

McLean Hamlet Citizens, Inc  
FINAL Minutes from the Board Meeting  
May 3, 2008

Present: Miguel Avila, Tapan Banerjee, Nancy Bavisotto, Charlotte Basset-Zimmerman, Dick Coogan, Doug Colvard, Betty Grimes, Cathy Hollan, Jack and Jane Kalish, John Mealey III, Linda Somogyi, Ralph Ward and Paul Wieland

Guest: Bill Parks, President, Hamlet Swim and Tennis Club

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at the residence of Nancy Bavisotto.

McLean Hamlet Swim and Tennis Club: Bill Parks summarized the status of a pending renovation to the clubhouse, as he did at the Annual Membership Meeting in April. Following the Club's ~50-50 vote in December 2007 on whether to include the additional usable space in the renovation or not, the Club's Planning Committee met with a number of residents through February and came up with a compromise plan for restricted use that was submitted to the County's Board of Zoning Appeals. At the hearing in April, the BZA members felt the Club's proposed wording of the Permit was lengthy and unclear, thus the submission is to be reworded and then voted upon at the June 3 meeting. Additionally, several Hamlet residents testified against the proposed renovation project; the BZA also had on file a number of letters against the pre-compromise plan, and it had not received any letters of support for the current plan. A letter of support by the Board for the compromise plan was drafted by Paul for the Board's consideration. A motion to send the letter to the BZA passed unanimously.

Minutes of the April meeting were accepted as presented. Doug requested clarifications on the Annual Meeting summary, and then they were approved. It was proposed that the summary of the Annual Meeting be posted on the Hamlet website and a link to it be sent as a HAMNET message. The motion was passed with one vote against.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was accepted in Ben's absence.

Liability Insurance through Nationwide: Paul received a formal response to the comments and questions raised by members of Joe Parisi's law firm. The Board Officers, Committee Chairs, and members of any Hamlet committee were affirmed to be covered, which in effect means anyone who participates as a volunteer on behalf of MHC. Ralph has retained a copy of all pertinent insurance documents and correspondence.

Nominating Committee: Ralph proposed Operational Procedures for the Nominating Committee as a step towards more clearly defining the operating procedures of each committee. The Procedures were approved without opposition; however, discussion then arose as to the logistics and reasonableness of the procedures as written. The Procedures indicate that the Committee presents the candidates to the Board of Directors at the March meeting "for their approval". Further, the proposed Procedures indicate that when "approved" by the Board, each candidate would then become the nominee for the respective position and will be listed as such on the election ballot provided to the membership and introduced at the next April membership meeting. Identifying new candidates is typically a time-consuming process, thus it was

questioned what would happen, timing-wise, if the Board did not “approve” the slate presented in March, as that would make seeking out other nominees difficult. It was acknowledged that the Committee through the years has always sought worthy candidates, so to keep from adding additional layers of approval, it was agreed that the Procedures would be revised to reflect that the Nominating Committee’s slate of candidates would be presented for “endorsement” at March Board meetings.

Complaints: Ralph and Paul have followed up on the situation of a resident on Agin Court that has been conducting religious classes on Wednesday evenings, resulting, at the least, in an overabundance of cars parked in and around the cul-de-sac. The resident has agreed to look for a location outside the Hamlet.

## COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Architectural Control: No new projects were presented, although a number of renovations are ongoing.

Directory: The issue of how best to restrict the use of the Hamlet Director such that it is not used for unauthorized commercial purposes was raised. It was again agreed that wording stronger than “Please” should be included in the next printing. Betty was looking into the value of copyrighting the document, although other members thought the protection thus gained would not be significant. Betty will follow-up at the next meeting.

HAMNET: Twelve messages were sent out in April, which Jack indicated was again a higher than normal level. Since Jack has to send out each message four times due to limitations on the number of recipients allowed per email by service providers, the Board will continue to provide feedback and work with Jack to send out only the most worthwhile messages and in a consistent manner. Given that several major road construction projects are pending in the areas immediately surrounding the Hamlet for the next several years, it was agreed that links to relevant websites would be posted on the website, but construction updates would not be distributed via HAMNET routinely.

Membership: There were a couple home sale closings last week. Betty has been looking into what the process and basis could or would be to make MHC membership mandatory, rather than voluntary, as it is now. The Board generally thought this would be worth further consideration. Thus, Betty will continue to look into it, including possibly taking advantage of a George Mason service that assists homeowners associations.

Safety: Nothing new was brought to the Board’s attention. A comment was made that that four is the maximum number of unrelated persons living in a home,

Website: Linda reported that current usage remains 200-300 “unique visitors” per month. Other than the homepage, the “Meet the Board” page was the most frequently visited page.

Transportation: Paul noted that the Lewinsville Coalition sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors stressing the importance of including evaluation of the impact on an invigorated Tysons Corner on traffic in the outlying areas (such as Lewinsville Road) as the Land Use Task Force completes its analysis and makes recommendations. Separately, Wade is working on

keeping Metrobus service running on Lewisville Road. Virginia Dominion Power plans to cover over the new access road it built off of Snow Meadow lane with a natural cover once it has completed ongoing activities.

McLean Hamlet Park Invasive Vine Program: Ralph lamented that few volunteers showed up for the fourth annual McLean Hamlet Park Clean-up on Saturday, May 3. Given the apparent low interest by the community for this type of activity, a campaign to clean up McLean Hamlet Park will be deferred indefinitely.

Adopt-a-Highway Program: Betty submitted the application for a permit, listing the Board and Committee members. One Committee Chair still expressed reservations with the plan to serve as an agent of VDOT to remove commercial posting along the designated streets.

Fairfax County Water and Sewer: Charlotte recounted that the County was very responsive recently in clearing out the sewer line on her street in response to a complaint (not by Charlotte) that it was partially blocked.

Entrance Plantings: Jane reported that a pair of Ginko trees has been planted in the Falstaff traffic island. Two hollies were going to be planted as well, but they were insect-infested and were returned to the nursery. Several prolific perennials were able to be divided and spread around the island.

A Village for the Aging: John received four replies in response to the Newsletter article about a Village for the Aging - two interested in participating and two offering to help. John used County records to estimate that about 45 Hamlet residents were original owners, based on purchase by 1968. John will re-estimate the number of original owners, given that some of the houses were built as late as 1971. In the meantime, he will continue to compile lists of County healthcare and home services for the elderly, particularly from Elderlink, and available through Inova health system. He will also include relevant services from Joe Parisi's lists.

The NEXT MEETING will be Monday, June 2, 2008, at 7:30 pm at the residence of Cathy Holland.