

January 18, 2021



Dear Conservancy Members:

This year has been quite unusual for the Conservancy of Broad Creek, to say the least. While we have pursued a limited number of continuing and new initiatives, we have not been able to plan and present any public programs for you, our members. Our consideration for following the pandemic protocols has made such planning difficult.

Because the Conservancy has not been able to offer public programming, the Board of Trustees has decided that members in good standing in 2020 should not be asked to renew their membership in 2021. Your membership will be carried forward gratis through May 31, 2022. Of course, donations are always welcome.

Our 2021 event planning will depend solely on how the proposed COVID 19 vaccine is administered in our County. After most of our population has been vaccinated and the spread of the coronavirus has indeed slowed or been eliminated, the Conservancy will announce the resumption of its public programs. You will be notified when this finally occurs.

As a review of what transpired in the Broad Creek Historic District and the actions by the Conservancy Board of Trustees, I offer the following progress report:

- 1) The effort to eradicate several acres of bamboo and greenbrier in the Broad Creek Woods has continued with great success. There has been limited growth of these treated invasive plants.
- 2) The Kaydot property had been offered for sale (no takers) and then offered in an auction attempt. Neither action resulted in any change of ownership. We continue to monitor this important site.
- 3) A forester from the State Forestry Service visited the Broad Creek Woods to discuss the possibility of logging on the property. It was decided that the damage would be too great and not beneficial for our goals of stewardship.
- 4) Members of the Board have attended the several "Charrettes" sponsored by Councilperson Monique Anderson-Walker on the future for Livingston Square. At the 3rd presentation in December, the public was introduced to the new owners of Livingston Square who are in the process of developing plans to revitalize and rebuild the shopping center. The Board will continue to attend these meetings and offer input on how this new proposed development can be beneficial to the Broad Creek Historic District; and
- 5) The National Park Service has initiated a series of workshops on developing the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail. We participated in the workshops, since several of our sites in and around the Broad Creek Historic District (Harmony Hall; Want Water; Broad Creek Woods; the Hanson Trail; etc.) would be included in this planning.

In the meantime, I wish all of you a safe and healthy 2021. Hopefully, with responsible habits (masks; social distancing) and the new vaccine, we will all be able to meet in person in 2021. Please continue being in good spirits.

Michael Leventhal  
President  
Board of Trustees