###### 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 Bluemont Executive Committee**

Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 7 PM

Via Zoom

The meeting began with a quorum 7:00 pm. The Board approved the minutes of the January 27, 2021 Executive Committee meeting.

The **President** updated the Board on follow-up from the January vote by members regarding **flooding risk along N. Abingdon Street**, including the County starting a ground-based elevation survey of the area along the west side of the 500-700 blocks of North Abingdon Street to determine whether there were inaccuracies arising from the aerial survey by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Board agreed with the President’s proposal that she contact the County to ask about plans, metrics and any timeline for **re-opening the Central Library**.

The **Treasurer** reported the current balance in the BCA account is $3,046.43.

The **First Vice-president** reported that the **Working Group on the Missing Middle Housing Study** (MMHS) currently consists of Bruce Leighton, Second Vice-President Kate Mattos, and Ritch Viola.

**Civic Federation Delegates Allen Norton and David Hughes** reported on the February Civic Federation Meeting. At that meeting, County Board Chair de Ferranti, Dr. Varghese and Dr. Miller gave an update on the County’s efforts to secure and distribute Covid-19 vaccine. In addition, the Civic Federation considered and approved two resolutions. The first urged the County Board to reevaluate its planning processes to provide additional open public spaces more equitably in terms of proximity, quality and quantity, especially in areas of increased density. The second resolution urged that the County Board and Manager to adopt proactive strategies to sustain funding required for infrastructure and capacity improvements and to establish effective management systems that will enhance information collection, improve structural and operational efficiency, and provide accountability in reaching stormwater and flood mitigation goals.

The **Neighborhood Conservation Program (NCP) Representative** reported that the NCP program had approved Bluemont’s N. 6th Street project. The question of whether the County will continue the NCP program in the future remains unresolved.

The **Chair of the N. Carlin Springs Road Safety Improvement Task Force** Chris George, indicated that the group continues to design a survey to distribute to residents along N. Carlin Springs Road (between North Edison Street and North Lexington Street), seeking input related to pedestrian safety.

**Civic Federation Delegate Bruce Leighton** described a **walk-through of the Bluemont Junction Trail** that several BCA Executive Board members and BCA’s Parks Liaison conducted with Lyndell D. Core, Park Services Area Manager, Urban Operations, Parks and Natural Resources Division to follow-up on the informal input Mr. Core had requested from Bluemont regarding jimmy rail versus wood split rail fencing along the Bluemont Junction Trail. Mr. Core said that the use of jimmy rail fencing was a dead issue due to neighborhood opposition. The walk-through discussed input from a survey neighbors had taken, and noted where neighbors believed fencing was needed and not needed, and identified broken fencing. County Staff quickly followed up to remove broken and excess fencing, and make repairs.

Separately, Mr. Core responded to concerns about a muddy eroded path to a section to the trail between N. George Mason Drive and Edison Street. Mr. Core volunteered to see whether an scout seeking and Eagle Scout project would be able to replace the path with one made wood chips contained by boards.

The **Board agree with the President’s proposal that she e-mail the Parks and Natural Resources Division to express thanks** for the prompt, and useful, follow up by Mr. Core to issues raised during the walk-through.

**The Board agreed with the proposal of the Second Vice President that the President follow up with Mr. Core about a concern raised subsequently by a neighbor regarding trail fencing.**

The Board reviewed upcoming tasks for the **April newsletter**, and the need to establish a **Nominating Committee and announce its contact information in this newsletter.**

In addition to announcing annual elections and the Nominating Committee, and reporting all approved motions since the August 2020 Newsletter, **possible newsletter articles identified were:**

-- A report by BCA’s Missing Middle Housing Study Working Group (Henry McFarland)

-- A Report by BCA’s N. Carlin Springs Road Safety Improvement Task Force (Chris George)

-- Flooding risk in Bluemont

-- Improvements to trails in Bluemont by Eagle Scouts (Bruce Leighton)

The President adjourned the meeting a 7:28 pm.