

**Bluemont Civic Association**  
Executive Board Meeting  
January 13, 2009, 7:30 p.m.  
Arlington Traditional School

**Call to Order and Attendance**

President Judah dal Cais called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 p.m. In attendance were Judah dal Cais, Carl Drummond, Sam Ferro, Judy Collins, Suzanne Sundburg and Mary Thorne.

**January Newsletter**

We have a new advertisement from a realtor. The newsletter will be finalized over the weekend of January 17-18.

**Spring Neighborhood-wide Newsletter**

The April newsletter will be distributed to all Bluemont residents. Customarily, Judy allows her volunteers two weekends to complete this task. Judy suggested that due to the timing of Easter, the April general membership meeting be moved from April 22 to April 29. A vote will be taken at the 1/28/09 general membership meeting. Arlington Traditional School (ATS) is usually unavailable for the April meeting, so Judah must check with Lisa Blanton to confirm that space is available.

**Speakers for Upcoming Meetings**

Ryan Whittier of Crimson Urban LLC is confirmed for the 1/28/09 meeting, and Judah will confirm Lubber Run as the location for the meeting (ATS is unavailable). Suggested speakers for upcoming meetings included Code Enforcement (February), a green builder or the American Red Cross (March), and County Manager Ron Carlee regarding the state of the county budget (April).

**Membership/Treasurer**

Judy reports that of members paid up through 2008, 131 have renewed and 137 have not. Judy will send the list of lapsed members to the Executive Board so this group can urge neighbors to renew. BCA has \$6,300 in its account. The membership will be asked at the 1/28/09 meeting to budget \$100 for the Neighborhood Day barbecue.

**Neighborhood Conservation (NC)**

The next project to be voted on will likely be for curb, gutter and sidewalk in the 1000 block of N. Edison Street. This effort requires gathering signatures on a petition from 60% of the block's residents once the project becomes BCA's first priority project. These residents should be BCA members since the civic association is helping them work through this county program to improve their

block. Carl will inform Larry Smith, block captain for the N. Edison Street project, of the requirements. BCA will vote at the April general membership meeting to determine what requirements projects must meet in order to be considered by BCA members for addition to BCA's NC queue.

### **Wilson Boulevard Group**

The Wilson Boulevard Revitalization Working Group met on 12/14/08 to discuss the proposed NC Plan update with respect to development along Wilson Boulevard. The update and related survey may help clarify Bluemont's "vision" of its Main Street. The focus will be on the three-block commercial area between N. George Mason Drive and N. Greenbrier Street (at the Texaco station).

At the meeting, group members decided to change the working group's name to the Bluemont Village Center Working Group, which better describes its goals. BCA and Planning Commission member Steve Cole offered to contact local universities in hopes of finding an urban planning graduate student to help the working group evaluate options.

### **Bon Air Rose Garden**

At present, no major renovations to the garden are planned. However, over the next several months, there will be some modest changes. At the far south end of the garden, several ornamental grasses and shrubs continually overgrow and make passage for patrons somewhat difficult. These plants will be relocated to other parks. A few shrub-type roses, called knock-out roses, will be removed from the southeastern hillside, and the small pocket gardens directly surrounding the flagpole will be renovated.

### **Other Old Business**

Since the 12/9/08 meeting was a joint Executive Board and general membership meeting, the minutes will be approved at the 1/28/09 meeting. The BCA Website may need to move to a new server/Web host. In anticipation of this change, Sam will ask Dave Leichtman to archive the Website content. A fence has been erected around the Jordan Manor site in anticipation of its demolition. In some places, the fence needs to be moved to allow pedestrians to safely use the sidewalk. There is still no plan for replacing the split rail fence along the Bluemont Park trail. Park Service Manager Kevin Stalica will contact BCA to review options for the fence's replacement. BCA member Richard Young suggested that herbs be considered if plants are to be used in place of portions of the fence.

President dal Cais adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:40 p.m.