

Open Space & Brownfields

July 14, 2021

1:00pm-2:00pm

Zoom



Notes

I. Welcome and Introductions

- 11 attendees; 5 Camden residents/businesses

II. Hot Topics

III. Special Presentations

- a. "Operation Take Back Our Parks"-- Michelle Bassetti, Strategic Analysis Unit—Planning Team (Camden County Police Department)
 - Details
 1. Police allocating departmental assets to help with cleanup/beautification of the following Camden Parks: (1)Northgate II Park (North Camden), (2) 7th & Clinton Park (North Camden), (3) Liney Ditch Park (South Camden), (4) Elijah Perry Park (South Camden), (5) Eutaw St. Park (East Camden, *taken off the list*) (6) Alberta Woods Park (East Camden)
 2. Concept: Collaboration between officers and the community to clean up neighborhood parks together; sergeants acting as park ambassadors, and establishing park check protocols
 - a. Pick up trash, cutting back shrubbery, covering graffiti, etc.
 3. DPW brought in to use their tools
 4. Community resources:
 - a. Event flyering to let community know of clean up days
 - b. Pop-up BBQ, Mister Softee, Polaris on-site for community involvement
 - c. "golden tickets" for rewarding good behavior
 - Q&A:
 1. CCMUA has been successful with procurement of cleanup services; they can assist
 2. CCP has plans to renovate Elijah Perry Park entirely; this can culminate with a City Parks Initiative event
 3. CCP connects with Police for movie nights, fitness class, etc. to program some parks; this can become a more coordinated effort
 4. Opportunity to get officers assigned to patrol park like park rangers? Or generally establish a Park Ranger program?
 - a. Trying to work into the parks plan already
 5. How can we as CCI help?
 - a. Inform of any updates since open space plan
 6. ATV complaints: throughout city but concentrated in East Camden due to open space and how long it takes officers to get there
 - a. Von Nieda Park and Pyne Poynt Park are ATV hot spots

IV. Park Planning

- a. Current Issues
 - East Camden NRTC 2021: Green Rail Buffer Conceptual Design (CCP and SJCS)
 1. thinking about ways to make green space, trail space, and remediate some particulates around the Conrail rail yard
 2. Will come back to the group once there are more details, a consultant, etc.

- b. Key Next Steps

V. Park Security & Maintenance

- a. Current Issues
 - ATVs:
 - Millville: \$50 one-time entry fee, requires vehicle registration, hours: 10 am-5 pm, 23 acres of a course plus a parking lot
 - a. Options: Cooper's Poynt (14 acres), [this lot](#) in Bergen Square (5 acres), otherwise maybe in Pennsauken/ elsewhere
 - b. The Bergen square parcel should instead be kept as green space (pollution buffer), close to homeless shelter
 - c. Take stormwater runoff from 676 and detain it in this parcel; can have amenity for the neighborhood above ground (need funding for a project like this)
 - [Alternative](#): Involve these riders in a collaborative planning process
- b. Key Next Steps
 - Utilize Clean Communities grants (litter cleanup, education, and enforcement)

VI. Brownfields

- a. Current Issues
 - N. Camden Brownfields Assessment Project underway with PS&S
 - Lot 1, Block 1
 1. No updates in a bit due to all handson deck for the Yaffa site
 - Yaffa: DEP sent media enforcement officers to do their investigations (air, solid waste). Their results led to [AG asking court to mandate cleanup](#)
- b. Key Next Steps
 - Find/ make list of brownfields for public knowledge

VII. Programming

- a. Current Issues
 - Pyne Poynt Park issue with parking/ unloading; [I Paddle event](#) July 17th.
 1. Maggie of the County Parks Department has been made aware
- b. Key Next Steps
 - Determine how to sign it to fix unloading issue?

VIII. Additional Information/Resources

- a. Kayak programs to all interested groups. Email trails@aquaticsciences.org
- b. Look forward to: Fire department event in August with marine boat demonstration

DISCLAIMER: This is a summary of the meeting and is based upon the written notes and memory of individuals from Cooper's Ferry Partnership and members of the CCI Core Team. The notes are intended to capture only the main points made in the meeting, and they reflect comments on work-in-progress. The notes do not imply a specific opinion or commitment on the part of any individual or organization represented at the meeting. Report any corrections to camdencollaborative@camdencpinc.com

Next Meeting: CCI Community Meeting, August 11th at 1 pm