

MOTION:

**June 3, 2014
Regular Meeting
Res. No. 14-**

SECOND:

**RE: REAFFIRM THE 2006 SHENANDOAH PARK MASTER PLAN – COLES
MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT**

ACTION:

WHEREAS, the County is the owner of a parcel of undeveloped land, known as Shenandoah Park, located at 13501 Bristow Road in the Coles Magisterial District; and

WHEREAS, the Horticultural Therapy Program wishes to pursue fundraising efforts to establish the horticultural center at Shenandoah Park as identified on the Park Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Community Services Board operates a highly successful Horticultural Therapy Program serving the needs of individuals with mental illness and individuals with intellectual disabilities in Prince William County; and

WHEREAS, on July 26, 2006, the Park Authority Board approved Park Authority Board Resolution #06-0726 adopting the Shenandoah Park Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the master plan for Shenandoah Park identified a location for a horticultural center and indicated the Park Authority's desire to partner with the Horticultural Therapy program to develop a Horticultural/Environmental Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Prince William Board of County Supervisors does hereby reaffirm the 2006 Shenandoah Park Master Plan.

ATTACHMENT: Shenandoah Park Master Plan

Votes:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent from Vote:

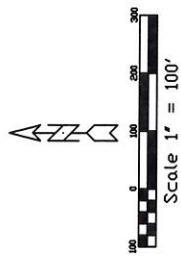
Absent from Meeting:

For Information:

Parks and Recreation Director

Planning Director

ATTEST: _____
Clerk to the Board



Master Plan

Horticultural/Environmental Center

Shenandoah Park



Note: This plan was developed from the Prince William County GIS data. No geotechnical or other site data was collected.



Melissa S. Peacor
County Executive

COUNTY OF PRINCE WILLIAM

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT


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May 12, 2014

TO: Board of County Supervisors

FROM: Debra D. Andrew
Parks and Recreation Director 

THRU: Melissa S. Peacor
County Executive

RE: Reaffirm the 2006 Shenandoah Park Master Plan

I. Background in chronological order is:

- A. Land Acquired – The County is the owner of a parcel of undeveloped land, known as Shenandoah Park, in the Coles Magisterial District. This land was acquired through a donation to the Prince William County Park Authority in 1982 by the developer of the Shenandoah Woods subdivision. Shenandoah Park is 17.95 acres, located on the north side of Bristow Road (GPIN#7792-82-7212).
- B. Shenandoah Park Master Planned - Park Authority staff developed a draft master plan for Shenandoah Park, creating a location for a horticultural center while also adding trails, and a pond so that other environmental programs could be developed.
- C. Shenandoah Park Master Plan Adopted – On July 26, 2006, the Park Authority Board approved Resolution 06- 0726 adopting the Shenandoah Park Master Plan.
- D. Shenandoah Park Development and Operations – The cost to develop the initial portion of Shenandoah Park, to include the program building, entrance road and associated parking, is estimated to be \$600,000. Fundraising and in-kind donations by a non-profit 501 (c) (3) group will pay for the initial portion of the park. The grounds development and planting the various gardens and amenities, will occur over time and will be constructed by a Horticultural Therapy Program. The operating costs for the facility, primarily the utilities and maintenance of the program building, are estimated to be \$10,000 - \$15,000 annually and will be offset by Parks Department programming fees.

- E. Park Authority Dissolution - Effective July 1, 2012, by Resolution 12-326, the Park Authority became the Prince William County Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Park Authority Board of Directors was dissolved.

II. Current Situation is as follows:

- A. Horticultural Therapy (HT) Program - The Prince William County Community Services Board (CSB) began a Horticultural Therapy Program in 2000 to assist in serving the needs of individuals with mental illness and individuals with intellectual disabilities in Prince William County.
- B. Foundation Created - A nonprofit 501c-3 corporation called Friends of Horticultural Therapy, Inc. ("Friends") was formed to assist the Horticultural Therapy Program with fundraising to support the program, as well as to develop the necessary facilities at Shenandoah Park. Reaffirmation of the Parks master plan will assist the Friends in their fund raising activities by affirming the County's plan to permit the HT program to locate the facility at Shenandoah Park enabling the Friends and the County to explore development of the facility.
- C. Board Action Requested – The Board of County Supervisors is requested to reaffirm the 2006 Shenandoah Park Master Plan.

III. Issues are as follows:

- A. Service Level/ Policy Impact – How will reaffirming the Master Plan affect service levels for citizens?
- B. Fiscal – Is there a fiscal impact to this request?
- C. Timing – Is there a timing urgency to this request?
- D. Legal – Are there any legal implications to consider with this request?

IV. Alternatives in order of feasibility are:

- A. Reaffirm the 2006 Shenandoah Park Master Plan.
 - 1. Service Level/ Policy Impact –Reaffirming the master plan will assist the Friends of Horticultural Therapy Inc. in their fundraising efforts. Development of the site will provide the residents of Prince William County a home for a program for persons with mental illness, or intellectual disabilities, which has proven to be very successful in assisting these individuals and improving their quality of life. This facility will also provide a location for Parks and Recreation to offer gardening/landscaping

classes, as well as a site for all of the residents to visit and enjoy the gardens that are created.

2. Fiscal – The Friends of Horticultural Therapy, Inc. will conduct the fundraising to construct the facility and support the program. Assuming a plan acceptable to the BOCS is approved, utilities and general maintenance of the site would be the responsibility of the Parks Department. A portion of this cost would be offset by revenues generated by recreation programs offered at the site on evenings and weekends.
3. Timing – None
4. Legal – None identified at this time.

B. Take No Action

1. Service Level/ Policy Impact – The HT program will continue to operate out of their existing location. This location limits the programs ability to grow and take on additional clients.
2. Fiscal – None
3. Timing – None
4. Legal – None

- V. **Recommendation** is that the Board of County Supervisor concur with Alternative A and approve the attached Resolution.

Staff Contact: Debbie Andrew x4284



Background Locations

- May 2000 – Permission from PWC CSB to set up and run HT Program
- Good Shepherd Housing Foundation (not PWC) offered use of **Grayson Manor** in Woodbridge
- Late 2005/Early 2006 – **Grayson Manor** site lost
- 2006 to Present -**Lutheran Church of the Covenant**, in Dale City



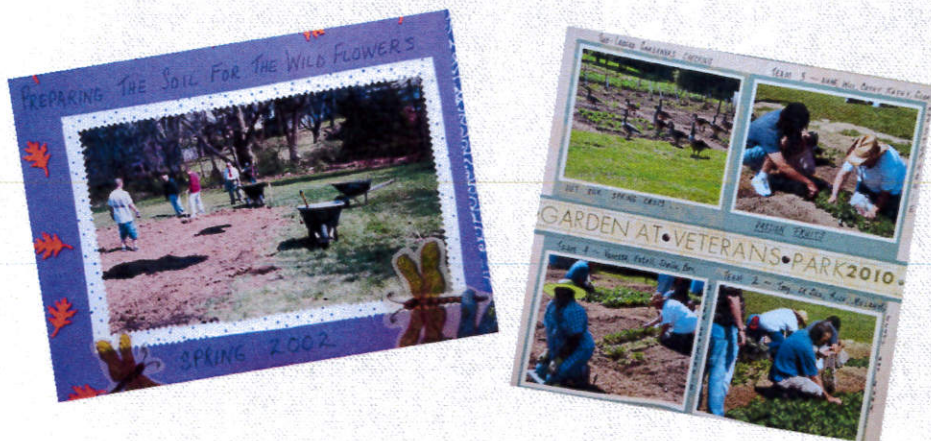
HT Program Benefits to Clients

- **Social** – Numerous opportunities to learn socialization and communication skills on a daily basis. *Improvements seen in client's abilities to interact with one another and with community folks in a normalizing manner.*



HT Program Benefits to Clients

- **Physical** – Activity provided daily to each client. *Planned exercise entails walking, stretching, bending gardening, etc. Nutritious meals at the program including fruits, veggies, whole grains, protein, etc. – some grown and harvested by clients.*



HT Program Benefits to Clients

- **Emotional/Psychological** – HT clients regularly experience a sense of fulfillment, a rise in self-esteem, improvements in contributing to a common purpose or project, a team spirit. *Non-threatening form of therapy.*



HT Program Benefits to Clients

- **Intellectual** – Through many activities HT clients learn to recognize trees, plants and flowers at HT site, gardens visited and throughout the community. *Learning increases their power of observation, their knowledge and ultimately their pride.*



HT Program Benefits to Clients

The Value of Horticultural Therapy : A Program Evaluation

•Study and evaluation performed by a team from the University of Mary Washington in 2011 led by Virginia Mackintosh, Ph.D.

Findings:

“Participants enjoy a relatively high quality of life. Moreover, the program fits with the theory of a recovery-oriented therapy system. The clients of HT are overwhelmingly positive in their testimonials as to the effectiveness of the program, the support they receive from the staff, and the feelings of family and acceptance they experience.”

Conclusion:

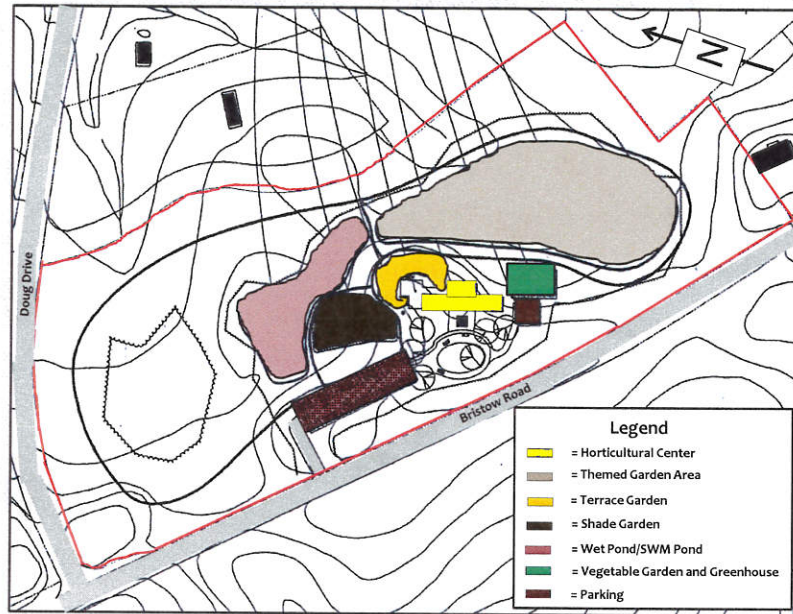
“The Prince William County Horticultural Therapy Program is effective in meeting the psychosocial rehabilitation needs of its clients.”

Why Shenandoah Park?

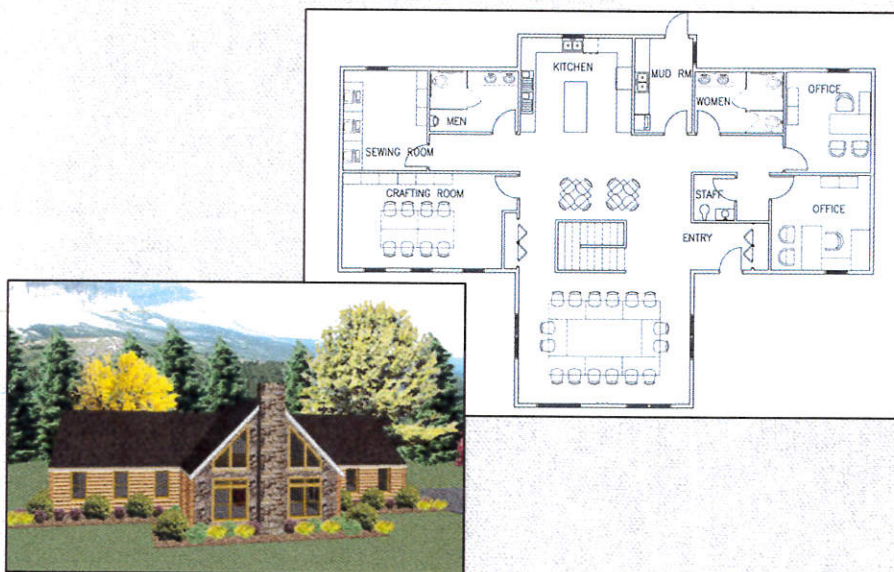
- Security of permanent site for the program
- Natural environment
- Opportunity for more therapeutic gardens
- Ownership by clients
- Possible income for clients
- Central location in Prince William County

Good Shepherd Housing Foundation and Lutheran Church of the Covenant have been very supportive, but, HT Program needs gardens, and natural space, not hard space such as parking lots and streets.

Site Plan Concept for HT Program at Shenandoah Park



Horticultural Center Main Building



Current Concerns About HT Program at Shenandoah Park

What are the benefits to the community?

- Permanent site for the HT program
- Clients successfully living in the community because of participation in the HT Program
- Volunteer Opportunities for citizens of Prince William County
- Eventual site for small business for HT clients to earn money
- Future passive recreation for citizens of PWC
- Eventual mature gardens and trails for visiting tourists

