**MINUTES**

**Bluemont Executive Committee**

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 7 PM

Via Zoom

The President opened the meeting at 7:00. The President determined that a quorum was present. The Executive Committee approved the minutes of the November 17, 2021 meeting.

Reports from Officers commenced.

The **President** reported on the call from County Board Chair Matt de Ferranti to review past requests made by the civic association to the County Board. Much of the discussion concerned BCA’s stormwater and flooding-related requests, including flood vulnerabilities along the open channel of Lubber Run (along the western side of the 500-700 Blocks of North Abingdon Street). The President informed Mr. de Ferranti that DES staff told BCA the County had no priority list to address such problems with open channels in Arlington County because of the lack of appropriated funds within the County’s Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to address open channels. Matt de Ferranti said he was glad this is now on his radar, and noted that BCA’s open channel concern would need to be in the CIP, which is developed in the spring.

Matt de Ferranti said he was interested in the issue of a permit promise and obligation that the President told him about. (County staff from the Board of Zoning Appeals told BCA at its October 2021 meeting that County staff must accept the facts in the description developers provide in permit requests of what they plan to do, because there is no requirement for the applicant for a use permit or zoning variance to certify that representations in the application are true under any penalty or sanction. This makes it difficult for County staff to deal with developers who do not do what they said they planned to do in their applications.)

Regarding a BCA Executive Board request regarding Bluemont small business Good Company Donuts (on the corner of N. Glebe Road and n. 7th Street), Matt de Ferranti reviewed the compromise he and County Board Member Takis Karantonis worked out between County Staff and the business order that allowed the business to keep much of its outdoor seating while accommodating the bus shelter that could not be moved to a different location.

The President also reported on the “Roundtable” on public engagement that the County Manager hosted at the end of November, which included recommendations for increasing community engagement that the County’s office of public engagement said they would be sending to meeting participants. The President said she would share this information with the BCA Executive Board and Membership Committee once it is received.

The **Treasurer and President** noted that FEMA has received the County’s appeal of FEMA’s preliminary revisions to the Flood Insurance Rate Map that place several Bluemont properties in a 100-year flood zone.

The **First Vice President** reported that in connection with the funding for the western entrance to the Ballston-MU station, the optimum time to submit comments to the NVTA in support of that project would be early spring of 2022.

The **Treasurer** reported a balance of $2,090.02, with approximately ten checks awaiting deposit.

The **N. Carlin Springs Road Task Force** leader indicated that he was ready to move the pending resolution for a vote at the General Membership meeting.

The **First Vice President, on behalf of the Missing Middle Housing Study Working Group,** reported that County staff is still in the early stages of its analysis of the initial survey and report, and that any recommendations derived from the effort would probably not go to the County Board before sometime in the first or second quarter of 2022.

The **Secretary, on behalf of the Civic Federation Delegates**, reported that at the Civic Federation meeting the night before (December 14) the following had occurred:

(1) Mike McMenamin moderated a panel on Arlington Public Broadband. The panel included Jack Belcher from the County staff; Tim Dempsey, from a citizens’ group; and Ray LaMura, a representative of Virginia broadband corporations. After a description of the County’s fiber optic infrastructure, there was a discussion about competing visions of what to do with it;

(2) the Civ. Fed accepted the application of Arlington Parents for Education as a new member organization;

(3) there was also an update on matters pertaining to the County’s Tree Canopy;

(4) there was a recap on the recent Civic Association President’s Roundtable; and

(5) the Civ. Fed approved a resolution amending its Bylaws regarding the Nomination Committee. Video of the entire meeting is available at <https://www.civfed.org>.

**Unfinished Business**

The President referred to the Membership Committee as currently constituted: the First Vice President, the Second Vice President, the Treasurer, Ritch Viola (Member), and the President (ex officio). A Committee member has proposed they meet in January (by Zoom) to discuss a path forward.

Since the last meeting, there have not been any complaints lodged pertaining to the Wilson Blvd roadway alterations between N. George Mason and N. Frederick.

The meeting concluded at 7:26 pm.