Master Plan Meeting March 14, 2016 – Lake Accotink Park

There were about 100 attendees, including:
Supervisors Bulova and Cook, who made opening comments
Park Authority board members for Braddock and Lee
Park Authority Director
FLAP members (6-7)
Representatives of Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley and Friends of Audrey Moore

Members of the Master Plan Team:
Park Authority:
  Gayle Hooper – Lead – Landscape Architect
  Sandy Stallman, Planning Manager
  Julie Tahan, Park Manager
  Chris Goldbecker, Lakefront Parks Manager
  Ed Richardson, Area 4 Manager
  Liz Cronaur, Project Manager
  Kristen Sinclair, Ecologist III
  John Rutherford, Heritage Specialist
  Paul Ngo, Planner II
Stormwater Planning:
  Sajan Pokharel, Engineer
  Danielle Wynne, Ecologist
NVSWCD:
  Dan Schwartz

Master Plan study was done by Burgess & Niple and WSSI

“Right now we’re basically loving Lake Accotink Park to death.” – Gayle Hooper

The formal presentation largely consisted of a description of the planning timeline. (Online version)

Speakers were largely in favor of natural resource preservation as a priority:
Donald Pless – No management action specific to Natural resource Plan
Meghan Walker, FLAP President – Addressed funding and bond issue
Mike DeLoose, West Springfield Civic Assn – Addressed silt issues in terms of saving the lake
Kris Unger, FACC – Introduced FACC and encouraged nature conservation
Henry Park – Favored wildlife and forests “Stop paving. Stop building.” (Drew spontaneous applause)
Joe ?? – Favored keeping parks natural and avoiding paved trails
Julie Childers, Trails for Youth – Keep natural areas, but mark and connect rails. We are building future natural stewards.
Jim Hickey, FLAP – Promoted park events
Emily Tomochevski, Cardinal Forest Homeowners Assn – Cried at sight of new pavement. Carreleigh
Park expansion may be possible [Meaning additional land donation?]

A question was raised about the connection between budgets and the Master Plan. Supervisor Bulova responded that budgets and bonds are annual, but master plans are only occasional, so there is not a direct connection.