

ANC 3F Parks and Watershed Committee
June 28, 2022, 7:00 pm (Zoom)

Attendees:

Erica Rosenberg; Marjorie Share; Lois Forster; Barbara Bates; Cory Levine

Erica Rosenberg, Chair

Agenda:

A. Reservation 630: Cory Levine

If anyone has a strong feeling regarding the name of the park, please let me know. It's going to take an act of congress to rename it but the committee could make a suggestion and we could attempt to put the support of the ANC behind a name that a majority feel comfortable getting behind.

Plants or Birds that might be good names? I will follow up with RCC/ Jeanne for ideas.

B. Hearst Park: Cory Levine

The pool opened Memorial day weekend with a rush of enthusiasm - and it's really a great addition to the neighborhood. The tennis courts and pool are getting great usage, and the soccer field seems to be holding up. There are a few maintenance/landscaping issues that will need attention, the water around the heritage tree area and in the northwest corner of the field still seems to drain extremely slow/be ever present and the trash continues to be an issue, but I'm working on getting a new non-profit approved as the official park partner of Hearst (Friends of Hearst Park) and we will try to address these issues and more once we get rolling.

Hoping to get the DPR Aquatic department's contact to request lap lanes early morning but might have to trade late hours on those days. We also want to get fewer lap lanes

Also of note there is \$250,000 earmarked in the 2023 budget for Hearst Cottage (the rec center) and we should try to solicit input from those using it/working there on what would be the best use of those funds. The bathrooms definitely need to be redone but that might not actually be the highest priority. I would like to investigate whether we can actually fundraise and try to supplement the federal funds using Friends of Hearst Park to be sure as much of what's needed to update the cottage can be completed.

C. Soapstone Valley: Marjorie Share

- Requesting an Air permit for the project because of the chemicals that are emitted – the ANC passed a resolution. Commissioner Mehta sent it with a letter to Stephen Ours from DOEE and DC Water with Monitoring and testing recommendations.

- Mitchell Baer is the air quality scientist who lives in Parc Van Ness. Majorie and Professor Welton drafted a three page list of suggestions to tweak the monitoring and testing that was entered in the letter to Stephen Ours.
 - DOEE determined that they are not requiring an air permit but yes to monitoring and testing. Using the same standards they use with other projects in DC.
 - Meeting with DOEE and DC Water trying to coordinate a date in July.
 - Concerns that they asked for were to do a chemical analysis of the actual pipe because the material data sheets of the DC water sites are incongruent with what the pipes actually end up being.
 - Carry out real time monitoring of the sewer lines and air quality - detect VOCs that could cause health conditions.
 - Modify the grab sample air monitoring equipment
 - Come up with a plan for shut down if issues arise.
 - The firm they were going to hire was not going to be unaffiliated and they requested that it be.
 - Involve DC Dept of Health in case there are any health issues that arise.
 - DOEE and DC Water happy to meet. No one else was requiring an air permit so that's why they aren't doing it. They are waiting for a permit.
 - DC Water update said they are working in the stream by Albermarle - but very generic update and they should be more specific. Using boulders to hold back the soil and planting grass. Taking down more trees but not until November because of the Bats.
- D. **Connecticut Ave – Barbara Bates.** Meeting tomorrow at UDC about what's happening from 6-8pm – Reversible Lane study feedback. Presenting what will be done. Bike lane study – likely to put in bike lanes. Parking study – likely to remove some parking.
- a. Streets and sidewalk passed a resolution about reducing lighting around CT Ave.
- E. **Park near WAMU-Lois Forster**
- a. Has to write to American University Facilities director.
 - b. The National Park Service went inside the WAMU building and told them to take the picnic table away.
 - c. There is a covenant to maintain that includes security.

Miscellaneous – Marjorie - Streets and Sidewalks is thinking about doing something along the sidewalk at Albermarle at the entrance of Soapstone. Safe crosswalk, drainage, overlook.