

## MEETING NOTES

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PROJECT: Ware-Lyndon House – Historic Garden

TO: Keith Sanders, SPLOST Manager

FROM: Michael Kidd

DATE: June 19, 2014

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A user group meeting was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014, at ACC City Hall in Athens. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss design direction/options with the design team.

### Attendees:

1. Ron Evans, Ware-Lyndon House Chair
2. Amy Kissane, ACC Heritage Foundation Executive Director
3. Barbara Andrews, ACC Arts and Nature Administrator
4. Roger Cauthen, ACC Landscape Management Division Administrator
5. Mike Wharton, ACC Leisure Services Operations Administrator
6. Keith Sanders, ACC SPLOST Project Administrator
7. Michael Kidd, Root Design Studio
8. Madie Fischetti, Athens Design Studio
9. Mack Cain, RLA

### Project Notes:

1. The design team reviewed concepts for the garden, showing several schemes for development for the front yard of the property. Pros and cons were discussed for each of the concepts:
  - a. A 100% scale (best estimate) of the Stevens Thomas Garden (STG) on the Ware-Lyndon House site
  - b. Concept A: 68% of the original STG plan
  - c. Concept B: 72% of the STG in Concept A
  - d. Concept C: 72% of the STG in Concept A; one panel installation, non symmetrical design with additional garden elements along the brick walkway to supplement/balance the Stevens Thomas Garden one panel installation
2. The user group and design team agreed that in the interest of budget, build-ability, and sustainability, the design team would move forward with Concept C in their preliminary plan development.

- a. In addition to the parterre garden on the west side of the brick walkway, the user group would like to see additional landscaping along each side of the walkway, as well as the possibility of creating a “foyer”, or entrance to the formal garden. This area could potentially have bench seating and interpretive signage for the parterre garden.
  - b. The east side of the brick walkway should also be addressed when planning this scheme. The user group discussed this area as being a casual function space underneath the existing oak tree to help balance the front entrance with the parterre garden on the west side of the walkway.
  - c. Other elements to consider when developing the design:
    - i. Relationship of the parterre garden to the sidewalk and the house; distance of the garden relative to the viewing areas
    - ii. Grading and ADA access
    - iii. Cistern location and interpretation
    - iv. Soil amending and remediation as it relates to creating a water-wise landscape in conjunction with native and/or adapted drought tolerant plants
    - v. Possible water feature to interpret the cistern
    - vi. Might need to limb up the existing oak tree on the east side of the property
3. The user group recommends that the consultants present the following at public meeting to justify the chosen concept to the public/Mayor and Commission:
- a. Explain design process; how design has evolved
  - b. Show original Stevens Thomas garden overlay
  - c. Show Concept A and discuss feasibility issues
  - d. Present a rough cost for Concept A (to show why it might not be feasible with current budget)
4. Consultants will flag the approximate proposed location of the garden panel on the Ware Lyndon House lawn prior to the next meeting for discussion during the meeting.

*Next meeting: June 25, 2014; 9 AM at Ware Lyndon House*

**END OF NOTES**