

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clark Lilly, M-NCPPC

CC: Patricia McManus, M-NCPPC; Mark Gionet, Lewis Scully Gionet

FROM: Dave Norden, Lewis Scully Gionet
(703) 821-2045, x112

DATE: May 22, 2009

PROJECT: Kemp Mill Urban Park
LSG Job No: 28084.00

RE: Community Meeting – May 20, 2009; 7:30pm

On May 20, 2009, M-NCPPC and LSG held a community meeting at Kemp Mill Elementary School in Silver Spring, MD. A list of attendees is included at the end of this document. The following is a summary of concerns and other feedback from community members. Please notify the writer of any corrections or additions.

The community meeting convened at approximately 7:15pm with an overview of the Kemp Mill Urban Park Project and an introduction to the design team by project manager Clark Lilly, from M-NCPPC. Project Manager Dave Norden from Lewis Scully Gionet presented the site constraints and design analysis to the community group, which was followed by a workshop to generate ideas from community members.

The workshop began by breaking the audience into four facilitated groups using a ticket number that each attendee received at the sign-in table. Each participant was given a note card to record ideas on the following topics:

- Question 1: What do you like about the existing Kemp Mill Urban Park?
- Question 2: What would you like to change about the park?
- Question 3: What new element should be added to the park?

The facilitator of each group subsequently recorded the answers on a large drawing pad where each group member voted on ideas they preferred. Once the items were streamlined within the individual groups, each appointed a representative whom presented their ideas to the assembly.

Individual group notes with voting statistics for the workshop are enclosed. Results are organized by question, with initial responses first, followed by a voting summary.

INITIAL RESPONSES

Question 1: What do you like about the existing park?

Group 1:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
15	1	Overall layout and uniqueness of the park
11	2	The arbor area/gazebo area
8	3	The park accommodates multi-age groups
8	3	<i>The parks location</i>
6	4	The play area

Group 2:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
16	1	The playground area
9	2	Wildlife (ducks)
1	3	Shubbery
1	3	The water feature/pond
1	3	Park is place for respite
1	3	Benches
1	3	View from streets

Group 3:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
6	1	Playground
5	2	Ducks & Geese (Wildlife) and water feature
5	2	Sense of relaxation
5	2	Trees and the shade they provide
3	3	Place to eat and sit
3	3	Variety of activities for different age groups (play equipment)
2	4	Bridge (to look at fish)
2	4	Gazebo (gathering area and shelter from the rain)
1	5	The park acts as a community gathering place
1	5	Good location of a neighborhood park
0	6	Arbor (if it is safe/structurally sound)

Group 4:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
13	1	The Playground
9	2	Seating
7	3	Water Feature
5	4	Flowers
5	4	Open Lawn
4	5	Basketball Court
2	6	Park elements that provide shade (pergola)
2	6	Mature Trees
1	7	Lighting
0	8	The ducks (not the geese)

VOTING SUMMARY

Question 1: What do you like about the existing park?

Group 1:

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Group 2:

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5	2	Sense of relaxation
5	2	Trees and the shade they provide

Group 4:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
13	1	The Playground
9	2	Seating
7	3	Water Feature
5	4	Flowers
5	4	Open Lawn

INITIAL RESPONSES

Question 2: What would you change about the park?

Group 1:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
14	1	Address the goose problem
9	2	Provide better play surfaces- rubber resilient play surfacing
6	3	Add more benches of better quality
6	3	Fix the drainage system
6	3	Repair existing and add more drinking fountains
3	4	Increase ADA accessbility
2	5	Provide greater separation of play areas for different age groups
2	5	Reduce the size of the pond
1	6	Provide more improved lighting
0	7	Provide more evergreens

Group 2:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
19	1	Replace water feature with a field
12	2	Expand playground area and change surface to recycled rubber
3	3	Provide more infant swings
2	4	Provide more separation between the basketball court and playground area
1	5	Address goose excrement in grass
1	5	If the pond is kept, reduce in size and make more natural
1	5	Incorporate fountain into the water feature
1	5	Provide separate spaces for dogs
1	5	Address dangerous slope used as a path
0	6	Address people sleeping in the park
0	6	Eliminate Trash
0	6	Address Arcola/ Lamberton traffic safety concerns

Group 3:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
8	1	Improve pollution/degradation of Sligo Creek
8	1	Reduce the size of the pond
6	2	Clean the water feature/ make more sustainable
5	3	Address goose droppings
1	4	Remove trash from park (shopping carts, etc)
1	4	Make park and playground areas stroller accessible
1	4	Relocate playground close to parking
1	4	Provide fence around entire playground
1	4	Move swings (in dangerous location) and improve playground surveillance
1	4	Move drinking fountain near playground
1	4	Address rats
1	4	Add more baby swings
0	5	Provide tables near the playground
0	5	Address security concerns with shelters and trees along Arcola
0	5	Provide crosswalk(s) across driveway to synagogue
0	5	Fix zip line

Group 4:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
18	1	Convert pond to a fountain (opportunity for interactive fountain)
8	2	Provide more play opportunities for younger children
7	3	Reduce or eliminate steps to improve accessibility

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5	4	Open landscape up to improve visibility and safety
5	4	Provide more drinking fountains (currently only one)
3	5	Improve water flow (no stagnant water)
2	6	Goose- proof landscape

VOTING SUMMARY

Question 2: What would you like to change about the park?

Group 1:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
14	1	Address the goose problem
9	2	Provide better play surfaces- rubber resilient play surfacing
6	3	Add more benches of better quality
6	3	Fix the drainage system
6	3	Repair existing and add more drinking fountains

Group 2:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
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Group 3:

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8	2	Improve pollution/degradation of Sligo Creek
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Group 4:

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18	1	Convert pond to a fountain (opportunity for interactive fountain)
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INITIAL RESPONSES

Question 3: What element should be added to the park?

Group 1:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
13	1	More playground equipment (climbing types)
10	2	Equipment to maintain and enhance water quality
9	3	Landscaping
6	4	Wider walkways, especially along Lambertson Drive
4	5	Updated Bridge
4	5	Fish in the pond
4	5	Nice park entrance sign
1	6	Donation plaques

Group 2:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
16	1	More variety of playground equipment (climbing wall)
1	2	Benches
1	2	Landscape barrier to separate kids from traffic
1	2	Crosswalk across Arcola
1	2	Bathroom
1	2	Appropriately sized benches
1	2	More shade structures
0	3	Seasonal Plantings
0	3	Habitat to support wildlife

Group 3:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
7	1	More sustainable pond with plants
5	2	Larger playground
4	3	Playground equipment, located closer to parking
3	4	Native plants
3	4	Flowers
3	4	Association with Brookside Gardens
2	5	Peacefulness- A balance between active and passive activities
2	5	Small dog park
2	5	Tetherball area
2	5	Bioretention areas
1	6	Turf area
1	6	Site furnishings: benches, picnic tables, and trash receptacles
0	7	Interactive fountain with opportunities for play
0	7	Solar fountain with educational benefits
0	7	Picnic area and gathering space
0	7	Small track with turf in the center
0	7	Educational signage
0	7	Fill all unused areas with activities

Group 4:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
12	1	Play areas for different aged kids, accessible play, more swings
7	2	Fence around the playground area
6	3	Green Park (Environmentally Sound)
6	3	Better surfaces (turf, paving, paths) so kids and others don't damage it playing
4	4	Splinter proof seating (recycled parts)
4	4	Trash cans

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4	4	Fence around entire park
3	5	Shade over play and seating areas
1	6	Picnic tables
1	6	Bat Houses

VOTING SUMMARY

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Group 2:

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Group 3:

VOTES	ITEM NO.	ANSWER
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PUBLIC NOTICE

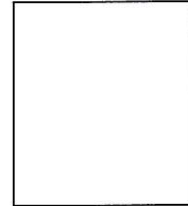


Montgomery Parks
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

COMMUNITY MEETING

**Proposed Renovation of
Kemp Mill Urban Park**

Wednesday, May 20, 2009
7:00-9:00pm



PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMUNITY MEETING **Proposed Renovation of Kemp Mill Urban Park**

Montgomery Parks, M-NCPPC invites you to participate in a meeting to determine future renovations for Kemp Mill Urban Park, located at the intersection of Arcola Avenue and Lambertson Drive in Wheaton.

This community meeting is the first step in facility planning for the park. The purpose of the meeting is to obtain your input and ideas. We will discuss site conditions, park activities and preliminary ideas for the park. Your input will be used to help us develop design options for the park, which will be presented for additional public review at a later date.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 20, 2009
TIME: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
WHERE: Kemp Mill Elementary School
411 Sisson Street, Wheaton, MD

Directions: From Arcola take Lambertson four blocks East to Lovejoy, then take left onto Sisson to the school.

To submit written comments or for more information contact:

CJ Lilly
Landscape Architect/Project Manager
Montgomery County Department of Parks
9500 Brunett Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20901
Email: Clark.Lilly@MontgomeryParks.org
Phone: 301-495-3589

