

October 24, 2012
Bluemont Civic Association
General Membership Meeting

President dal Cais called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm. In attendance were Judah dal Cais, President; George Rovder, 1st VP; John Herickhoff, 2nd VP; Mark Haynes, Secretary; Larry Smith, Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) Representative; Suzanne Sundburg, Dean Foster and Ed Fendley, Civic Federation representatives; and approximately 35 members.

Dal Cais briefly discussed the Bluemont business key card program.

The membership agreed that consideration of April 25, 2012, general membership meeting minutes would be deferred until the November 14 meeting due to the lack of sufficient final copies on hand. The membership also agreed to consider the June 27, 2012, annual meeting minutes concurrent with the September 27 general membership meeting minute agenda item.

Bluemont Junction Greenway Presentation

County Parks and Recreation Department staff members Lois Barb and Patrick Wegeng presented a proposed tree-planting plan along the Bluemont Junction Trail between N. Emerson Street and N. Illinois Street. Barb and Wegeng left maps showing the proposed placement of new trees for members to consider and asked that the membership consider and make a recommendation on the plan at its November meeting.

Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety Task Force Resolution

Task Force Co-chair Ed Fendley reviewed and read the resolution text printed in the October newsletter. A motion was made to approve the resolution supporting the Arterial Roads Sidewalk Task Force recommendations. Task Force member David Van Wagner suggested a friendly amendment with a minor technical correction, which Fendley accepted. The membership discussed the resolution. The motion to approve the amended resolution was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Safeway Task Force (SWTF) Presentation

Task Force member David Van Wagner explained the proposal to modify the Safeway Task Force's charter, extending its lifespan through November 1, 2012. After discussion, Van Wagner proposed that the revised charter be voted upon at the November meeting. The new proposed charter has been uploaded to the SWTF WordPress page, which can be accessed directly or via BCA's website.

Bluemont Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) Committee Update

Committee Chair Van Wagner discussed the NCP's status. He expects to complete the draft sometime in December. He noted that upon its completion the draft NCP will be given to Arlington County for review. He told members that he anticipated that the county would complete its review in January. Thereafter, BCA will hold

neighborhood vote on the revised NCP. All residents, not just BCA members, are eligible vote on the NCP, which belongs to the Bluemont community.

September Meeting Minutes

Dal Cais noted that September and June general membership meeting minutes needed to be approved. The membership tabled this item until the Unfinished Business section of the agenda.

Member Pam Juhl asked that draft minutes be placed on the BCA website so that members could review them prior to meetings, and Secretary Haynes agreed.

BCA President Resignation

Dal Cais thanked those in attendance for giving him opportunity to serve as an officer for 10 years. He made his resignation, submitted earlier in writing to the BCA Executive Board and membership via email, official at 8:27 p.m. Second VP Herickhoff read a list of accomplishments as a tribute to dal Cais's service. Dal Cais then relinquished the chair to 1st VP Rovder

Rovder noted that under the BCA bylaws, the 1st VP steps up to become president once that office has been vacated. Rovder entertained a motion from the membership to thank dal Cais for his service and to accept the resignation of dal Cais. The motion was seconded and adopted by voice vote. Rovder thanked all outgoing officers and other volunteers and noted that Herickhoff, in accordance with BCA bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (11th ed.), had agreed to move up to the position of 1st VP.

Rovder announced that the BCA Executive Board would convene a special meeting immediately following the conclusion of the general meeting to consider replacements for the positions of Treasurer, Webmaster, and Parks and Recreation Liaison. The board had received statements of interest in these vacant positions from Nancy O'Doherty, Laura Brothers, and Nora Palmatier, respectively. Rovder reminded the membership that all members were welcome to attend board meetings. The now-vacant position of 2nd VP would be advertised in the November newsletter.

Officer, Representative, and Committee Reports

NCAC Representative Smith reported that only 4 of 10 residents on the 1000 block of N. Edison Street support the county's design for proposed curb, gutter, and sidewalk NC project. Smith noted that this is not enough support to finalize the project, and he has asked the county for some flexibility in order to win sufficient support from neighbors. Smith suggested that the BCA needs to identify a second-priority project to keep accruing points in the NC funding queue. President Rovder asked Smith to write an article for the November newsletter to appeal for new NCAC projects.

Civic Federation Delegate Sundburg provided a brief recap of the October 2 Civic Federation meeting.

Unfinished Business

The membership approved the June 27 annual meeting minutes. Barbara Wein moved approval of September 27 general membership meeting minutes. Van Wagner made a friendly motion to amend the September minutes to reflect Suzanne Sundburg's complete remarks prior to the bocce Parks Enhancement Grant (PEG) vote at the September meeting. To summarize, those remarks noted that whereas it was customary for controversial membership votes to be advertised in advance, nothing in the BCA bylaws or Robert's Rules prevented the membership from taking an unadvertised vote on a matter of importance when time was of the essence. Van Wagner also noted that the Executive Board enjoyed similar latitude to vote on important, time-sensitive matters of concern when they occurred in between general membership meetings. The membership voted to approve the amended September minutes.

Since no member of the Bocce Court Working Group was present, Rovder announced that the Parks Commission would hear public comments on the dal Cais PEG application (and other applications) at its November 27 7:30 pm meeting at the county office building.

Member Nora Palmatier suggested that the bylaws be placed on the BCA website, and it was noted that they were already posted on the site.

NC Representative Smith moved that members, at the November meeting, should discuss changing the BCA bylaws to prevent the membership from taking any unadvertised votes. Member Diane Schwartz moved to amend Smith's motion to instead create a special committee to review and make recommendations for changes, if any were deemed necessary, to update the bylaws. The amended language was seconded, and the amended motion was approved by voice vote.

No new business was discussed.

Haynes moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded, approved, and the meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm.