

McLean Hamlet Community Association  
Final Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting  
September 13, 2010

Board Members Present: Roxanne Axtell, Pat Bowman, Dick Coogan, Doug Colvard, Jeffery Klemm, Maggie Law, Rick Law, John Mealey, Wade Smith Wayne Tate, Ralph Ward, Jan Wendt, and Paul Wieland

Non-Board Residents Present: Scott Hall and Steve Wendt

Officers, Directors and Chairpersons Absent: Charlotte Basset-Zimmerman, Betty Grimes,

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm in the Spring Hill ES library.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Location of Future Meetings: Will remain at the Spring Hill ES library.
2. Minutes for August 2010: The August Minutes were accepted as presented.
3. Treasurer's Report: Expenditures for the first 12 days of September were primarily for payment of the annual insurance premium, the MHCA bulk mailing account, fall newsletter printing and miscellaneous/legal fees. It was recommended that the "Miscellaneous Expenses" line-item be more clearly listed as "Legal Fees". Payments and deposits for the fall picnic should be paid by check.
4. Board Positions: The Nominating Committee Chairman has not approached potential new Board members yet to fill vacant positions, other than Paul Wieland. The motion to approve Paul as the replacement for Hutch Douglas was approved by a vote of 10 "For" and 2 "Abstain".

#### MOTIONS AND VOTING

5. Distribution of final Board Meeting Minutes: The suggestion was made to distribute the Minutes via HamNet. It was decided that the availability of the latest Minutes could be made by a monthly HamNet message, which would also include a link to its location on the Website.

#### COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

6. Architectural: Wayne Tate has agreed to assume Paul Wieland's role as Chair of the Architectural Control Committee. Charlotte Zimmerman will continue to review plans for renovations and new structures. There were no projects reported as being reviewed and approved during the past month.

We received a notice of the September 15 meeting of the FC Planning Commission which includes a request for a signage waiver sought by building owners across from the Hamlet in Tysons Corner. Of particular importance is whether the presumed larger signs would actually be facing the Hamlet. Our representative will take the letter to the next Lewinsville Coalition meeting.

7. Connections: A renter requested help due a flooded basement. The Manager of the Homeowners Counsel visited the house and provided the Contractor's List.
8. Directory: The printer, Minuteman Press, requested that future issues be submitted in Microsoft Word digitally, rather than as hard copy. A couple people were suggested to that can handle that requirement.
9. HamNet: The Chairperson indicated that she is up-to-date.
10. Entrance Landscaping: The Manager of Entrance Landscaping brought up two issues for discussion: line-of-sight issues with the bushes planted alongside the entrance walls at the intersection of Titania and Lewinsville Rd and weeds in the cracks around the major island at the east Falstaff entrance. The line-of-sight issue is due to the top bushiness of the nandina. Cutting the branches back is not a long-term solutions, as long branches will grow back out. They were chosen for their hardiness and low maintenance, which has been accomplished. Board members were encouraged to drive out Titania to see help determine how much of a problem there really is.

Although not "landscaping", per se, the brick walls themselves are appearing very weathered, and there is very little contrast between the brick and the "Hamlet" lettering. Ralph thinks the letters are aluminum. They will be inspected to see how they could be best refurbished.

11. Membership: [Betty Grimes provided the following update to the Board by email on 9/11]

70% of residents have paid dues thus far. Betty is preparing a "report" on her thoughts and suggestions for increasing volunteerism in the Hamlet.

12. Newsletter: The newsletter is also in press at Minuteman and will be mailed out soon. It was felt that hard copies should continue to be mailed out, as there are many residents that are not ready to switch to paperless Hamlet communications.
13. Gazebo Update: The Gazebo Project Committee have placed stakes in Falstaff Park to enable residents to visualize the gazebo siting. The most suitable site has been selected for the gazebo and it is located at the "bend" of the existing ADA-compliant path. The Committee is continuing to solicit and evaluate cost proposals from manufacturers and contractors. It was also reported that an unknown person relocated the stakes from the selected site to another position in the front of the park and had earlier stapled bright orange ribbons to each stake. The Committee have moved the stakes back to the correct position, and reported the incident to the Park Authority and FC Police. Subsequently, the Park Authority have placed a sign warning that the stakes should not be removed.

14. Hamlet Park Grass Cutting: The office of the Dranesville Supervisor confirmed that the Park Authority plans to mow the grass at the picnic field every 60 days and to mow an 8 ft path from the picnic area to the pool every 30 days. The Park Authority will be asked if there is any restriction preventing the Hamlet community from cutting the grass in the picnic area monthly at our own expense.
15. Picnic: The Chairperson continues to line up vendors for the picnic. Various members volunteered to take on some of the remaining responsibilities, but there are still tasks that need volunteers.
16. Website: The Chairperson is having the site updated. The IT consultant usually performs the modifications within a couple days.
21. Complaints:
  - Grass is growing in the curbs and cracks in the streets. Fairfax County does not have the resources to eliminate the problem, thus a HamNet message was suggested to have nearby residents address the problem directly.
22. Other Community Associations: Our representative to MCA forwarded the report from the June 2 meeting by email in absentia.

The Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25 pm.

The NEXT BOARD MEETING will be Monday, October 4, 2010, 7:30 pm, at the Spring Hill ES library