BCA



Nov 2008 A Public Service of Your Bluemont Civic Association

NEXT GENERAL MEETING 11/12/08

- Tim McIntosh on NC
- Curtis Adams on Jordan Manor
- BCA Position on ATS
- Your Input & Concerns

Left: Large and lively crowd at the October meeting

www.bluemontcivic.org

Safeway, Fencing and More Enliven October Meeting

John Mitchell and Billy Orlove spoke on behalf of JBG-Rosenfeld's retail division, which focuses on the retail aspect of development for the parent company, JBG. According to the JBG representatives, Safeway has been soliciting proposals to sell and/or redevelop its store at Wilson Blvd. and N. Edison Street. Mitchell and Orlove noted that JBG does not own the site, nor do they foresee any new development projects being viable in the near future given the recent economic downturn. There is speculation that the site, if it were sold to a developer, might be redeveloped as townhouses, apartments or condos in combination with ground-floor retail space. Safeway could also sell to another retailer and place a clause in the sales contract that would prevent any other grocery store from being built on the site. The JBG folks also noted that the Safeway in Vienna had been sold to the Walgreens drugstore chain.

BCA members asked about the still-vacant retail space in JBG's building at 950 N. Glebe (at the corner of N. Fairfax). JBG has marketed that space for several years without success, and has found that retailers are not anxious to gamble on expanding west of Glebe.

BCA President Judah dal Cais reminded members that BCA has had a Wilson Boulevard working group for several years that has been attempting to determine a consensus "vision" for Bluemont's "Main Street." Dal Cais noted that BCA should update its NC Plan.

Bluemont Park Split-Rail Fence

Member Kate Mattos collected comments from neighbors regarding the county's unannounced removal of the split-rail fence on 8/2/08. Most neighbors were in favor of erecting a new barrier, but

BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Joint General Membership and Executive Board Meeting Wednesday, Nov. 12, 7:30pm

We have two speakers scheduled for the meeting to be held at Arlington Traditional School (ATS) on Wednesday evening. (There will be no meeting on 11/26/08.)

- County staff member Tim McIntosh, who works with the Neighborhood Conservation (NC) program, will be on hand to discuss BCA's NC Plan and other NC-related topics.
- Curtis Adams of AHC will update BCA members on the impending demolition of Jordan Manor (part of the Peck-Staples site plan). AHC anticipates that the demolition will occur in November, but as of press time, no date had been announced.
- Member Larry Smith has requested that BCA members discuss the association's position on ATS. On 11/13/08, Arlington Public School staff will make recommendations to the School Board regarding potential boundary changes.■



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Next BCA Joint Mtg @ ATS 11/12

DECEMBER

W-L Holiday Bazaar 12/6

Dec. Joint Meeting at ATS 12/9

Due to the Christmas holiday, members will meet just once in December on the 9th at ATS. Julie Mangis of the Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership will speak on plans to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) where property owners pay supplemental taxes to gain extra services.

Ring the Constitution Bell	1/1
Jan. Exec. Board Meeting	1/13
Jan Gen Meeting	1/28

BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

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open — <u>volunteer needed</u>



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October Meeting

they wanted a barrier with clear visibility (for safety reasons) rather than bushes. Members who were present noted the fence's usefulness in preventing children from running into the nearby street, and also reported seeing unauthorized vehicles riding across or down the bike trail since the removal of the fence. BCA will ask county staff to present fence replacement options to the membership so that members can reach a consensus recommendation.

Arlington Forest Club Support

BCA members voted unanimously to approve a letter in support of Arlington Forest Club's renovation plans to add a second story and deck to its bathhouse. The new building will stay within the current building's footprint. BCA members also supported the club's effort to keep the same number of existing off-street parking spaces so as to preserve nearby mature trees and avoid creating a greater paved surface area that could prompt additional runoff during rainstorms.■