

BLUEMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 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 Judy Collins, Suzanne Sundburg, Sam Ferro, Carl Drummond, Judah dal Cais, Robert Atkins, Mary Thorne, and 6 Bluemont Civic Association (BCA) members.

Approval of Minutes for 5/26/2010

Secretary Mary Thorne distributed draft minutes for the 5/26/10 General Membership meeting. A motion to approve the 5/26/10 minutes was made and seconded. The membership voted to approve the 5/26/10 minutes as drafted. Thorne will forward the 5/26/10 minutes for posting to the BCA Website.

Reports from Officers and Representatives

Judy Collins reported that there are 270 paid members. Carl Drummond reported that Neighborhood Conservation funded eight of twelve projects assuming that the bond is passed and approved by the County. Suzanne Sundburg announced that the September General Meeting for BCA would be scheduled for September 29 due to a scheduling conflict at Arlington Traditional School on September 22. Suzanne also has information on the fundraising effort for the Planetarium on 7/31/10 (see www.saveplanetarium.org for details on how to volunteer or donate) and free movies at Lubber Run. A motion was made to allow the Executive Board to work on the details of Candidates' Night during the summer and authorized up to \$50 to be spent on providing snacks for that event. The motion passed. Sam Ferro will contact newsletter advertisers with the adjusted schedule and rates. Ferro will also work on adding the Website address to the signs advertising the general membership meetings.

Election of Officers and Representatives for 2010–2011

The Nominating Committee presented the following slate of nominees for the 2010–2011 election: Judah dal Cais, President; Matt Fehling, First Vice President; Talmadge Williams, Second Vice President; Mary Thorne, Secretary; Judy Collins, Treasurer; and Larry Smith, Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) Representative. Terry Serie, Suzanne Sundburg and Judah dal Cais were nominated to serve as BCA's Civic Federation Delegates. Robert Atkins and Sam Ferro were nominated to serve as BCA's Civic Federation Alternates. The membership voted to elect all of the nominees. Thorne will forward this information to the Civic Federation.

Update on Neighborhood Conservation Survey Results

Suzanne explained that each member of the committee would focus on one area of the report. She and her co-subcommittee members will look at the issues related to the parks. Matt Fehling will organize the input related to the vision for the village center. The committee will meet on or about July 15 to evaluate their progress. Matt will contact Tim McIntosh for the Neighborhood Improvement Plan binder. Suzanne asked for a practical method for extracting the survey comments relating to the parks.

New Business

A neighbor had e-mailed BCA with a concern about the trees that were planted in Bluemont Park in 2009. She was concerned that the trees were not being adequately trimmed. The question was referred to Patrick Wegeng who responded to the query.

Judah announced that the Neighborhood BBQ and Fundraiser will be a crab feast/pig roast block party held in the 5200 block of 5th street on September 18. The goal is to attract 200 attendees, boost membership, and hold a fun event that brings neighbors together. The price of admission will be approximately \$30 per person with proceeds going to the Arlington Food Assistance Center and perhaps one or two other local charities. It will be held rain or shine, and payment will be required in advance. A motion was made to authorize Judah to spend up to \$500 from the BCA budget for advertising and other pre-event expenses. These expenses will not be reimbursed from the event receipts. The motion passed.

Judy Collins attended a meeting about the Civic Federation's Edge Development Program. The Zoning and Planning committees of the Civic Federation initiated this program to develop a policy for residential and other properties with different types of zoning that abut each another. For example, a residential property located next to a commercial property that is slated for redevelopment would fall into this category. In order to complete this project for all 43 neighborhoods, they need local civic associations to identify where these "edges" exist in their areas. Once the volunteers have identified every case in which a private home is adjacent to anything else but another private home, a set of county-wide guidelines will be developed. Part of this process will be to identify where the General Land Use Plan (GLUP) and zoning are inconsistent. Judy will get the information she obtained at the meeting in an electronic format so that she can forward it to Executive Board members.

Bob Atkins announced that as part of a capital improvement project the County is looking at the beaver pond next to I-66. Someone needs to send an e-mail to the County to ensure that BCA is notified of any developments regarding the beaver pond. The Civic Federation will have a booth at the county fair and has requested materials from each Civic Association.

Judah expressed an interest in attracting new members with the goal of revitalizing the organization. A brainstorming session followed on ways to attract new members. Here is the list of ideas:

- 1) Increase outreach to renters, businesses and neighbors in general through electronic and other means of communication.
- 2) Encourage the new pizza restaurant across from Safeway to have a happy hour and allow clients to sit at outside tables with their dogs.
- 3) Set up a community bike ride.
- 4) Create a tagline for BCA.
- 5) Schedule a walking tour of Bluemont to highlight the many opportunities in the neighborhood.

Adjournment

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