**Minutes: Bluemont Civic Association Executive Committee**

Via Zoom

January 25, 2023; 7:00 PM

1. The President established that a **quorum** was present.
2. Executive Committee members **approved the minutes** of the December 2022 Executive Committee meeting without changes
3. **Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs**.

**President** Henry McFarland reported on the letter he had sent along with the presidents of four other civic associations along Carlin Springs Road. The joint letter requested that the County move up its planned 2025 starting date for the **Carlin Springs Road Corridor Study** so that it starts in 2023, but definitely no later than 2024.

The President said there was no new information on the **Ballston Macy’s Site Plan** project. He said he had written the County to remind them that the civic association wants to be involved in the discussions regarding how to resolve the pedestrian safety risk posed by the planned left turn lane at the intersection of 7th Street, N and N. Glebe Road into the private street on the site.

The President reported that at a 4 pm meeting this day, the County was expected to agree to hold a final vote in March 2023 regarding **zoning amendments for “Missing Middle Housing.”**

The President discussed **presentations at upcoming General Membership meetings**, and the need for a speaker for the June meeting.

February: Arlington Neighborhood Village Jean Radday, Membership Services Manager

March: EcoAction Arlington Elenor Hodges, Executive Director

April: County Board Chair Christian Dorsey. He noted that the civic association will be sending Mr. Dorsey questions and topics Bluemont residents have for this meeting.

May: Emergency Preparedness with Hannah Winant and Tania Bougebrayel, Arlington County Department of Emergency Preparedness

The President discussed the **civic association hosting social events**, e.g. a community picnic, perhaps for Arlington’s Neighborhood in May.

**Treasurer** David Smith reported that $120 of membership checks had been deposited into the Bluemont Civic Association (BCA) account, bringing the balance up to $2098.28, plus about $350 in membership checks had been received by the Treasurer on the day of this meeting.

The Treasurer said he and the President would be verifying **whether BCA can reduce the cost of its P.O. Box by getting a smaller box,** or whether BCA is being overcharged by the Post Office because we already have the smaller-sized P.O. Box.

The Treasurer, who is also BCA’s representative to the Site Plan Review for the **4600 N. Fairfax Street**, said he had resent the questions from BCA members to the developer for the 4600 N. Fairfax site.

In his role leading BCA efforts on stormwater, the Treasurer reported that the County had hired a consultant to revise the LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) to the **proposed FEMA flood risk map** that would place homes in Bluemont in a 100-year flood plain. The County plans to submit its request to FEMA in January.

The Treasurer, in his role as Chair of the Lubber Run Watershed Group of civic associations and the Arlington County Civic Federation stormwater team, reported that progress is being made on County consideration of placing a **stormwater detention in Woodlawn.** The Waycroft Woodlawn Civic Association is working through questions related to the proposed vault as they consider the proposal.

**Arlington County Civic Federation** (ACCF) delegates Allen Norton and David Smith reported on the January 3 annual meeting of the ACCF with the County Board. Video footage and an audio recording of that meeting are available on the ACCF website, [https://www.civfed.org](about:blank)

BCA **Parks Liaison Hugh Robinson** reported that on January 26 at 10 am, he and the BCA President will meet with Arlington County Parks officials to look at the public land at the corner of on the west side of 9th Street, N and N. Harrison Street as part of consideration of whether to propose that BCA request the land be designated a park.

The Parks Liaison reported on his contact with Matt Bristol who had proposed **to do landscaping around the Bluemont neighborhood sign along N. Kensington Street** near N. Carlin Springs Road. The Parks Liaison discussed the research he had done to see whether additional bureaucratic clearances are required for this project, e.g. from other County offices. He noted the requirement to get people signed on to maintain any landscaping done to the site. The BCA Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) Nick Pastore Representative had contacted the County’s Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee representative Tim McIntosh, who sent an email saying there were no issues on their end as long as BCA understands it will have to maintain landscaping, because the Parks Department does not have the resources to do the maintenance on all the neighborhood signs.

The Parks Liaison encouraged people to use the **County’s Report A Problem** system to report maintenance problems the County needs to address. He noted that since January 1, 2023, he had gotten a very good County response to problems he reported. For example, after he used Report A Problem to noted that safety flexposts on Wilson Blvd had been removed during repaving and not replaced, the County re-installed the flexposts. Also, the Parks Liaison used Report A Problem to report the repeated blockages in the culvert that drains storm water under N. Kensington Street to Four Mile Run. The culvert has now been scoured and is wide open for water to flow property away from Bluemont homes and to Four Mile Run.

4. **Proposed ByLaws Changes:**

(a) The Treasurer explained the problem with the BCA bylaws requirement that membership dues payment is based on the calendar year with memberships expiring on January 1 unless members renewed their membership by the end of the previous calendar year. The Treasurer proposed **the following change to the BCA bylaws for approval by the Board, and to be presented at the January General Membership meeting.**

**“Change ARTICLE V Dues Section 1. To read “****Payment of dues conveys association membership for the 12 months following the association's receipt of the dues payment.”**

The Board unanimously approved the proposed amendment. The proposed bylaws changes had been sent to members previously via the BCA email distribution list, and Board Members agreed to present the proposed change to members at the January General Membership meeting, with the plan for members to vote on the proposed amendment at the February General Membership meeting.

Secretary Laura Kirkconnell made a **MOTION** seconded by First Vice President Matt Harrison that the Executive Board a**pprove a grace period for current memberships be extended through the end of the February General Membership meeting.**  The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion to establish this grace period.

(b) **NCAC Representative** Nick Pastore proposed the following **bylaws amendments** to reflect the recent County name change to the Neighborhood Conservation Program and its related Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee**:**

**“Change all references to the “Neighborhood Conservation Program” to instead refer to the “Arlington’s Neighborhoods Program," as described below:**

**The Bluemont Civic Association adopts amendments to the Bylaws to make administrative changes to the following sections of those bylaws to change references to the NCAC program to the ArNAC program. Name Changes are proposed to the following sections:**

**1.       Article VI Section 2 – Name Change**

**2.       Article VI Section 3 – Name Change**

**3.       Article VII Section 1 – Name Change**

**4.       Article VII Section 4 – Name Change**

**5.       Article VII Section 12 – Name Change**

**6.       Article VIII Section 1 – Name Change**

**7.       Article VIII Section 3 – Name Change**

**8.       Article IX Section 2 – Name Change”**

These proposed changes had previously sent to BCA members via the BCA email distribution list. Executive Board members unanimously approved the proposed amendments and agreed to present them at the January General Membership meeting, for a vote by members at the February General Membership meeting.

5. **BCA Zoom Account**

The Treasurer made a **MOTION** that BCA spend $150 for a BCA zoom account with the same features as the private Zoom-Pro account of the BCA Secretary that is currently being used for BCA meetings. BCA would establish a BCA email address for BCA to be the master account for Zoom. The Treasure would sign up as the account owner, and the current Secretary would be given responsibility to manage the Zoom Account.

The Secretary seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

6. The President noted the need to consider articles for the April neighborhood-wide email, and who would write the articles.

7. **Adjournment:** There being no other business, David Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Dorothy Patton seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Minutes prepared by Secretary Laura Kirkconnell