

Ben Fulmer

From: Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2017 7:12 AM
To: Wayne Caldwell
Subject: Re: History in the park

Sounds good, will be in touch later
thanks

-C

"The whole art of government consists in the art of being honest. Only aim to do your duty and mankind will give you credit where you fail."

- Thomas Jefferson (A Summary View of the Rights of British America, 1774)

Cecil Bothwell
@cecilbothwell
828-713-8840

On Sep 10, 2017, at 9:28 PM, Wayne Caldwell <owlhead38@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Cecil,

I do a presentation on the downtown mall fight from 1980-81, if that would be of interest. I'm covered up right now---won't be back in town and able to think about scheduling until the 18th. So if you want me to do this talk, let me know about some possible dates.

Wayne

On Fri, Sep 8, 2017 at 7:12 AM, Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> wrote:

Hi Wayne,

Off to a slow start on these talks. It's not easy to attract a crowd without an ad budget. (I've formed a nonprofit People's Park Foundation, but am waiting for IRS 501(c)3 status in order to open a checking account, etc.)

Will be posting flyers this weekend.

So far Nan Chase and Jerry Pope have signed on for future dates. I'm offering the early talks because I want to try to build audience before I ask others to show up for "no audience".

Have invited Rob Neufeld among others.

For now the Local History talks are slated for 6 p.m. every Monday - but I don't have any deep insight into whether that's the best time or day. This is an experiment. (When the Haywood visioning process started the Project for Public Spaces suggested we do "quick, light, cheap" events and activities to discover what people like. So we've modeled our experiment on what has worked at other similar developing parks around the country.)

-C

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Ben Fulmer

From: Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 7:12 AM
To: owlhead38@gmail.com
Subject: History in the park

Hi Wayne,

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Ben Fulmer

From: Maggie Burleson <MBurleson@ashevillenc.gov> on behalf of Maggie Burleson
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 3:51 PM
To: Brian Haynes; Cecil Bothwell; Esther Manheimer; Gordon Smith; Gwen Wisler; Julie Mayfield; Keith Young
Subject: Draft 8-22-17 Minutes
Attachments: Minutes 2017-AUG-22.pdf

Please feel free to e-mail me any changes by Noon on Wednesday, September 6.

Thanks!
Maggie

Maggie Burleson, MMC, NCCMC
City Clerk
City of Asheville
Post Office Box 7148
Asheville, N.C. 28802
828-259-5601 (phone)
828-259-5499 (fax)

Ben Fulmer

From: Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 8:06 AM
To: Elizabeth Schell
Subject: Re: Keeping Asheville in Stitches?

I or someone else from the People's Park Foundation will be there.
Thanks for whatever promo you can do.
Our calendar is posted here.
<https://www.stlawrencegreen.com/calendar>

-C

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On Aug 24, 2017, at 8:04 AM, Elizabeth Schell <elizabeth@lainschell.com> wrote:

We can't commit to being there at that time, but maybe you'll get some folks. We can promote it via our FB page and other networks. Is there a particular place people would gather there? Are there places to sit? Stitchers need to sit.

On 8/24/2017 7:59 AM, Cecil Bothwell wrote:

Think I'll try it out at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays starting Sept. 12.
We can adjust time and days depending on interest level.

-C

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On Aug 24, 2017, at 7:49 AM, Elizabeth Schell
<elizabeth@lainschell.com> wrote:

like it

On 8/24/2017 2:42 AM, Cecil Bothwell wrote:

Keeping Asheville in Stitches: crochet, cross-stitch
and knitting in the park

Could work.
-c

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
<http://www.avg.com>

--
Elizabeth Schell
elizabeth@lainschell.com
828-242-5555

"Hope is a crushed stalk
Between clenched fingers
Hope is a bird's wing
Broken by a stone.
Hope is a word in a tuneless ditty--
A word whispered with the wind,
A dream of forty acres and a mule,
A cabin of one's own and a moment to rest,
A name and place for one's children
and children's children at last...
Hope is a song in a weary throat."

--Pauli Murray



Virus-free. www.avg.com

--

Elizabeth Schell

elizabeth@lainschell.com

828-242-5555

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--Pauli Murray

Ben Fulmer

From: Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 4:16 AM
To: kimberly M. King
Subject: People's Park Foundation

For immediate release 7/17/17

People's Park Foundation/Nelson Byrd Woltz collaboration

Contact: Cecil Bothwell

828-713-8840 cecil@braveulysses.com

ASHEVILLE - On Saturday, July 15th, Members of the board of the People's Park Foundation (PPF) met with landscape architects Thomas L. Woltz and Ian Quate to discuss design options for the future park at the intersection of Haywood Street and Page Avenue in downtown Asheville. Woltz and Quate grew up in Waynesville and Asheville respectively, but currently work at Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects (NBWLA) in New York City and Charlottesville, VA.

The firm has designed prize winning public parks in 25 states, New Zealand and Australia, and embraces a relatively unique approach to their work. Woltz explained that they design based on site history and local soil, and create self contained projects that capture and use stormwater to support interconnected tree planting wells that permit the growth of an urban forest. They emphasize native plants and even urban agriculture if a site's size and setting are appropriate.

The People's Park Foundation was formed by Asheville City Councilman Cecil Bothwell earlier this summer to move ahead with activation of the space across from the Civic Center and the Basilica of St. Lawrence – a goal announced in May 2016 at the outset of the Haywood Visioning Process, but never pursued during that effort. Bothwell notes, "PPF is modeled on The Friends of Congress Square, a Portland, Maine, organization that has created hundreds of public events in a similar fledgling park without any demand for municipal funds."

During the meeting Woltz observed that in his experience cities don't remove buildings to create parks, so the fact that Asheville owns the vacant Haywood/Page properties offers a very special opportunity to create a new public space.

Coupled with the historic use of a site, NBWLA appraises the current expectations of local residents and then creates a public space that significantly engages a city's population. A core ethic of their company is to create public spaces that address environmental issues as well as public uses. You can check out the company philosophy here. <http://www.nbwla.com/firm/philosophy>

One very helpful piece of advice Woltz offered during a second informal site meeting on Sunday, July 16th, was that the City of Asheville would do well to put a hold on planned stormwater improvements on Haywood Street in the Pack Library/Civic Center area until the park is created. An environmentally sensitive design should handle, on site, all of the stormwater on the Haywood/Page property. Woltz suggested, “Why send it to the river if there’s a way to use the water where it falls?”

“This meeting between the People’s Park Foundation and NBWLA to advance this project makes me hopeful about the progress we’re making,” Bothwell observed. He added, “A short list of near term activities we’re considering includes yoga, tai chi, knitting in public, popular science and local history lectures, story telling, hopscotch competitions, reading for kids, music performance, plein air painting and slam poetry. We have submitted a formal proposal to the City of Asheville to begin programming the park this August.”

PPF Board members include; **John Russell**, Director of the Montford Park Players; **Ellie Richard**, founder of Education for Engaged Citizens and organizer of the annual Americans Who Tell the Truth project at the YMI Cultural Center; **Ron Ogle**, a local portraitist, landscape painter and architect; **Elaine Lite**, publisher of Critter Magazine and founding member of Mountain Voices Alliance; **Jay Fields**, who currently serves as a member of Asheville’s Public Art and Culture Commission, and as a board member of the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre, and Stories on Asheville’s Front Porch; and Asheville City Councilman **Cecil Bothwell**, who is up for re-election this November, and who also serves on the boards of Projecto de las Escuelas Guatemaltecas and Biblioworks.org building libraries and schools in Guatemala and Bolivia.

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Ben Fulmer

From: Roger Smith <rogersmithone@gmail.com> on behalf of Roger Smith
Sent: Friday, July 07, 2017 9:08 AM
To: Cecil Bothwell
Cc: Clare Hanrahan;esthermanheimer@avlcouncil.com;Douglas Hecker
Subject: Re: Battery Park Residents' Committee Petition Signatures

Dear Councilman Bothwell,

I write to thank you for your thoughtful response to the issues I have presented. Thank you also for contacting the responsible person at stlawrencegreen.org about the oversight I brought to your attention. (In my opinion, a significant Civic Plaza like the one we envision really needs to reflect more upon the broader secular world and not so specifically to the nonsecular entity we all have concern and pride for, the Basilica itself. That is why I enthusiastically suggest the name, **The Thomas Wolfe Civic Plaza and Basilica Gardens**).

I wonder if you will address my request with regard to a statement I have asked for from you about the binder of petition signatures you were very kind to accept from me in 2012. As a concerned citizens, and as a representative from the Battery Park Senior Apartments community and of the thousands of Ashevilleians who endorsed our petition, I feel a personal need to account for the record you received as a representative of the Asheville City Council.

As a senior citizen and resident of the city, and as a man who is educated in the visual arts with experience as an activist against world hunger and for civil liberties, I remain cognizant and concerned about matters that affect us here and around the world. I am also very sensitive to the abuses and negative mischaracterizations that some have committed against our members as a means of dismissing us for political expediency, or for apparent self-serving purposes. Such hurtfulness is not so easy to address or qualify, but it is there nonetheless. This kind of abuse serves to thwart honest participation and it impedes progress. I am actually appalled by certain "progressive" elements in the local political arena who exercise in measures that remind me more of the kind of intrigues practiced by the enemies of liberal democratic societies.

I shall make the effort to become more active with the People's Park Foundation going forward, and I am grateful for the representation you bring to our shared concerns. It is not easy to be so active as I would otherwise choose to be when I have a major book project and an immense manuscript I am working hard at revising to final form.

I hope to see you again in the near future and to work together for the good of our community.

Roger

On Fri, Jul 7, 2017 at 8:04 AM, Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> wrote:
Hi Roger,

I just took a look at the stlawrencegreen.org page and see that no mention of the multiple petitions is made. Will tell the responsible person that we ought to add it.

I agree that Council should act to make this a great park - unfortunately we only have 3 votes for that at present. This year's election will determine the result of a dozen years of effort.

We have formed the People's Park Foundation to start programming 68 Haywood St. in August. It will be great to finally have some public events happening there.

Thanks for weighing in (again) and for your efforts some years ago.

-c

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On Jul 7, 2017, at 6:02 AM, Roger Smith <rogersmithone@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Councilman Bothwell,

You will recall our contact in 2005 when I sat in your office at Mountain Express to discuss the Battery Park Residents' Committee petition drive to advocate for a Civic Plaza at Battle Square instead of a 650-space parking deck that had been planned. You will also recall our contact in 2012 when I presented you with a copy of the 368 petition pages of signatures our committee collected to defeat that plan.

I write to request that you provide a written statement of your receipt of the Petition Signatures (more than 3,300 of them) that the Residents' Committee collected by action it initiated to defeat the City's plan for that monstrous deck, and which collective action helped to accomplish.

In review of the online site for "St. Lawrence Green," I noted that there is no acknowledgment whatsoever of the tremendous effort our Residents' Committee took to initiate the drive that brought defeat for the City's misguided plan and the opportunity it created for the vision of an appropriate civic plaza our campaign sought to bring about. In my view, that civic plaza should be named "The Thomas Wolfe Civic Plaza and Gardens." (It does not reflect well upon our City if it ignores its duty to recognize a native son and literary genius from the Start of North Carolina).

I have written to Douglas Hecker at Clemson University to acknowledge the excellent contribution he and his students have made to forward the vision our Committee initiated for such a plaza. "I write to request that you schedule some time for a meeting in the near future to share some thoughts about aspects I have concern for that include the possibility of a public/private campaign to expand your design to include an underground thoroughway for traffic so that a surface avenue can be eliminated at the site, which would make the design you have presented [with the large fountain opposite the Basilica's front doors that also aligns with the Wolfe Auditorium's entrance] a choice plan going forward. If the plan is approached boldly, it might encourage the Basilica and the Archdiocese in Charlotte to engage creatively with public and private entities so that the parking area behind Battle Park Apartments could become an integrated part of a grand plan [for multi-level parking below and above the surface], a design that could attract international appreciation and acclaim."

I believe that what the mayor and council members must consider is that the area in question must be seriously and thoughtfully reconsidered as to the appropriate use of the space since what is done now will impact the reputation of our City for decades to come. It would be a shame to advocate for an inappropriate vision for this important quadrant as there are infrastructure issues involved that must be dealt with no matter what plan is decided upon. The appearance and the reputation of Asheville as a progressive municipal entity is at stake.

Roger Smith
1 Battle Square #1107
Asheville, NC 28801

Ben Fulmer

From: Cecil Bothwell <cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com> on behalf of Cecil Bothwell
Sent: Saturday, July 01, 2017 1:19 AM
To: Cathy Ball
Subject: Re: Wasn't clear where proposals for 68 Haywood were supposed to be submitted.

Thanks for clarification

The previously named "Friends of St. Lawrence Green" became a formal non-profit and the Board of Directors decided to incorporate as "People's Park Foundation."

Glad I didn't miss the deadline.

-C

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On Jun 30, 2017, at 5:30 PM, Cathy Ball <cball@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

Cecil,

We have tried to clarify when proposals for the strategic partnerships are due which is much later.

We received the requests for information applications with the deadline of June 26th. I think you submitted one on behalf of St. Lawrence Green for that phase of the process. I hope this helps.

Let me know if you have questions.

Cathy

On Jun 30, 2017, at 5:23 PM, Dana Frankel <DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

Jaime/Cathy:

The [Request for Expressions of Interest](#) process is an initial mechanism to determine interest in use of the space for the first year of temporary programming, and get some initial activities scheduled. The site will then be made available for special event permitting through the City's existing process for use of publicly owned property.

The deadline for submissions though the RFEI was June 26. The application itself was a Google Form, accessed through a link in the RFEI. All questions and answers were posted publicly on the [bids and proposals page](#). We did receive a proposal from Cecil (on June 2nd) on behalf of Friends of St. Lawrence Green though the application form provided.

The review team is scheduled to review the submissions next week, evaluating each following the criteria defined in the RFEI. The highest-scoring submissions will be prioritized for scheduling, should they propose exclusive use of the space. If fee waivers or other City resources are requested, staff will go to Council on July 25 with recommendations. Some programs may not require permits or exclusive use at all.

In addition to programs that get scheduled through these processes, the site will be available for passive and recreational use daily from 7 AM – 10 PM (when it is not being used exclusively for an event) beginning July 5.

This year (Aug 2017 – Aug 2018) is the first phase of temporary programming for the site – a “pop-up” phase. Attached is the update provided to Council on 5/23, with the section of the timeline highlighted on where we are now, and what we can expect to take place between Aug 2017 and Aug 2018 relative to the interim use period and relevant considerations.

I hope this helps clarify. Please let me know if there are further questions.

Thank you,
Dana

From: Jaime Matthews
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 3:39 PM
To: Dana Frankel <DFrankel@ashevillenc.gov>
Subject: FW: Wasn't clear where proposals for 68 Haywood were supposed to be submitted.

Where do these go?

From: Cecil Bothwell [<mailto:cecilbothwell@avlcouncil.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Jaime Matthews <JMatthews@ashevillenc.gov>
Subject: Wasn't clear where proposals for 68 Haywood were supposed to be submitted.

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<HaywoodSt-TempUses-Council-5.23.17-Update-highlight.pdf>