

McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc.
March 5, 2007
Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Miguel Avila, Charlotte Basset Zimmerman, Nancy Bavisotto, Rinaldo Campana, Dick Coogan, Doug Colvard, Betty Grimes, Catherine Hollan, Jack Kalish, Hugh Neighbour, Scott Schlegel, Wade Smith, Linda Somogyi, Ralph Ward, and Paul Wieland.

Absent (excused): Jane Edmondson, Jane Kalish, and Benjamin Leung.

President Paul Wieland called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at the home of Linda Somogyi.

Jane Edmondson's Minutes of the February meeting were accepted.

Ben's Treasurer's Report, sent via Betty, was accepted.

Speeding, Police Actions: The speed count survey was taken in December.

Traffic Calming on Lewinsville Road is on the top of Joan DuBois' spot improvement list.

Website: Linda expects to contact the web contractor this week for an update.

Proposed New Multi-Way Stop Signs at Birnam Wood and Falstaff were turned down.

Amendment to Hamlet Covenants: Miguel led the discussion of the proposed wording of the amendment allowing more than two-car garages. A thirty-foot setback from the street is required by the county. The amendment will read that garages more than three cars deep must be approved by the Architectural Committee. Wade asked when the Covenants will expire or be renewed. Betty reported the 1964 Covenants renewed after 25 years, and automatically every ten years thereafter. Next automatic renewal will be 2009 (1964+25+10+10).

Director slot: Hugh Neighbor will be moving to Austria July 30. Dick moved and Cathy seconded that Nancy Bavisotto should replace Hugh as a Director as of the August meeting. It was passed unanimously.

Tyson's Tunnel.org: Letters to the governor are getting canned responses.

MYS and Artificial Turf: McLean Youth Soccer (MYS) has announced an initiative to add artificial turf to twelve grass playing fields in McLean over a multi-year period. Four fields are targeted for conversion in 2007. MYS told the Lewinsville Coalition that they will not seek to add lights to the two Spring Hill Park fields for the life of this artificial turf—about eight to ten years and \$750K.

Hamlet History: Paul Rodgers will complete the history in the next month. 15 to 20 McLean neighborhood histories are being written for this project.

Missing Sidewalk Segments: Betty has finished the paperwork to apply for grant money to complete the "missing" 20% of sidewalks in the Hamlet. She will be submitting the grant application by USPS and electronically to VDOT in Richmond. The Hamlet's 10,000 linear feet would eat up the entire first year's \$1M allotment statewide, so we should not be too hopeful. A resolution was unanimously passed to support Betty's efforts on behalf of the neighborhood. Betty learned from the Fairfax County website that homeowners are not required by law to shovel snow from sidewalks. Homeowner's help is requested by VDOT.

Several of the newsletter articles are still due; Joe Parisi is putting the newsletter together.

MCA: Paul will not continue with the MCA after completing his present term in June; Wade is nominated as the Hamlet's representative. As of Wednesday's meeting, the planning of Tysons as a whole is being supported in a way appropriate for us. MCA's meeting on the Dolley Madison library expansion and walk-through brought out problems. The Park Authority hasn't been involved with planning for the expansion of the library or McLean Community Center and is concerned about the loss of trees. The public hearing for the library expansion has been canceled.

General Membership meeting: The Board will meet at 6:00 pm Thursday April 12 at Spring Hill School. The General Membership meeting will begin at 7:00 pm, with Gerald Connolly speaking at 7:30. Lewinsville Coalition members will be invited to hear Connelly's presentation.

Aircraft Noise: Next Wednesday, March 7, there will be a meeting on aircraft noise in McLean with Congressman Wolf and representatives from the FAA, MCA, and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. Paul is the principal MCA member involved.

Valentine's Day snow plowing: Rinaldo reported that Snow Meadow Lane was not plowed following the storm; it usually is not missed.

Yard Sale is Saturday May 19 (the week after Mother's Day). Helen Charbonnet is organizing.

House fire: Doug reported that his house fire January 30 started in a GE dishwasher. The family is living elsewhere until contractors rehab the house, about mid-July. Their dog that inhaled smoke has now largely recovered.

Storm Water Runoff: Rosemary Ryan sent a letter to the Fairfax County Director of Maintenance and Storm Water Management, Division (DSWES) about the Hamlet storm

water runoff problem at Capulet and Oberon. Betty is following this. The storm June 24, 2006 was classified as a 300-year-storm, exceeding 1 inch of rainfall per hour.

Tysons Corner Land Use Task Force: There are public workshops (3-1/2 hours each) on the new plan to be offered six times, some nights some daytime, at the Capitol One building. Online registration is possible. Wade recommends the workshop to all.

Landscape Committee: Tree work will start soon. Thirty-six residents also contacted the committee chair for possible private tree work. Ralph noted that the east Falstaff entrance is messy and needs attention.

HamNet: nothing to report.

Lewinsville Coalition (LC): Nothing more to report.

Transportation and Trails: Wade reported that there are traffic jams at schools from too many cars dropping off/picking up even when families are within walking distance (parents are concerned about the safety of their children). Schools require a safety course before allowing students to ride their bikes to school; this discourages some bike riding.

Architectural Control Committee (ACC): The sidewalk overgrowth survey will be taken soon.

Safety: Dick reported that about forty officers recently graduated from the Police Academy. A letter was sent to Attorney General Gonzales about his security detail frequently disregarding traffic laws in the Hamlet. Dick noted that the agents had also helped return home a disoriented older Hamlet resident. No response has been received.

Property Assessments: Rinaldo discussed the value of appealing your property assessment which is based on comparison with recent sales of neighboring properties. Important differences may be unfinished basements, elevation of property, and size of lot. You can appeal back three years.

Next Board meeting will be Thursday, April 12 at Spring Hill School at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Hollan