

Friends of Fred Hamilton Playground (FOFHP), Meeting #7, Feb 1, 2012

Present:; Danielle Buklis, Marguerett, Melana Janzen, Marco Bianchi, Susan Antler, Jill Cuthbertson, Julie (Postgate?), Naomi Wise

1. Welcome new participants
 - a. Naomi Wise (Roxton, north side of park)
 - b. Julie (Postgate?) (Shaw, north side of park)
 - c. Bob and Margaret from Shaw, and Elizabeth from Roxton are also interested in participating, and will be invited to next meeting
2. Updates from past meetings
 - a. Marco noted park levies from 486 Shaw Street development still pending. Park levies also potentially coming from development on Manning.
 - b. It isn't clear how much funding is now available to us if some of the capital funds must now go towards a splash pad. Marco advised us to continue to think big, and he and the councillor will help us figure out funding.
3. Marco updated us on Pool/Splash pad issue resulting from City budget cuts. City is planning to remove wading pool and replace it with a splash pad which apparently requires less maintenance and staff over the long term. Our pool was targeted because it was due for capital renewal / replacement anyways. City is evaluating possible scenarios for splash pads representing different levels of investment from \$15,000 to \$150,000. FHP could be first on the list, and Mike Layton is interested in getting us at the top of that list.
4. 2012 Work: Marco clarified what could happen this summer under the auspices of regular city work, with or without consultation, so he urges us to get community consultation on these easy things now, and it will make the bigger project more successful. List includes:
 - a. Bocci courts repaired, new limestone surface,
 - b. Pathways upgraded,
 - c. Stairwells repaired or replaced,
 - d. Fountains repaired or replaced.
 - e. Other?If we are interested in having ramps instead of stairwells, we need to write a letter, from the FOFHP to our Councillor who will move it forward for 2012. Melana, did you offer to draft letter?
5. Organizing ourselves for community consultation
 - a. Need for online place to share information getting more critical. Matt has offered training on WordPress and has already set up a site for us. Melana will contact Matt to set up the date for training and will pull in Jill & Danielle. Please let Melana know if you are also interested in learning about our site. Question raised whether WordPress, Google docs, or hosted through Compost Council would be more effective or accessible. That can be determined at session with Matt.

Friends of Fred Hamilton Playground (FOFHP), Agenda #7, Feb 1, 2012

- b. City Hall will prepare flyer based on previous community consultations and run it by this group before printing to ensure it reflects our needs. City Hall will distribute flyer to residences. We agreed that boundary would be Ossington, Dewson, Crawford, & Dundas streets, including residences on both sides of those boundary streets. If we want to invite businesses, we need to look after that ourselves. Melana will talk to Nicole to see if she can do this for us. Julie will invite College Square Plaza owner on our behalf. We agreed our focus should be on the Promenade Business Association as opposed to other BIAs in the vicinity.
 - c. Marco recommends we start with two consultations. First one to accomplish two things:
 - i. move head with blessing of community on paths/steps/stairs. Group narrowed it down to two suitable surfaces to present to the community either patterned asphalt or concrete. Present visuals used at 2011 Environment Day
 - ii. Obtain input on existing ideas, and solicit further ideas (our current list, attached here, should be posted / made available somehow)
 - d. First consultation will be on Wednesday March 21st, 7 pm, at the Shaw/College Library. Flyer announcing meeting should be delivered by Feb 28. Ideally our online site will be up and running and populated with some content prior to the flyers landing in neighbours homes.
 - e. Melana & Jill will present our current ideas and the visuals. Melana might be able to enlist a student to develop further graphics/visuals for us. Everyone on steering committee should participate in presenting to our neighbours!
 - f. Second consultation date tbc, but could go deeper into some of the ideas.
 - g. Meetings will be facilitated and introduced by Mike Layton. Marco will ensure we have translation available for Portuguese speakers. Marco thinks the attendance will be between 5 and 25 max people at any community consultation meeting.
6. Other
- a. Susan noted that Live Green Grant “expressions of interest” are due Feb 7. She will investigate further and draft the 2 page document with Melana if any of our ideas are eligible. Update: Susan looked into it in detail and we are not eligible for this round, but perhaps next when our ideas are further developed. Susan’s email of Feb 6 provides more detail.
 - b. Marco noted there is a Solar Fair on April 28th. More info to come on that.
 - c. Roxton bike path: Melana to write to Mike Layton on behalf of FOFHP (listing our names) requesting cycling infrastructure, particularly northbound, to deter cyclists going up Shaw Street wrong way.
 - d. Ossington Ave traffic and pedestrians crossing at OOPs is a potential accident waiting to happen. Melana and Naomi to write to Mike Layton about possible solutions to facilitate pedestrian crossing somewhere along this long stretch, ideally connecting George Ben Park and the school.
 - e. Interest in pursuing history of Fred Hamilton. Danielle and Susan will do some digging into this.
 - f. Julie is interested in getting “children playing” signs posted on streets surrounding park. Marco suggested that a letter, again on behalf of FOFHP could be sent to the councillor for follow-up. Julie, will you write this letter?

Friends of Fred Hamilton Playground (FOFHP), Meeting #7, Feb 1, 2012

g. Add to mailing list: Julie, Bob & Margaret bobprit@interlog.com (Shaw Street),
Naomi, Elizabeth (Roxton)

7. Next Meeting: Wed Feb 22 6:30 pm at Melana's coach house.

Important Calendar dates:

Feb 22	FOFHP Meeting #8, 6:30 at Melana's, 409 Shaw Street
Feb 28	Target date to have circulated all flyers for Community Consultation
March 21	Community Consultation, 7 pm, Shaw /College Library
April 14	Community Environment Day at FHP
April 28	Solar Fair
tbc	WordPress training