

Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) General Membership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 7pm @ Taylor Elementary School

Board Members Present: President, Bill Richardson; First Vice President, Mike Green; Second Vice President, Deirdre Dessingue; Secretary, Jean Fisher; Treasurer; Maxine Nagel; Director Charlie Henkin; Director Liz Lord; Director, John Seggerman; Director, Anne Wilson

- 1. Welcome, Bill Richardson, DRCA President**
- 2. DRCA meeting minutes dated October 2, 2019 were approved.**
- 3. Reports from Board Members (B. Richardson)**
 - a. Marcey Park Re-Design: Met with County staff on keeping large trees. Project will take up to one year to complete and updates can be found on County website.
 - b. Zoning Ordinance: A letter was sent to County Board on whether the existing zoning ordinance is being enforced when larger homes are being built. Four (4) examples were provided. See letter at drca.org. County wants to discuss, including with zoning officials.
 - c. Car Break-Ins: The issue appears to be more than just FOB keys; a person in the audience who is a police officer stated that all electronic FOB break-ins were actually due to owners leaving these electronic keys in their unlocked cars. Bill will talk more with police and report back.
- 4. Dr. Irma Becerra, President, Marymount University (MU)**
 - a. Dr. Becerra spoke on various topics including her extensive background, the history of MU, students' service and contributions to our community, upcoming 70th Anniversary Celebration and new 5-year strategic plan.
 - b. All DRCA members were welcomed to attend upcoming MU events and a link will be provided to view those events. More information on MU can be found on their website: <https://www.marymount.edu/Home>
- 5. County Update on Donaldson Run Stream Restoration (Tributary B)" presented by Christin Jolicoeur, Senior Watershed Planner, Arlington County Department of Environmental Services**

The link to the presentation is below and can also be found on the County website:

https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2020/02/DR-Trib-B-Update_Feb2020_web.pdf

Additional information provided during Q&A session:

- The size of the trees planted on side will be 3/4 to 1 in., with a 5-year maintenance plan.
- ISB advertising drawings will be finished by early May 2020.
- Deer protection will be on the slopes of trees; bio-bark will be included.
- Member stated that N. Upton Street residents are concerned about parking, in/out access during project and requested a meeting to discuss; this to be determined.

- Member raised concern if rain occurred during work on N. Upton Street outflow pipe; the best option would be “no-work” when rain is forecasted and only work during dry periods.
- A manager (county employee) and a county inspector will be managing this project.
- The size of work equipment will be determined by ability to carry stones, coming up from Vermont Street on to existing trail for access.
- County drawings will be put on website.
- Member urged repair of Tributary A at the same time as Tributary B, particularly the bridge; no indication given on if this effort could be coordinated at the same time.
- Member raised concern on whether enough stack stones will be used to avoid further erosion, specifically N. Upton Street residents, and if a “field site visit” could take place; no follow-up yet planned.
- “Sandy Rd. site” was recommended to a member who requested to provide input on design at 95%.
- Parks Department is responsible for cleaning up trees that fall.
- Member commented that ivy growth on trees is damaging; neighbors encouraged to gather and cut it out to preserve trees.

Member, Mary Glass presented an alternative stream restoration plan:

- Arlington Tree Action Group (ATAG) calling for change in the County’s current plan.
- More information can be found at: <http://preservingdonaldsonrun.us/>
- Presentation link:
<http://preservingdonaldsonrun.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/12-2-19-Response-to-DES-claims-to-justifying-Trib-A-as-model-for-later-projects-002.pdf>

6. Adjournment