

McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc.
April 12, 2007
Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Miguel Avila, Charlotte Basset Zimmerman, Dick Coogan, Doug Colvard, Jane Edmondson, Betty Grimes, Catherine Hollan, Jack Kalish, Jane Kalish, Benjamin Leung, Scott Schlegel, Linda Somogyi, Ralph Ward, and Paul Wieland.

Absent (excused): Nancy Bavisotto, Rinaldo Campana, Hugh Neighbour.

President Paul Wieland called the meeting to order at 6 pm at the Spring Hill Elementary School.

Minutes of the March meeting were accepted.

Ben's Treasurer's Report was accepted. Charlotte received a check for \$200 for the Garden Club's expenses for luminaria kits at the Swim Club and other fill-in spaces in the Hamlet.

Speeding, Police Actions: Dick has requested the report on the December speed count survey.

Traffic Calming on Lewinsville Road: funding for the project will be included in the transportation improvement bond referendum this fall.

24T Bus: The Metro 24T bus will not be eliminated, at least for this year. Metro is looking into other cost-saving measures. Wade and Jane E. met with Metro and Fairfax County DOT officials to discuss the possibility of having the bus go to the West Fall Church rather than the East Falls Church metro stop.

Website: Linda will meet with the web contractor next week and expects all to be finished by the end of April. If no action, the committee of Scott, Betty, and Doug should reconvene to get things moving. The McLean Hamlet history on the website should be deleted

Proposed Speed Humps: Dick Coogan discussed the possibility of two traffic-slowing speed humps on Falstaff at Birnam Wood Drive and Macbeth Street. The speed humps would be combined with new, painted crosswalks. The humps will be built with a gradual rise to about 3 inches in height and would be about 10 feet wide. Our request for the painted crosswalks across Falstaff has been preliminarily approved by VDOT.

Tysons Tunnel.org: The Commonwealth of Virginia recently signed an agreement with Dulles Transit Partners to build an elevated rail through Tysons. The tunnel option may not yet be a dead issue, however.

Spring Hill Rec. Center Improvements/MYS Artificial Turf Plans: MYS wants the support of the Lewinsville Coalition (LC) for its plans to fund and install artificial turf on two Spring Hill Park rectangular fields. Representatives of LC and MYS will meet in late April. Original cost estimates to create a new entrance to the Park from Lewinsville and

add additional parking were too low, causing the work to be delayed and the funding approved for the project in the 2004 bond (\$675,000) to be diverted to other projects. New funding will be included in the 2008 Park Authority bond referendum. The design phase is now scheduled to begin in third quarter 2008.

Hamlet History: Paul Wieland sent a complete rewrite of McLean Hamlet's history to the McLean Citizen Association (MCA) volunteer who will edit and include it as part of a document that will be published as the compilation of the histories of 15 McLean communities. The Hamlet resident who had originally volunteered to write the history was given full credit for the research he completed and for writing the initial draft.

Missing Sidewalk Segments: Betty has sent in the applications to VDOT in Richmond for grant money to complete the "missing" 20% of sidewalks in the Hamlet. The initial \$1M has already been awarded. Our request will be for subsequent rounds.

MCA: Rob Jackson, a Hamlet resident, will be the next MCA president. A new concern is the recently announced 3,000 increase in new jobs at the Homeland Security buildings accessed from Lewinsville Road between the Beltway and Rt. 123. The Board discussed the possibility of a new bridge that could be built from the site southward, over the Toll Road and across West*Group property to Scotts Crossing Drive. This would allow traffic to be funneled to other roads.

Wade Smith will be replacing Paul Wieland as the Hamlet's rep to the MCA in June.

Aircraft Noise: As co-chair of MCA's Committee on Environment, Parks, and Recreation, Paul toured the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Potomac Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) facility in Flint Hill, VA. The FAA TRACON controls all air traffic that operates to and from the area's four major airports (Dulles, Reagan National, Baltimore, and Richmond). He also toured the control tower at Reagan National Airport. Representative Frank Wolf (10th Congressional District) had arranged a meeting on the aircraft noise problem in his office on March 9, 2007. Included were members of Paul's MCA committee, FAA representatives, and officials from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA). The FAA arranged the tours after acknowledging an increase in aircraft noise and also announced a four-fold increase in noise abatement procedures for all of TRACON's air traffic controllers. MWAA also arranged a meeting with the FAA and the chief pilots of every airline operating at Reagan National Airport. Rep. Wolf also offered to assist with McLean's growing helicopter noise problem and asked Paul to write an appropriate MCA letter. The result, recently announced, will be a public forum sponsored by the Congressman on helicopter noise to be held during MCA's May 24 membership meeting. Helicopter experts from the FAA, Department of Defense, and other agencies will make presentations and will be able to respond with authority during the Q&A session.

Tysons Corner Land Use Task Force: Ralph, Jane E., Miguel, and Paul attended the recent a public workshop (3-1/2 hours) sponsored by the Task Force to address options for the future of Tysons.

Landscape Committee: Jane K. is getting a 20% discount on the Hamlet's tree trimming at the traffic island located at the eastern Falstaff entrance as a result of other possible discounted work for Hamlet residents. The contractor was selected based on recommendations from the Washington Checkbook's ratings and because the contractor is bonded. Jane E. found the contractor to be the highest of her pruning bids, and others who were contacted found the contractor to be relatively expensive.

HamNet: A lady called Paul to report spontaneous combustion of mulch in her front flower beds; she also said that in her rear yard mulch fires had burned in other plant beds and that the bottom of her fence had also caught fire. Her landscaper has replaced the damaged fence, and the Fire Department told her to keep the mulch very wet and toss it occasionally to aerate it and evaporate any remaining chemicals.

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations: Scott reported the guest speaker at the last meeting was Tony Griffin, Fairfax County Executive, who discussed the budget, which is not significantly different from last year. Residential assessments are down slightly but this is offset by increases in commercial assessments. There is a 2% cut in employees overall, but an increase in 70 public safety positions. Commercial real estate taxes provide 17-19% of the budget. .

Lewinsville Coalition (LC): Nothing more to report.

Transportation and Trails: no report.

Architectural Control Committee (ACC): Three expansion requests were reviewed—a variance to allow 1-car garage to go to 2-car, a 10x17 foot concrete slab to be converted to a sun room on the back of a house, and a bump out on the back of a house on Falstaff. Jane E. provided copies of the Langley Oaks ACC form as a possible application and formal record the Hamlet could use.

Safety: Dick reported that one mailbox was vandalized, and that three adjacent properties on Lewinsville Road had car windows smashed.

Membership: Betty continues to visit people moving into our community.

Next Board meeting will be Thursday, May 7 at Benjamin Leung's house. Paul will be away on vacation; Scott will preside.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Hollan

General Membership Meeting
April 12, 2007

President Paul Wieland opened the General Membership at 7:00 pm. He introduced the current and nominated officers and committee members.

Election of Board Officers: The slate of officers for July 1, 2007-June 30, 2009 (two-year terms) was introduced and agreed to unanimously: Ralph Ward, President, Paul Wieland, Vice-President, Catherine Hollan, Secretary, and Benjamin Leung, Treasurer. Also included in the vote were two new Directors who will serve three-year terms: Scott Schlegel and Miguel Avila. Paul also acknowledged the extensive and long-term contributions of the two outgoing directors. Jane Edmondson has been a past president, vice president, director, and the original and continuing President of the Lewisville Coalition. Jane is also deeply involved with numerous other civic activities. Betty Grimes has done a superb job as the Membership Committee Chair and has agreed to continue in that job; she was also one of the principle organizers of the Hamlet's recent initiative to upgrade Falstaff Park and is currently handling the efforts to complete the community's "missing" sidewalks. She also helps with other Hamlet projects that are too numerous to mention. Paul also noted the significant contributions of Hugh Neighbour, who will be resigning as a director in July because of an assignment to Vienna, Austria. Nancy Bavisotto will replace Hugh as a director.

Traffic Calming: Dick Coogan discussed the Hamlet's speeding problem and available options for traffic calming. He reported VDOT's preliminary approval of new crosswalks across Falstaff Road at Birnam Wood Drive and Macbeth Street and the possibility that MHCI would request speed humps along with the crosswalks.

Covenant Amendment for 3-Car Garages: Miguel Avila discussed the proposed Covenant amendment to allow three-car garages in accordance with current trends, family needs, and building practices, but which are now prohibited. A straw vote showed about 80%-20% for the amendment. Additional discussion identified that current county setbacks would still be in force.

Airport Noise: Paul Wieland discussed progress in addressing airport noise with significant help provided by Congressman Wolf. On Monday he sent an MCA letter to Rep. Wolf asking for assistance with McLean's helicopter noise problem.

Gerald Connolly, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, was the highlight speaker for the meeting. He spoke to the group at 7:30 on the six key items on the agenda of the Board of Supervisors: gang penetration/intervention, affordable workforce housing (for teachers, police, firemen, etc;), maintaining the high levels of education, environmental stewardship, tax income, and a four-year plan for transportation with choices (rail, hot lanes, telecommuting, among others). After a short question and answer session, the chairman left to attend a meeting of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.