleanup Day: Keith Jones will pick up shovels, rakes, etc. that DPR will leave at Jeff Stoiber's house and will return them to Jeff's house at the end of the cleanup. We will have coffee and refreshments and membership materials. Tad Stewart will put out signs. Areas to target include 1) alley bed between basketball court and tot lot, 2) erosion on track, 3) beds by auditorium stairs.

Garden Group: Patty Myler met with 4 contractors. 2 considered our landscaping project too small; the other 2 gave quotes -one roughly 80% higher than the other. Patty went with the lower bid and work has been done satisfactorily.

New Business: DCRA Corporate report has been done.

Tad will add photos to website. Noted that the website on some mobile phones does not function properly – a menu button doesn't work. Suggestion was made to ask Tad to move the PayPal donation up to the top of the webpage.

Anslie Stokes had offered to reach out to contractors to see if they would be willing to donate to resod yoga lawn. Elizabeth will contact her about that.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 26 – 7:30- home of Keith Jones