

**Symmes Advisory Committee Public Use Working Group  
Meeting Minutes, 8 October 2001,  
Jefferson Cutter House**

Attending: Harris Band, Greg Blass, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Ellen Kushner, Suzi Lubar, Brian Rehrig (Chair), Denis Sullivan

Not Attending: Steve Frigand, Ann LeRoy, Jim Marzilli, Linda Privitera (Vice Chair), Sue Sheffler

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 PM.

**Approve minutes of prior meeting**

The minutes of the second meeting of the Symmes Advisory Committee Public Use Working Group, held on 19 September, were received and approved.

**Report by Symmes Advisory Committee to Town Meeting - 1 October 2001**

Brian Rehrig summarized the SAC progress report given at the special Town Meeting of 1 October. This report, delivered by SAC Chair Charlie Foskett and Town Counsel John Maher, reviewed the work of the Committee, and provided an update on the status of acquisition negotiations between the town and Lahey Health South.

It was explained that the SAC and its Working Groups will continue their work, regardless of the outcome of the negotiations, and that Town Meeting will be reconvened sometime in November to vote on the allocation of funds for the project.

**Other business**

Brian Rehrig announced that, although very much in support its activities, Myra Schwartz had officially dropped out of the Working Group.

**Principles Statement**

Harris Band's final draft compilation of the Working Group's statement of principles was presented and discussed. It was agreed that the Statement should be used as criteria to evaluate any proposed uses for the Symmes site. Slight modifications to the Statement were made and the draft was approved for submission to the SAC.

**Community Input Process**

Public Use recommendations to the Community Outreach Working Group were discussed. The Group acknowledged a present need to reach out to people in Arlington who have a special interest in public uses for the Symmes site.

The Group debated the pros and cons of open public forums as a means to make contact with special interest groups. This debate led to the idea of generating a "top ten" list of public uses for the site, through making direct contact with only a few key people. The special interest groups were determined to be Human Services, Education, Recreation, Cultural/Arts, Religious Denominations, and Open Space. Each special interest group was assigned a Working Group liaison, to be responsible for determining and reporting back to the Group at the next meeting the names of key contacts. The assignments were as follows:

Human Services---Elisabeth Carr-Jones  
Education (Public)---Denis Sullivan  
Education (Private)---Ellen Kushner  
Recreation---Suzi Lubar  
Cultural/Arts---Greg Blass

Religious Denominations---Linda Privitera  
Open Space---Brian Rehrig

Harris Band agreed to begin drafting the letter to be sent to the special interest group contacts and to present it to the Working Group at the next meeting. It was also suggested that the special interest group contacts be asked to relay the Symmes site questions that the Working Group presents to their constituent groups for feedback.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting was set for Monday 22 October 2001 at 7:00 PM, with a location to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

**Handouts**

8 October Meeting Agenda

19 September Meeting Minutes

Symmes Advisory Committee Interim Report - 10/01/01

Symmes Public Use Working Group Draft Recommendations - 10/08/01