

BLUEMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 25, 2011, 7:30 p.m.
Arlington Traditional School

Call to Order and Attendance

Treasurer Judy Collins called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 p.m. In attendance were Mary Thorne, Judy Collins, Larry Smith, Suzanne Sundburg, David Van Wagner, 7 members and 1 non-member.

New Business (part 1) (moved to beginning of meeting per member Kate Mattos's request)

Kate Mattos announced that she had circulated a petition in opposition to the bocce court that has been proposed for parkland near the Bluemont Junction Trail. She wanted to submit this petition and requested that the Executive Board oppose the bocce court. The bocce court issue will be discussed at the Annual Meeting on June 22, and a vote will be taken by the members who are in attendance at that time. This is not an issue that will be decided by the Executive Board. At the June meeting those in favor, and opposed, to the bocce court may state their cases. This will be followed by discussion and a vote. Despite this explanation, a discussion followed with Kate and other neighbors explaining the potential negative impact of the bocce court and Judah voicing his opinion that their fears were unfounded.

Approval of Minutes for 2/23/2011

The Executive Board voted unanimously to approve the February 23, 2011, Executive Board meeting minutes. Thorne will forward the approved minutes for posting to the Bluemont Civic Association (BCA) Website.

June 2011 Newsletter

Newsletter articles are due to Judy Collins by June 3. The following articles will be included: an update on the proposed bocce court and an announcement of the upcoming vote at June 22 Annual Meeting (by Judah); a recap of the April meeting; the June 22 election slate (by the Nominating Committee); a short article on the upcoming speaker, Tom Hutchens (Department of Environmental Services, Transportation Division) (by Judah); a "Did we deliver?" blurb to find out whether paid members received hand-delivered newsletters in April (pick-up from September newsletter); a Neighborhood Conservation (NC) update (by Larry); historic registry suggestions (by Larry); an article about micro-projects, including update on the progress and an announcement of next deadline (by Larry).

Reports from Officers & Representatives

NC representative, Larry Smith reported on the outcome of the first round of micro-project submissions. BCA did not submit a request, but 16 of the 21 submissions were accepted. The ones that were rejected required too much design work or were above the maximum \$10,000 allowable limit. David Van Wagner reported that some members interested in writing up the NC plan met on May 15. Sections were reassigned, and the group will meet again on June 12. Treasurer Judy Collins reported 201 paid members

(approximately 100 members from 2010 did not renew), which represents a much lower renewal level than for the same time last year.

Civic Federation (CivFed) Delegate Suzanne Sundburg updated the group on the latest countywide issues with local implications. The Zoning Administrator's interpretation of the existing sign ordinance revisions appears to indicate that it may be a felony to post a "lost dog" or similar types of notice on a telephone pole. The proposed sign ordinance changes, discussed at the May CivFed meeting, will be considered at the County Board's July meeting, advertised at the September County Board meeting, and voted on by the board at its October meeting. CivFed voted to support the County's energy task force report, though it ran short of time to complete its discussion of the plan. The County pointed to the plan's goals as they relate to reducing Arlington's carbon footprint.

County Manager Barbara Donnellan met with interested residents on May 16 regarding the Lubber Run Amphitheater. Donnellan has set aside \$100,000 for repairs and \$25,000 for 2011 summer programming (starting in July).

Judah has been attending meetings of the Long-Term Planning Commission. Its goal is to increase density on the west side of Glebe by taking the site plan for the American Service Center site and moving its height and density across to the west side of Glebe Road and swapping it with the plans for the Goodyear and Harris Teeter sites. This swap of density and height runs counter to existing agreements that the county has already made with nearby residents.

In a response to the neighborhood concerns expressed at the April 27 general membership meeting, Judah met with some of the members of the BCA Executive Board on May 3 to put together FAQs for the Safeway site. The FAQs will be posted on the BCA Website and will include basic facts about current zoning, what is going on now, and the next steps.

Other Old Business (originally scheduled for April 27 general membership meeting)

The Executive Board voted to make \$100 donations to The Friends of Arlington's Planetarium foundation and to the Ashlawn Elementary School PTA. The Board also voted to approve a budget of \$150 for the May 24 BBQ. The Nominating Committee, comprised of Richard Young, Barbara Wien and Diane Schwartz will send the 2011—2012 slate of officers and representatives to Judah and Judy by June 3 for inclusion in the June newsletter. Larry Smith agreed to run again for NC Representative.

New Business (Part 2)

Judah presented plans that have been submitted for a variance request to build a new porch on a residence located at 5810 9th Street North. Larry Smith suggested that BCA have an information session about potential redevelopment at the Safeway site. Judah will invite Planning Commission member Terry Serie or Steve Cole to speak at the June meeting.

Judah dal Cais adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:55 pm.