

FOXHALL News

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Spring Fling is Back!

It's Party Time!! After a two-year hiatus, our next gathering is the celebration of the **Spring Fling** at Hardy Park 4500 Q Street NW on **Saturday, May 14 @ 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.** The FCCA will provide music, food, drink, and ice cream; you provide the FUN! Renew acquaintances and meet new neighbors. All are welcome.

Learn More About DCPS' Newest High School Opening in 2023

A new District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) high school will open in August 2023 at 4530 MacArthur Boulevard NW.

Please join DCPS for a virtual information session about the new school on Wednesday, May 11 from 7-8pm.

During the meeting, DCPS will provide an overview of the project, outline upcoming planning and engagement efforts, and answer frequently asked questions. We hope to see you there! Join the meeting on May 11 at 7pm via this link: bit.ly/MacArthurInfo511.

Please email DCPS.planning@k12.dc.gov for more information.

Join the FCCA Listserv!!

Keep up-to-date with all happenings in your community, such as developments with the schools, issues before ANC, community parties, recommendations for repairment, etc. by joining the FCCA Listserv. For more information and to join, check out: groups.io/g/FCCAlistserve

Victory in Redistricting

Bob Avery

Over the past six months the District has been engaged in a redistricting process for its Wards and ANCs required as part of the 2020 Census.

We were surprised last October when we were told that three letters had been received by the DC Council subcommittee handling redistricting. The letters, one by Spring Valley res-
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Deputy Mayor Says Foxhall School Not a Done Deal

Ann Haas

The key speaker at the April 6, 2022 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D was Paul Kihn, Deputy Mayor for Education. He noted that \$45 million is proposed for additions at what will be the MacArthur Boulevard High School and at least \$23 million more is proposed to build the Foxhall Elementary School.

The MacArthur High School is planned to serve the Hardy Middle School feeder pattern, "with a set of seats reserved by the Equitable Access Program for students furthest from opportunity from across the city." The MacArthur
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Why You Should Join the FCCA

Covid has been tough on all of us and that includes community organizations. The FCCA has long featured an inclusive, transparent governance style. All major decisions are done by vote. Everyone in our area is noticed by hand-delivered newsletters of upcoming meetings. Meetings are open to all—whether members or not. We don't endorse political candidates but rather provide a forum for presentation of views.

It has been tough over the past two years to operate this way. In-person meetings have been impossible. As a consequence, the FCCA, like many similar organizations, has gone into a period of semi-dormancy. But it is time to emerge. We are planning an in-person Spring Fling at Hardy Park on May 14th. Covid-permitting we intend to keep this up and return to regular in-person meetings.

As part of this, we encourage those of you that have let your membership lapse to renew and for newcomers to consider joining. The box on the back page tells you how to do it.

What do you get for your membership? Perhaps the most important thing is advocacy. Historically, the FCCA has avoided taking positions on divisive issues where our community is split, feeling that here, individuals are free to ad-
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When possible, please contact the appropriate FCCA Board Member directly to discuss issues and concerns—Focus Areas are listed after the board member’s name. General issues can go to Bob Avery.

FCCA Board

Bob Avery, President and Police Liaison
338-3834, raverydc@gmail.com

Carter Beach, Clark Place Liaison

Vipul Bhagat, Treasurer
725-0144, vipbhagdc@gmail.com

Michael Delaney, Special Projects

Conrad J. DeWitte, Jr., Secretary and GCP Steering Committee Representative
321-1700, cjdewitte@hotmail.com

Brian Donahue, FCCA Listserv Administrator

Paul DonVito, Historic Preservation & Listserve Liaison

Nikki Farison, Community Events & Welcome Committee

Ann Haas, At Large

Janet Nash, At Large

Michael O’Connell, GU/Medstar Construction Liaison

Sara Paulson, Aging-in-Place, Palisades Village Liaison, & Chair of the Foxhall Call Box Restoration Committee

John Szymkowicz, Bylaws Committee

Peter Van Allen, DC Fair Skies & Colony Hill Liaison

FCCA Administrator

Brittany Aguilar, Administrator
britt.aggie@gmail.com

FCCA Listserv
FCCAlistserv+subscribe@groups.io

Who Do You Call?

City-Wide Call Center

Go to 311.dc.gov or call 311 to request free bulk trash and yard waste pickups, and to report burned out street lights, illegal dumping, graffiti, cars obstructing sidewalks or displaying suspicious guest parking permits, and other issues.

DC Animal Shelter 576-6664

Police and Fire Departments

Call 911 for both emergency and non-emergency Police matters.

Georgetown 24/7 Community Hotline

Report student activities that negatively impact our community including noise after 10 pm at GU’s 24/7 Hotline, 687-8413

PEPCO

Power Outages 877-737-2662
Street Lights Out 269-0855
Washington Gas 624-6049

Ward 3 City Council Member

Mary Cheh, mcseh@dccouncil.us

Ward 3 Mayor’s Liaison

Emir Gur-Ravantab, emir.gur-ravantab@dc.gov

Our ANC Commissioners, Jason Rao (ANC 3D06) 3D06@anc.dc.gov, J.P. Szymkowicz (ANC 3D09) jp.szymkowicz@anc.dc.gov. For more information, go to anc3d.org.

Foxhall Village Historic District

Planning to work on the exterior of your Foxhall Village home? See work going on that seems contrary to our Historic District guidelines? Please call or email our DCHPO rep, Anne Brockett, (202) 442-7600 or anne.brockett@dc.gov. Historic District Guidelines can be found at http://foxhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/FVHD_Design-Guidelines.pdf

Going out of town?

Email MPD Officer Tony McElwee to check on your home periodically, anthony.mcelwee@dc.gov.

Join the FCCA Listserv!!

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Scheduled Meetings with Local Private Schools

Share comments and concerns so they can be aired at these public meetings that institutions are required to schedule with local communities according to their agreements with the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

Lab School – All at 6pm

2022: TBD

St Patrick’s – All at 7:30pm

2022: July 19

FCCA Newsletter Submissions

Send to cjdewitte@hotmail.com for the next newsletter. Generally submissions should be under 300 words, but longer pieces may run by advance arrangement.

Call Box Restoration Project Wins Award

On February 15th the DC Preservation League presented the Foxhall Call Box Restoration Project an award for “**Excellence in Historic Preservation for Education**”.

The four members of the Call Box project are FCCA members Sara Paulson, Hilit Taylor, Ann Haas, and Bob Siciliano. Congratulations to the committee on this wonderful award.

A video of the award ceremony is available at <https://foxhall.org/history/call-box-drive/>

...‘Join FCCA’ con’t from Page 1

vocate their own positions. But when we do take a position, it has generally been on “quality of life issues” where our community comes out strongly on one side. Here we fight tenaciously.

Given our location amid no less than six private schools and universities, development is always an issue and mitigating its sometimes negative impacts has been the focus of many of our battles. Just a few of these include:

1. We continue to fight the proposal to build a 550-student elementary school on Hardy Park unless a legitimate planning process justifies it.
2. We successfully prevented others from redistricting us to Ward 2 and Glover Park (see article in this newsletter)
3. We worked with DC Department of Parks & Recreation to renovate the newly re-opened Hardy Park.
4. We successfully negotiated traffic management plans with the Lab School, St. Patrick’s and Georgetown Day School which we continue to monitor through BZA meetings. We were the prime negotiators with St Patrick’s on their proposed high school on Foxhall Road.
5. We have successfully pushed for appropriate modifications to numerous private development schemes.
6. We negotiated with Georgetown University to withdraw the proposed Loop Road adjacent to Glover-Archbold Park and ultimately became one of the founding members of the Georgetown Community Partnership.
7. We sponsored and successfully created the Foxhall Village Historic District and supported Colony Hill in its recent successful application.

So please consider joining us in supporting these efforts.

...‘Deputy Mayor’ con’t from Page 1

School will expand the capacity and improve amenities, Kihn said. It is slated to open for school year 2023-24—and the addition to open in 2024-2025.

The Foxhall School is proposed to open in school year 25-26, with design occurring during the coming school year, and construction slated to begin in the fall of 2023.

According to the ANC Chair, the Zoom meeting attracted 90 participants. Among the questions from participants were

- ***Why was the Lab School lease extended?*** To prevent the interruption of the education of the students there.
- ***How could a new school not destroy Hardy Park?*** We care deeply about green space and as I said, the community engagement process that will be kicking off in earnest will share those views and get your reactions to them to see what you think about that.
- ***How could traffic that is already congested be managed with more than 1500 new students?*** We’ve been in discussions with WMATA about, not specific to this location yet, but about how they can better support transportation of our school students. As many of you know, there are some specific constraints on that because they can’t run dedicated buses for schools. At the same time, there is a lot that they can do to help ensure we’ve got access through public transportation in ways that may not currently exist. I will share that in terms of the green space and the traffic which are the two parts of your questions I heard, we have worked with DPR, DGS, and DCPS.

Each person had 30-40 seconds to ask a question until the 8:15 p.m. deadline. Although the Deputy Mayor had been listed on the agenda as the first speaker, an unscheduled slide presentation and an impromptu response delayed his talk.

The Council will consider the proposed 2023 budget in the next few weeks. According to City Administrator Kevin Donahue speaking to another organization on April 19, this is a good time for people to “advocate for what makes sense and does not make sense.” He noted that the budget was released in mid-March and that agency hearings would take place in May.

The budget proposal incorporates recommendations from the Community Working Group assembled by the District of Columbia Public Schools. The “CWG” had the goals of relieving overcrowding in the Jackson-Reed (formerly named Wilson High School) feeder pattern, promoting equity of students, maintaining diversity in the feeder pattern, and minimizing unnecessary changes for families. Comprised of feeder-school principals, teachers, parents, and representatives of community associations and Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, the group met from February to May 2021 when it issued its recommendations. The mission of the group was to recommend the best way to use the Foxhall and MacArthur properties.

A neighborhood by-right school, the MacArthur High School will also feature out-of-boundary students, but the number has not yet been determined.

Other capital investments include \$21 million for the permanent expansion of Stoddert Elementary School and \$22 million to support the renovation of Deal Middle School.

...'Redistricting Defeat' con't from Page 1

ident Troy Kravitz, another written at the behest of Tricia Duncan, Palisades Community Association President, who lives near Sibley Hospital and the third by Andrew Beath, who lives across from the main Lab School campus, but in the letter said "I am a resident of Foxhall Village."

All three letters asked that the FCCA area be split and the area east of Foxhall moved to Ward 2. The area west of Foxhall, and most notably the Hardy Park and former GDS school, would remain in Ward 3. Among the reasons given were that Foxhall had "challenges living in a rowhouse community surrounded by neighbors living on expansive single-family lots."

Why would someone do this? The obvious explanation is that all three letter writers are among the most vocal supporters of putting Foxhall School on Hardy Park. Our neighborhood voted 102 to 15 against the proposed school at our April 2021 meeting. Obviously, the letter writers were trying to weaken the opposition by putting half of us in Ward 2.

The FCCA held an emergency membership meeting in November and voted to either move all of the FCCA area (including Hardy Park) to Ward 2

(slight preference for this) or keep all in Ward 3. No one advocated splitting us in two. In the end we remained in Ward 3.

The next step in the redistricting process was to redraw boundaries for the ANCs within the Wards. Advisory groups of 10 members were appointed for each Ward and Tricia Duncan and Troy Kravitz were appointed to the Ward 3 advisory group. This group met for two months and submitted recommendations to the Council on March 31st.

Given the letters advocating that half of us should be put in Ward 2, it should not have come as a surprise when the initial map of the advisory group drew a line down Foxhall Road and placed the entire area east of Foxhall from Garfield down to the river into the Glover Park ANC. FCCA, Colony Hill and Glover Park all objected strenuously to this as the neighborhoods share very few issues and are physically separated by Glover Archbold Park.

In response, Tricia Duncan held a special zoom meeting with representatives of the FCCA, Colony Hill, and Glover Park, and defended her actions by stating the "we needed to

get to know one another because we would all be sending our children to the proposed new Foxhall School on Hardy Park." There was no change in the next iteration of the map.

The three impacted groups then appealed to Councilmember Mary Cheh to intervene and as a result in the final version of the map the area east of Foxhall was moved back into the Palisades ANC.

We should all be bothered by this kind of attack, particularly when one of the perpetrators is running for DC Council. In a civil society we should be able to deal with differences of view on policy issues like the Foxhall School without trying to have your opponents removed from the Ward.

Pay by check or go to www.foxhall.org and join or renew using PayPal!

Thank you for your support!

If you would like to talk about how your interests might mesh with the FCCA's current needs for volunteers - including newsletter delivery and attending ANC meetings - let us know!

Sure, call me!

Membership Form for the Calendar Year

Members must reside within FCCA area, be present, and be over 18 years of age to vote at meetings. Memberships are for the calendar year. Please make checks out to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association. Send to FCCA c/o Conrad J DeWitte Jr, Secretary, 1613 44th St NW, Washington, DC 20007 or bring to a meeting!

Standard Memberships

- \$25 Household
 \$15 Senior Household
 \$25 Non-Resident

Booster Memberships

- \$250 Patron
 \$100 Advocate
 \$50 Sponsor
 Donation \$ _____

Names (LAST, First, as you wish listing to appear, Ex: DOW, Jane & John Smith)

Complete Mailing Address

Home Phone

Email Address for FCCA Updates

Date