

## Jackie Henderson

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**From:** hjbergman@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 14, 2015 5:25 PM  
**To:** City Council; City Council Aides; Jackie Henderson; Call Click Connect; Gloria Sitton  
**Subject:** Call.Click.Connect. #82899: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council I am attaching a letter with regard to t

Dear *Call.Click.Connect.* User

A request was just created using *Call.Click.Connect.* The request ID is 82899.

### Request Details:

- Name: Howard Bergman
- Approximate Address: No Address Specified
- Phone Number: 952-232-7220
- Email: [hjbergman@yahoo.com](mailto:hjbergman@yahoo.com)
- Service Type: Mayor, Vice Mayor, City Council
- Request Description: I am attaching a letter with regard to the offer by Founders Park Community Association to donate a memorial to Chuck Hamel. Thank you for your consideration. Howard Bergman
- Attachment: [Hamel Memorial.docx](#)
- Expected Response Date: Wednesday, October 21

Please take the necessary actions in responding, handling and/or updating this request at the *Call.Click.Connect.* staff interface.

If you need assistance with handling this request, please contact [CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov](mailto:CallClickConnect@alexandriava.gov) or call 703.746.HELP.

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101 Quay Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
October 14, 2015

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9-29-15

Dear Mayor Euille, Vice Mayor Silberberg and Members of City Council,

I am writing as president of Founders Park Community Association with regard to a matter that you heard at the City Council Legislative Meeting, September 29 – Item #6, the memorial to Chuck Hamel that Founders Park Community Association offered to donate to the City.

We appreciate your consideration of our offer and your insightful discussion.

You requested that our organization reconsider whether the purpose of the memorial was to recognize only Chuck Hamel or to recognize all of the people who made significant contributions to the creation of Founders Park. Our intention was to recognize the contributions of Mr. Hamel, who helped create the park and then devoted 30 years as an advocate for the park through Founders Park Community Association. This proposal had been presented to the membership at our annual meeting without objection.

We appreciate that there were other members of the community who should also be recognized for their roles in the creation of Founders Park. We do not intend to diminish the importance of their roles. In fact, we believe that the story of a community taking action to stop the development of high-rise residential units on the river and create a beautiful park in their place, is a story worth recalling. We would be happy to work with the Historical Commission to design a plaque recognizing the ‘founders’ of Founders Park that would be incorporated in the Waterfront History plan for Founders Park.

The other issue that you discussed was the need for a policy and procedure to review gifts like the one we offered. We are very sensitive to the comments that our gift had not gone through an in-depth review process. As an organization, we insist that everyone follows the policies with respect to Founders Park, and we expect to do the same ourselves. We do not want you or City Staff to ever be in a position where someone says, “You allowed Founders Park Community Association do it, why can’t we?”

Our understanding is that City Staff is working on a policy and procedure that would be appropriate for review of this gift. We believe that our offer should go through that procedure when it is complete. As a result, we would like to withdraw our offer until the policy is in place, at which point we will renew it for full review.

Thank you again for your consideration and direction.

Best wishes,

Howard Bergman  
President, Founders Park Community Association