**Minutes Bluemont Executive Committee**

Via Zoom and at the Hickory Room of the Lubber Run Community Center

June 28, 2023; 7:00 PM

1. The President established that a quorum was present and read the politeness statement.

2. The Executive Board approved the May Executive Board meeting minutes without changes.

3. **Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs**

**President** Henry McFarland provided an update on the Ballston Macy’s site plan project. The grocer remains committed to the Ballston Macy’s site, and is not Amazon Fresh, contrary to some rumors. The name of the intended Ballston Macy’s grocer is not yet public. The developer hopes to start demolition in late spring of 2024 and said they will meet with the civic association before then.

The President thanked the Nominating Committee for their considerable and excellent work in getting the list of nominees for the annual elections.

**Treasurer** David Smith reported that last month’s balance was $2549.75, of which $294 had been paid for the civic association’s P.O. Box, and $60 had been received in membership dues checks. The resulting balance is $2315.75. The Treasurer also gave his end-of-year report:

Starting balance: $2113.15

Incoming funds from membership dues and donations, $1540

Expenditures, $1337.40

Final balance for the year, $2315.75

The Treasurer noted that this did not include the $170.00 he had just paid to reimburse the expenditure of $170.00 for the County fee to rent the picnic pavilion for the civic association’s Family Fun Day Event, and the $100 to reimburse the expenditure for the County-required liability insurance for that event. Once BCA reimbursed these $270 in expenses for the Family Fun Day event, BCA exceeded its income by $67 for the year. The Treasurer also noted that most of the expense for the Family Fun Day event was covered by members who donated decorations, give-away items, ice cream and other supplies for this community event.

Because of donations, including for BCA-hosted bell-ringings, BCA has minimal costs. Costs are mostly for the newsletter, the PO Box, the sound system for hybrid meetings, and the zoom membership. The Treasurer recommended BCA do a membership drive, noting that with four to six new memberships BCA could break even. The Board discussed how to use the July 4th and other bell-ringings as part of a membership drive.

**BCA Civic Federation Delegate** Allen Norton reported on the June meeting of the Arlington County Civic Federation, which featured a meeting with the School Board. He recommended people watch the video of the meeting, which along with the School Board’s presentation slides, are at this link. https://www.civfed.org.

**Chair of the BCA Carlin Springs Road Safety Task Force** Christopher George reported that he had reached out to the County regarding the request by the civic association that the County move forward its planned date for starting its study of the Carlin Springs Road corridor to 2024. The County wants to first complete its update of its Master Transportation Plan before starting the Carlin Springs Road study, which means it will not move its planned 2025 Carlin Springs Road study forward. The County’s quick-build projects could be the best approach to get something done now about the intersections identified by the Bluemont and Arlington Forest civic associations as needing safety improvements. The County will be doing some quick-build projects as part of its upcoming micro surfacing of parts of Carlin Springs Road. Mr. Nabors of County staff responded that work at the N. Greenbrier intersection does not align with the micro surfacing work. Mr. George said he would follow up to ask what the County is planning, since Greenbrier was one of the intersections identified by the Bluemont and Arlington Forest Civic Associations members as needing safety improvements, and BCA and Arlington Forest would like to engage with the County before they finish their plans for quick-build projects along the N. Carlin Springs Road.

**BCA Parks Liaison** Hugh Robinson reported that the Master Gardeners working on the Sun Garden in Bon Air Park are expanding the Sun Garden, in cooperation with the County’s Parks Department. The expansion will include adding some trees.

Mr. Robinson said that consideration of whether BCA members would want to request the County designate the land at 9th Street, N and N. Harrison Street a park is subject to the County’s Public Spaces Master Plan, which the County plans to revise next year. Mr. Robinson said he will be reviewing the Public Spaces Master Plan and will report back to BCA.

Mr. Robinson reported that the County placed mulch at the site of the garden at 9th Street, N and N. Harrison Street, but nobody has spread the mulch. Regarding the pending request from a neighbor that the County allow the continuation of the garden that neighbors created and have maintained for years at the corner of 9th Street, N and N. Harrison Street, Mr. Robinson reported that the County Point of Contact for the request, John Marlin, was waiting for the County Attorney and Risk Management office to review and discuss the request before the Parks Department can move forward on discussions with the neighbor applying to continue the garden.

**Chair of the Nominations Committee** Kate Mattos discussed procedures for the annual elections to be held during the General Membership meeting.

Other Business: **Secretary** Laura Kirkconnell discussed the signs she had donated and placed advertising the General Membership meeting, including the vote on the I-66 noise resolution, and her plans to donate and place signs for the July 4th bell-ringing. Two Board members volunteered to have July 4th signs placed in their yards.

The President adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.