###### Bluemont Civic Association

*Representing Neighborhoods in and around Arlington Traditional School, Lacey Woods Park, Bon Air, Fields Park, Balls Crossing, West Ballston, and all along the former Bluemont Division of the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad*

#### P.O. Box 5134 Arlington, Virginia 22205

**www.bluemontcivic.org**

**Minutes of General Membership Meeting**

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

October 28, 2020; 7:30 PM

The President conducted the meeting in two phases in order to ensure that only members in good standing could participate in the Annual Election of officers of the Bluemont Civic Association.

**Phase One: Annual Elections**

The President determined that a quorum was present for the meeting.

Members approved the nomination from the floor of Shakti Shukla for Alternate Civic Federation Delegate

By agreement, there was an anonymous poll conducted for all candidates. All were approved.

The President adjourned Phase One and the meeting switched to a separate Zoom meeting.

**Phase Two: Remainder of the General Meeting**

Those present approved (without objection) the minutes of the Executive Board Meeting conducted on September 30, 2020. The President reported on behalf of the Treasurer that the association’s current bank balance is $2,516.43 (as of October 28), with a number of checks awaiting deposit.

There was a vote on the following resolution that BCA had previously advertised:

1) The BCA requests that Arlington County reevaluate the design and effectiveness of speed humps being deployed on N Vermont, N Abingdon, N. Jefferson, and N. Harrison. This should be done by reviewing the structure, design and effectiveness of the original speed humps and comparing them against the design and effectiveness of the replacement speed humps.

2) The BCA requests the County review the installations of the replacement speed humps as some are more effective than others. For example, the two speed humps between Wilson Blvd and the I-66 bridge on N. Harrison are less effective than the speed humps on N Harrison between I-66 and Washington Blvd. Similar issues have been identified on N Vermont where one of the replacement speed humps is virtually ineffective as well as on N Jefferson between 5th and 8th streets.

3) The BCA requests the County remediate the replacement speed humps that are not effective at slowing traffic to the posted speed limit. The previous speed humps were effective at this.

4) The BCA recommends having the Arlington County Police engage in patrolling and/or using other measures like speed signs that show the driver their speed (like on Wilson between the Rose Garden and Dominion Hills), to enforce the speed limits along N Vermont, N Abingdon, N Harrison, N Jefferson, and N Kensington.

5) The BCA requests that Arlington County not make changes to traffic calming measures in place on Bluemont streets without input from the neighborhood.

6) In addition to the adoption of the resolution, the BCA President shall sign and send a letter to the Arlington County Board, Arlington Department of Environmental Services, and Virginia Department of Transportation communicating the resolution with formal requests on behalf of the BCA membership.

The foregoing passed with 17 YES, 1 NO, 1 ABSTAIN. (Note: Zoom polling did not work for the rest of the meeting.)

In advance of the presentation by BCA’s invited guest, Arlington County Board Member Katie Cristol, there was a discussion among members concerning the Community Partnership for the Missing Middle Housing Study. Members agreed to wait until after Ms. Cristol’s presentation before voting. Time ran out during the meeting. The President said this will be discussed at the next General Membership meeting on November 18.

The President reported on the requirements for the Community Partnership for the Dialog on Race and Equity, including that we have volunteers able to take training and facilitate two meetings. There was not time to discuss whether BCA should be a partner. The President said this will be discussed at the next General Membership meeting on November 18.

Ms Cristol gave her presentation on the Missing Middle Housing Study and answered Members questions thereafter. The slides that accompanied her presentation are available here: <http://bluemontcivic.org/docs/BCA_missing_middle.pdf>.

There followed a discussion about the next steps in seeking safety improvements to N. Carlin Springs Road. At its conclusion, Members unanimously agreed that the President could form a Committee to consider improvements to N. Carlin Springs Road between N. Edison and N. Kensington Street to make it safer and more accessible all forms of transportation, including pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles and mass transit. (There were no abstentions) Furthermore, Members unanimously agreed to defer discussion and a vote on the N. Carlin Springs Road resolution until the Chair of the N. Carlin Springs Road Committee presents a report. (Again, there were no abstentions) To conclude, Members unanimously agreed (without abstentions) that N. Carlin Springs Road should be discussed at the December meeting, or in January if that’s necessary to ensure sufficient attendance by the community, including those living close to the proposed area for road improvements.

As to any other business, there was a discussion on the APS’s proposed elementary school boundary changes. Member Kendra Ervin proposed the attached resolution (see Attachment 1) on boundary changes proposed by APS staff on October 5.

Members voted to advertise the motion for a vote at the next General Membership meeting, (November 18)

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:20.

Attachment 1

**VOTE at the November 18, Virtual General Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM**

**DRAFT Resolution on APS Elementary School Boundary Proposal**

1.      The Bluemont Civic Association (BCA) requests that the ongoing Elementary School Boundary Process should be deferred for a year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, as detailed in the Arlington County Council of PTA’s (CCPTA) letter, dated August 31 (attached).

2.      The BCA requests that, if Arlington Public Schools (APS) does not defer the boundary change process, the Arlington School Board direct APS to take all possible steps to keep school communities together and intact for the next 1-2 years, until the pandemic has eased and a more comprehensive boundary process can take place.

3.      The BCA endorses keeping the McKinley Elementary community together during the transition to the new neighborhood elementary school at the Reed site in order to preserve neighborhood communities and avoid overcrowding at neighboring schools including Ashlawn and Glebe elementary schools, and to include provisions for grandfathering rising 5th graders to their current elementary schools if their planning units are moved to new schools.

4.      BCA requests that planning units 14070 and 14080 be assigned to McKinley at Reed to promote walkability and because of overcrowding at Glebe Elementary.