Friends Group Project Update

Federation Meeting
June 8, 2017



Federation Agenda Objectives

- Project update and next steps
- ► Introduce Park Volunteer Team Program
- ► Review draft Friends Group Policy
- ► Review Public Project Page
- ► Introduce MOA and timing

Why are we doing this?

- ► Friends support is essential to sustaining operations
- All park supporters should have a place in our system
- ► To provide tools for new friends groups to form
- ► To ensure you are protected

What we have done so far?

- Surveyed the Friends
- ▶ Defined the outline for the Friends handbook
- Received guidance from Risk Management and County Attorney
- ► Shared initial findings with the Federation
- ▶ Drafted a Policy and an MOA

Primary Findings

- ► The County's Volunteer Insurance Program does not cover groups
- County and State requirements for registration and solicitation
- ► Current PA approach to Friends Groups is inconsistent
- ► Identified the need to develop alternatives so all park supporters are welcome



Affiliate Organizations

Affiliate Partner Organizations

- Separate legal entities
- Partner with the PA but also serve other functions outside of the PA
- Made a significant capital contribution and/or share in the operation of a park/facility
- Realizes mutual gains for both the PA and the entity using government property
- Maintain a current Lease, Contract or Agreement
- Have their own insurance

Park Volunteers

- Typically support day to day operations or programs
- Register and track hours in the Volunteer Management
 System (VMS)
- Covered by the County's Volunteer Insurance Policy

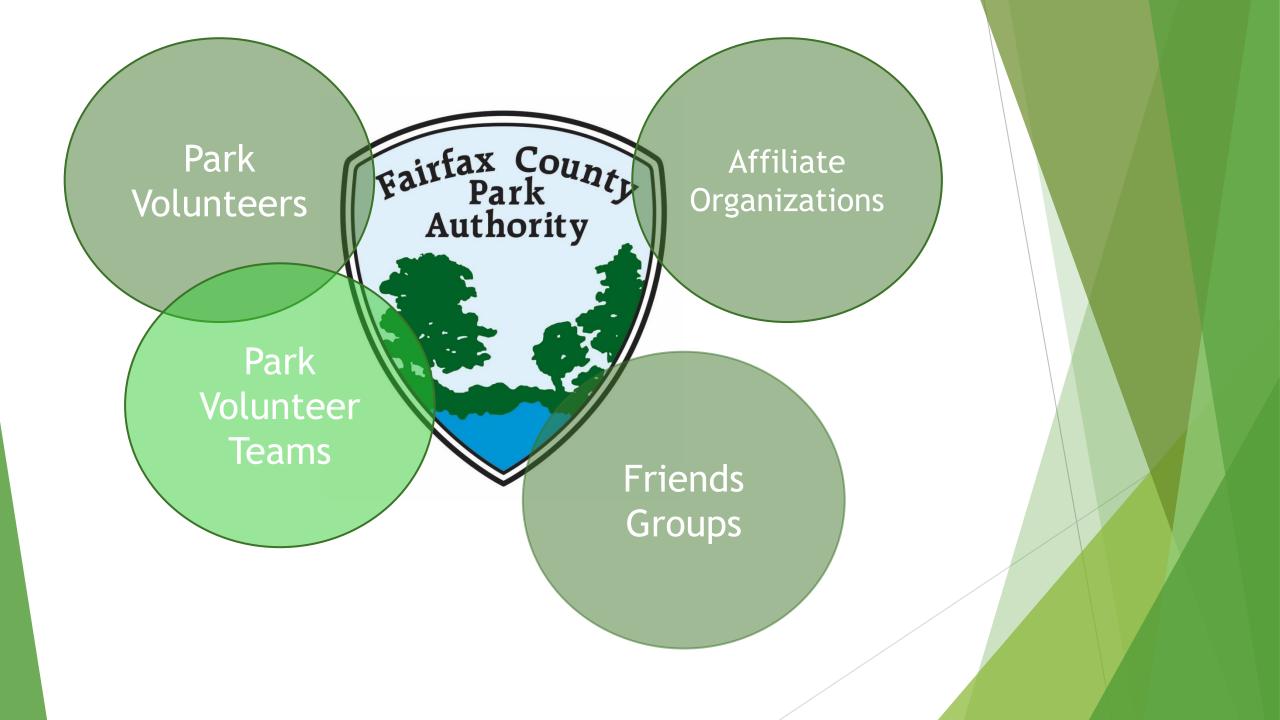
Friends Group

- Separate legal entity
- Mission and plans align with and support the Park Authority
- MOA with the PA
- Provide ongoing operational, programmatic, maintenance, and/or fundraising support
- Has their own insurance. The organization is not covered by the County's Volunteer Insurance Policy
- May use park names in the "Friends of" context

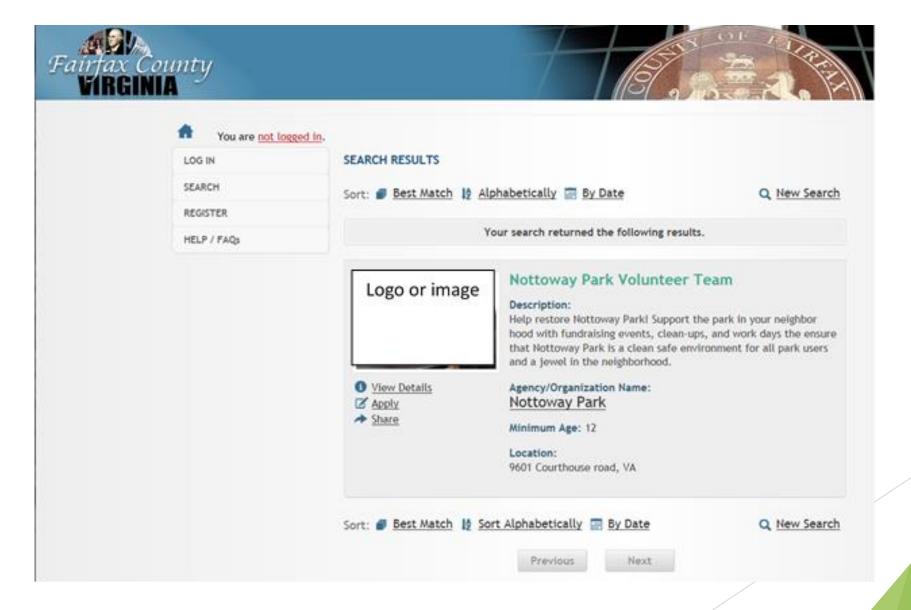
Partners who do not want to formalize but want to contribute

Park Volunteer Team (PVT)

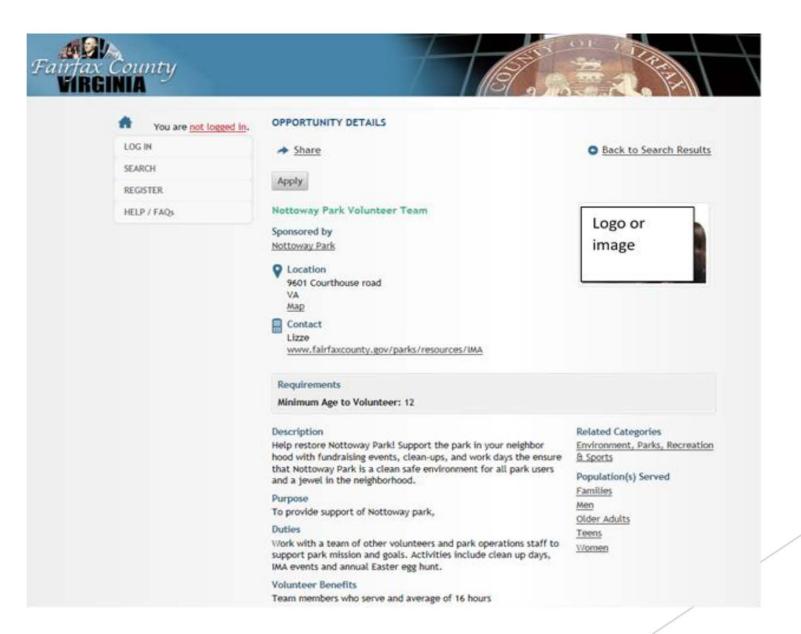
- ► A PVT is a PA volunteer program and a representative of the Agency.
- Provides operational, programmatic, maintenance, and/or fundraising support at a park or for an area of interest.
- Covered by the County's Volunteer Insurance Policy.
- ► Work supports the mission and vision of the Agency.
- Designates a Team Captain.
- ▶ Works with the PA Central PVT Coordinator and site staff.
- ► May use park names in the "Park Volunteer Team" context, such as "Nottoway Park Volunteer Team."
- ▶ Possible stepping stone to a Friends Group.



Example PVT Opportunity in VMS



PVT Opportunity Details



Friends Project Deliverables:

Handbook
Memorandum of Agreement
Policy

New Deliverable: Park Volunteer Team Program

The Friends Group Handbook will provide:

- ► The 'How To's in forming a partnership with the PA and getting a new Friends Group started
- Suggestions on how to maximize effectiveness
- ► Resources and definitions for County-related items
- ▶ Benefits of being a Park Authority Friends Group
- Provide MOA Template

Friends Group Memorandum of Agreement

- **▶** Basic Information
- Mutual Interests
- ► Park Authority Responsibilities
- ► Friends Responsibility
- ► General Provisions
- ► Insurance and Indemnification
- ► Special Provisions Section
- ► The MOA will be posted on the Project Website for input and separate meetings will be set up to review with groups

Friends Group Policy

- ▶ Raises the Agency's recognition and acknowledgement of Friends Groups
- ▶ Provides foundational guidance for establishing a PA recognized group and the requirements needed to protect themselves
- ► <u>Park Authority Board Policy Draft Friends Groups –</u> Review and Discussion in Feedback Station

Project Timing - Next Steps

- ► Post MOA electronically and receive feedback
- ▶ Obtain Policy Approval by PAB June 28, 2017
- ► Meet individually with all Friends Groups and PVTs to help transition to new MOA or PVT
 - ▶ Begin meeting with Friends Groups in July
- ► Finalize MOA's summer 2017
- ► Finalize Handbook summer/fall 2017

Questions?

Feedback Stations

- ► Draft Friends Group Policy
- ► Park Volunteer Team Program
- ► "Parking Lot" for general feedback
- ►VMS Demo