Friends of Sligo Creek
Natural History

Clarifications and Comments
re Carol Boston’s 2014 thesis,
“Enticing Community Members to Explore and Enhance
Local Green Spaces through Technology”

Page 4— Founding date for Friends of Sligo Creek
A community meeting in late 2000 sparked the formation of Friends of Sligo Creek, which was up and running throughout 2001 and, in 2002, incorporated as a non-profit organization in the state of Maryland. The date 2003 marks the first Sightings on the <www.FoSC.org> site constructed by webmaster Clair Garman (whose precursors were Peter Guillozet, who set up an initial website during 2001 but moved out of state, and then Bill Irvin, one of the founding board members, who bridged the original website and the subsequent, very substantial development under Mr. Garman, beginning “mid-year 2002”).

Page 4— Sources for Sligo animal inventories
The inventories of animals that appear in the natural history section of the website are primarily drawn from the work of others (rather than “data collection by members,” per se), excepting only two butterfly lists made by professional entomologist Jason Hall. The native-plant inventories (dated 2003) were done as a gift to the new organization by professional field-botanist John M Parrish, who is a long-time resident of the Sligo Creek watershed.

Page 14— Webmaster’s role
...“by 2013, leaders of the Friends of Sligo Creek organization decided to have the webmaster include file photos or other links for every observation.” The initiative is properly credited to the webmaster, whose vision for application of technologically available media/resources has consistently developed the whole of the website. In the present arrangement, webmaster Garman consults with one of the Natural History group when additional expertise is needed in evaluating material, either by a Sighter or as a potential supplement provided via a link.

Pages 17,19— Attention to Night-Herons
Factors important to the popularity of Night-Herons also include: nesting in very few parts of Maryland, with rarity a big draw for many birders; ease of observation due to Yellow-crowned nest locations and timing, i.e., built on branches accessible to view and before full leaf-out.

Page 25— Butterfly name
The butterfly species’ common name is Mourning Cloak.

Page 29— Sam Droege’s insect vials
Sam Droege’s YouTube video is about how to preserve insects in small, plastic vials (cuvettes) filled with clear hand-sanitizer, which are very handy for showing kids and others who are eager to get close looks at bugs. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=izqFaia_8bU>.

Laura Mol and Michael Wilpers, 24 February 2015