

Questions and Answers: Artist inquiries COVID-19 Memorial Public Art Project

From: Michael Verdon <michael.verdon@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 6, 2023 3:55 PM

To: Lisa Mariam <LMariam@ARTSFAIRFAX.ORG>

Subject: Re: Fairfax County COVID-19 Memorial - Information Package

Good Afternoon,

I am so grateful for this opportunity and your patience.

I had two more questions:

- A) I wanted to inquire about the current "Memorial Stone" on the site. The Package says: "the center rock at the site is an existing memorial which may be relocated for the new memorial." Can you tell me about what that existing memorial was about or what it memorializes. I would love to consider this and include it somehow.

Answer: A more environmentally friendly and interactive approach to managing stormwater runoff was designed by County employee John Palmer. His innovation was to use the underground and above-ground features to gather runoff water and then recycle it through the bubbler feature in the plaza where those using the plaza could enjoy the proximity to the water rather than have it just collected in an underground cistern. Another county employee, Gayle Hooper, did the landscaping design for the plaza. The landscaping design uses native plants while providing a more landscaped look to demonstrate how native planting could be used for an aesthetically appealing design. There are two posters in the Fairfax County Stormwater Management Division offices that describe the work. Information from them might be incorporated at the site.

- B) The packes mentions existing stormwater and drainage features: "not interfere with the plumbing or function of the existing stormwater feature." What is the scope of the stormwater feature? Does that just mean the fountain or is there more? Is that information available? I don't want to interfere with it, but I'm curious how we might either utilize the storm water or avoid interfering with the system all together.

Answer: The storm water runoff is collected by the cistern. The collected water is then recycled through the bubbler where it is distributed across a sand/crushed glass filter and collected by an underdrain connected to the storm drainage system. The artist or artist team selected for the project will work closely with Fairfax County staff to effectively incorporate the existing or new features that will need to preserve the storm water management aspect of the existing bubbler system.

I am so excited for this opportunity. Thank you so much for your time and help!

Sincerely,
Michael~