



City of Alexandria, VA

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eNews

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Community Information and Update on Fort Ward Park and Creation of Fort Ward Park History Work Group *May 13 Meeting*

The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) and the Office of Historic Alexandria (OHA) invite the public to attend an informational meeting on Wednesday, May 13, where staff will provide an update on operational and historical issues regarding Fort Ward Park. Staff will offer a tour of the site beginning at 6 p.m., at Fort Ward, 4301 West Braddock Road. Following the tour, the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m., in the cafeteria of Minnie Howard School, 3801 West Braddock Road.

This will also serve as the first organizational meeting to establish a new work group to document the historic and cultural resources of the park, including its association with American Indians, Civil War fortifications, and the post-war African American community. The work group will assist staff with research and documentation of the historic site, with a specific focus on the heritage of the African American community, known as the Fort, that existed following the Civil War until the mid-20th century when the City of Alexandria acquired the property to preserve the Union fort. The information gathered by the work group and staff will be used to help RPCA and OHA interpret and protect the Fort's cultural and historic resources.

Participation in the work group is open to all, and participation by descendants of former residents is especially welcome.

For more information, please call Susan Cumbey at the Fort Ward Museum at 703.838.4848, OHA at 703.838.4554 or Laura Durham, RPCA at 703.838.5095.