



Mount Vernon  
Council  
of Citizens'  
Associations

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# Record

Volume XXXVII, No.4, APR 2005

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday April 27, 8 PM, Walt Whitman Middle School Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

## AGENDA

### CALL TO ORDER

Approval of Secretary's Minutes

Approval of Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Co-Chairmen's Report on Board Actions

### PUBLISHED ITEMS and RESOLUTIONS

### NEW BUSINESS

Member Association Representatives' Time

MV Supervisor's Time

Other Elected Reps and Public Time

### ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chairmen	Errol Bergsagel .....	703.780.9038
	Al Bornmann .....	703.360.5964
	Mack Rhoades .....	703.329.9120
Treasurer	Phyllis Evans .....	703.960.2140
Secretary	Susie Ellicott .....	703.329.2934
Editor	Dave Bolte .....	703.765.0129
BUDG	George Bauer .....	703.768.1774
COAF	Queenie Cox .....	703.360.2414
EDUC	Judy Harbeck .....	703.780.1883
ENVR	Jim Davis .....	703.799.3278
H/HS	Louise Cleveland .....	703.780.9151
PL/Z	David Dale .....	703.765.8247
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey .....	703.360.2185
TRANS	Frank Cohn .....	703.780.5698
FCFCA	Pat Rea .....	703.799.4799

## MINUTES

Organizations Represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Gum Springs, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Montebello, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Zephyr, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Newington Forest, Riverside Gardens, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor 2, Williamsburg Manor North

**Opening Remarks:** The Council was called to order at 8:00 p.m., Co-Chair Al Bornmann presiding. The minutes of the previous Council meeting were reviewed and accepted. The Treasurer's report was accepted as it appears in the March 2005 *Record* (hereafter, *Record*).

Co-Chair Bornmann stated that the planned agenda would change in order to allow Supervisor Gerry Hyland to speak first.

### Supervisor's Time

The Supervisor thanked the Council for its expressions of support over the recent loss of his mother and for its contribution in her name to United Community Ministries. He recognized Allen Mayer, former Delegate, in the audience. Supervisor Hyland presented a number of topics:

The Martha Washington Library will be expanded starting in August 2008.

The Westgrove Park public meeting was cancelled; a task force will be established to address issues and solicit input from the community.

A late reminder, for those receiving the Record in time, that the MVCCA Gala, honoring the Citizen of the Year, is Saturday evening, April 23, 6:00 p.m., at the Fort Belvoir Golf Club.

Some associations still have not re-registered with the MVCCA for 2005, which prevents voting on issues before the Council and discontinues delivery of the Record by mail. For associations intending to continue their membership, which is to be hoped for, re-registration can be accomplished by e-mail or by regular mail, or by bringing documentation to the Council meeting.

# THE COUNCIL minutes

Regarding the Lorton residents whose home are next to commercially zoned property, the storage firm did not accept the offer to buy its property, leaving the affected homes adjacent to industrially zoned land. The Comprehensive Plan needs to be changed to ensure a buffer between residential and industrial properties.

Board of Supervisors hearings on the proposed County budget will be held April 4, 5, and 6, and a tax relief workshop will occur on April 12.

A meeting concerning the King's Crossing site was held to discuss "reasonable expectations" if the developer buys the adjacent mobile home park site. The Supervisor is expecting input from residents there and is awaiting a new proposed plan.

The Ourisman Dodge issue has been resolved to this point; the garage will be built with a roof garden. The proposed trail will be incorporated into the site plans.

When a sewer line is to be replaced, a community must give notice to neighboring civic associations.

Both members of the Southeast Fairfax Development Corporation staff have left the organization to accept other positions. Supervisors Hyland and Dana Kaufmann may assign County staff to the organization on an interim basis. They have begun examining the types of staffing, funding, and business model that would work best for the organization in the future.

Co-Chair Bornmann thanked Supervisor Hyland for his time and report. He noted that the Council had eight resolutions to consider and urged Committee members to keep their presentations brief.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget & Finance.** Co-Chair Bornmann noted that the Budget Committee has conducted several meetings on the proposed County budget.

**Consumer Affairs.** Chair Queenie Cox referenced her report on page 4 of the *Record*.

**Education.** Chair Judy Harbeck will attend a meeting tomorrow concerning NOVA's interest in establishing a site along the Route 1 corridor. A representative of NOVA may attend the April Council meeting.

**Environment.** Chair Jim Davis referenced the minutes in the *Record*. He reported that the State is measuring biological matter and bacteria in waterways; hearings on these issues as they affect the Mount Vernon area are expected soon.

**Health and Human Services.** Chair Louise Cleveland called attention to the March 29 community forum on affordable housing, at which BOS Chairman Gerry Connelly would present recommendations of a citizen task force. Question from the floor sparked discussion of significant differences in defining "affordable":

the MVCCA resolution under consideration included a range of low-income groups with varied needs. Jerry Ireland of United Voice and King's Crossing noted that most State and Federal assistance programs require maximum income below \$17 to \$26 thousand/year, though the County recognizes as low income \$49 thousand per two-earner household. Ireland asks what can be done for those in between. He also recommends changing (required) set-asides by developers to include cash-equivalent donations to a fund to build more new units.

**Planning & Zoning.** Chair David Dale referenced the Committee minutes as published in the *Record*.

**Public Safety.** Chair Dallas Shawkey referenced the Committee minutes as published in the *Record*. The new commander of the Mount Vernon Station, Mike Kline, will speak at the next meeting.

**Transportation.** Chair Frank Cohn referenced the Committee minutes as published in the *Record*.

**Fairfax Federation.** Pat Rea said that the upcoming Gala is sold out; 175 people will attend, which is more than usually attend regular meetings. The County Executive will speak.

## Co-Chairs' Time

Co-Chair Bornmann reminded members that the annual Gala is scheduled for April 23, Neal McBride will be honored as Citizen of the Year. The Gala will conclude before Passover starts at sundown.

Co-Chair Errol Bergsagel commended the hard work put forth on the proposed County budget.

## RESOLUTIONS

**Budget & Finance.** Co-Chair Bornmann acted for absent Chair George Bauer. The resolution of strong support for county Advertised Budget Plan was amended, following approval of 3 additional resolutions related to the Budget (Education, Affordable Housing, HHS Planning), to clarify MVCCA support for an entire package of recommendations for County use of (expected) additional available revenues BEFORE consideration of mil rate reduction greater than 10 cents. The resolution passed 19-0-2, with the 3rd Resolved inserting the phrase "*of at least one cent*" and the 5th "RESOLVED" statement amended to conclude as follows:  
*"However, MVCCA suggests that no further reduction in the tax rate be taken unless it can be accomplished within the funding parameters of the Advertised Budget including the recommendations of the four budget-related MVCCA Resolutions adopted in March 2005."*

**Education.** Chair Harbeck said that factors affected the increased school budget include the increasing number of children requiring special services; the need for three teachers (classroom, ESOL, and special education) for every 24 students; teacher and staff salaries, insurance, and pension costs; the Federal No Child Left Behind mandate; and the number of students requiring reduced-cost or free lunches. The resolution passed 20-0-0.

# THE COUNCIL minutes

## Health and Human Services.

**Affordable Housing Trust Fund.** After extensive discussion of an inclusive definition of affordable housing, the purposes for set-aside to a Trust Fund, and the need for equitable distribution throughout the County, the resolution calling for a two-cent set-aside passed 14-5-1, with addition of this friendly amendment: “*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors assure that affordable housing programs be equitably distributed throughout the County.”*

**HHS Planning for FY2006.** This resolution describes service needs in Mount Vernon/Region I and supports the Advertised Budget Plan (with 10-cent mil rate reduction) in the expectation that it can accommodate further recommendations for expenditure: two cents for affordable housing, enlarged reserves for mid-cycle human community crises prevention and early intervention, and targeting of any further funds available for “tax relief” to low-income home owners. The resolution passed 19-0-1.

## Planning & Zoning.

**Waiver Requests 4711-WPSF-1 and 4711-WPSF 2 - Van Metre Homes on East Boulevard.** The resolution passed 17-2-0.

**PCA 1999-MV025 and SEA 99-MV-020 - Minnieland Day Care.** The resolution passed 17-0-1.

**RZ/FDP 2004-LE-021 – Mount Vernon Gateway.** (This proposed project is in the Lee District.) A friendly amendment from Environment Co-Chair Jim Davis was added that reads, “Whereas, this development will be in conformance and compliance with the predicted Little Hunting Creek Watershed Management Plan for nutrient and peak flow reductions, as approved by the Board of Supervisors.”

Chair Cohn of the Transportation Committee reminded members that the Council is on record as opposing any increase in occupancy/population in the Mount Vernon District until the transportation infrastructure has caught up to demand. The resolution passed 11-5-2.

**SEA 87-V-106 – Ourisman Dodge.** All issues have been resolved. The word “therefore” was added after the last “whereas.” The resolution passed 17-0-0.

## NEW BUSINESS/ASSOCIATION TIME

It was noted that a Cold War Museum may be built near the planned Army Museum.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

## BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget & Finance Committee met on April 6th at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School. In attendance were representatives from Hollin Hills, Potomac Valley/Riverbend, Stratford Landing and Wessynton Homes. Additionally, Mike Coughlan attended as a consultant to MVCCA.

In 2004, to be eligible for real estate tax relief, the Virginia Legislature increased the maximum allowable income to \$62,000 from \$52,000 and the maximum allowable assets to \$240,000 from \$160,000. In FY 2005, Fairfax County extended the maximum allowable assets to \$240,000 as authorized, but maintained the maximum allowable income at \$52,000 on a graded scale as shown in the table below:

Current Program: Income Range	Current % of Relief	Maximum Allowable Assets	FY 2005 Participation
\$40,000 and below	100 %	\$240,000	4,571
\$40,001 - \$46,000	50 %	\$240,000	553
\$46,001 - \$52,000	25 %	\$240,000	364

Effective in 2005, the Code of Virginia authorizes Fairfax County to grant real estate tax relief to elderly and disabled homeowners who have gross income not greater than \$72,000 and net assets not greater than \$340,000.

If Fairfax County increased tax relief to the maximum limits allowed by the Legislature, the County estimates the cost to revenue would be approximately \$14,956,889. However, if the County extended tax relief on a graded scale as shown in the table below, then the County estimates the cost to revenues would be about \$8,720,031.

Income Range	Current % of Relief	Maximum Allowable Assets	Additional Estimated Applicants
\$52,000 and below	100 %	\$340,000	875
\$52,001 - \$62,000	50 %	\$340,000	1,387
\$62,001 - \$72,000	25 %	\$340,000	1,011
Total:			3,273

We have produced a resolution backing an increase in maximum allowable assets to \$340,000.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 4th at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal’s Conference Room at Walt Whitman Middle School. Our primary objective will be to address methods of persuading legislatures, both U.S. and Virginia, to discontinue passage of unfunded mandates requiring implementation at the state, county and city levels.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

In lieu of its monthly meeting, Consumer Affairs committee is providing a guest speaker for the general membership on Wednesday, April 27th. The speaker will be the Director of Security for a major banking institution in the Mount Vernon District. The topic will be Identity Theft.

Consumer Affairs would also like for residents in sanitary districts whose trash is collected by Fairfax County (County) to visit the County's website to review the Solid Waste Task Force recommendation about residential waste collection issues in Fairfax County <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/swtf>. You need to pay particular attention to the recommendation for the County to get out of the business of providing trash collection services in sanitary districts. The Task Force will be presenting its recommendation to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on May 23rd. You can view the draft and final version on the above web site.

If you want to learn more about County provided solid waste services, to include recycling, special pick up, yard debris and trash pick up services, the COAF Committee has secured a special guest speaker, Jeff Smithberger, Fairfax County's Director of Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Division, for the Council's May 25th meeting. Information on how to request and discontinue services provided by the County will also be provided. So, don't be left out in the cold and whine later that you didn't know what was going on if the decision concerning your trash collection by the County is not what you want. Voice your concerns to the MVCCA or your Mount Vernon District Supervisor-Gerry Hyland.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference at Walt Whitman Middle School.

## EDUCATION

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the committee's regular meeting was not held.

Intended agenda items included the announced intention of Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) to establish a presence on the Route One corridor.

The chair attended an information meeting on March 24, 2005, where NVCC discussed its initiative at the regular meeting of the Route One Partners, a group of public and private organizations providing job and other assistance to adults, particularly disabled and immigrant adults and those transitioning from various support and rehabilitation programs. As a result of the nature of that group, most of NVCC's presentation and the discussion at the meeting concerned adult job skills and literacy programs.

The chair did raise the issues of Superintendent Dale's and Governor Warner's ideas to change the last two high school years by providing additional opportunities for college/professional credit and whether NVCC's plans would include such opportunities for high school students; the representatives were aware and supportive but that did not seem to be a high immediate priority. Similarly, asked whether the plans would provide better opportunities for seniors to take classes in a closer, daytime location, the response was enthusiastic but plans are vague.

It is apparent that the NVCC plans are very preliminary and flexible, both as to courses to be offered and location. Local high schools have expressed interest and the chair will keep in contact as plans proceed.

Pat Fege, FCPS coordinator for Language Arts Instruction K-12 will speak at the next meeting on the subject of instruction on grammar, spelling and expository writing.

Next meeting: May 4, 2005, at 8 pm in the library at Whitman MS  
Speaker: Pat Fege, FCPS Language Arts Coordinator

## ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

The Environment and Recreation committee met Wed, April 6, 7:30 PM , Mt Vernon High School, Room E-114: Attending were: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mt Vernon Civic, Mt Vernon on the Potomac, Riverside Estates, Potomac Valley/ River Bend, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Woodlawn Manor and representatives from Walsh/Colucci, Madison Homes and Christopher Consultants.

Mr Russell Rosenberger, from Madison Homes, again presented to the Committee a plan for **Huntington Mews**, slightly modified since our March meeting. Supplied were estimate figures for environmental impacts this development could produce. The developer is still asking for a Storm Water Quantity waiver for this site. The Committee was told by the engineer, that Water Quality will not need to be waived and only the volume of water needs to be "excused". Additionally, the plan now includes porous pavers with small underground detention in several surface parking areas.

Before the Committee was a **resolution to accelerate water improvement in our streams**, and asking the BOS, and if necessary our State delegation, to change the necessary and effective ordinances to do so. Background on this issue can be summarized as such:

- 1) Science of phosphorus indicators justifies higher removal levels are needed to meet water quality standards
  - 2) Current removal requirement (40%) is insufficient to attain required water quality standards by the deadline
  - 3) Available State approved Storm Water Management tools are recognized as having better efficiency rates
- Re-zonings, Special Exceptions and other new development is targeted.

The Committee tabled the resolution to produce two more resolutions addressing specifically peak flow and biological needs for dissolved oxygen. These resolutions shall be produced by summer and available in an easy to read version.

The Committee discussed the accepted amendment to the **Mt Vernon Gateway resolution**, approved last month at the MVCCA General Session meeting. Added to the resolution was the language: "Whereas, this development will be in conformance and compliance with the Little Hunting Creek Watershed Management Plan for nutrient and peak flow reductions, as approved by the Board of Supervisors,"

Next meeting: May 4, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, Room E-114, Mt Vernon High School

# THE COMMITTEE reports

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

H/HS Committee met April 5 with 7 member associations represented, including a new representative from Mount Vernon Manor: Collingwood on Potomac, Mount Zephyr, Stratford Landing, Stratford on Potomac, Stratford on Potomac-Sec.4, and Sulgrave Manor.

The Committee invited no guest speakers this month. Instead we concluded 3 months of consideration of the County's planning for human services, and discussed the strong support in the MVCCA General Council for the Resolutions HHS had drafted and recommended. The chair reported on the excellent discussion of affordable housing issues that took place in the March 23 MVCCA General Council, on the forum on affordable housing with Board of Supervisors (BOS) Chair Gerry Connolly (at the March 29 meeting of the Route One Task Force on Human Services), and at related community meetings. The committee heard the chair's draft presentation for the April 6 BOS Hearing on the Fiscal 2006 Budget Plan and offered valuable suggestions on timing and emphasis.

The Human Services Council (HSC) issued an excellent analysis of the budget plan, not available until March 28, that was consistent with the principles expressed in the MVCCA Resolution, emphasizing the importance and cost-effectiveness of prevention and early intervention. The citizen advisors offered a number of specific actions that the BOS could implement at very modest additional costs in the coming year. (The MVCCA position recommending that the BOS reserve funds for prevention and early intervention response to emergent community crises fits well with the detailed HSC recommendations.)

We have heard from MVCCA members and others in the community, concerned with affordable housing, that they have found helpful the information available on the web site in the Jan., Feb. and March issues of the MVCCA Record (in the Health Human Services Committee Reports). Response to the framing of affordable housing issues in the March Resolution has also been very positive.

### Planning Mount Vernon Hospital's future

*[MVCCA's position is stated in two Resolutions published in the MVCCA Record and available on our web site: [www.MVCCA.org](http://www.MVCCA.org): "Public Support for Saving Mount Vernon Hospital," July 2003, and "Public Support for the Southeast Health Planning Task Force Recommendation," July 2004. In October 2004, Inova Health System announced their management staff's recommendation to the Board of Trustees that Mount Vernon Hospital remain at its present campus and a new healthplex be located near the Lorton Road exit of I-95.]*

Public meetings of the Southeast Health Planning Task Force, held quarterly, are intended to update the community on Inova's plans to enhance services and facilities in our area. In recent months the Hospital has been very busy, with increased beds devoted to Rehabilitation and Psychiatric centers; a new 64-slice CAT scanner (with ability to scan the complete body in 10 seconds) is expected to arrive in late April, the first in greater metropolitan area. The registration process has been streamlined since December 20, and reports on how this is working are welcomed. TF member Louise Cleveland welcomes all questions from the community, prior to the next meeting on June 2. In addition to honoring retiring Inova VP and IMVH Administrator Susan Herbert (see March Record) this meeting will provide opportunity for discussion with Inova officers. A detailed strategic plan, to expand hospital space, is anticipated from

Inova, perhaps by the end of June.

### Community meetings—all open to the public

**Tuesday, May 3, MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee** meets, topic t/b/a, 7:30 p.m., IMVH Conf. Room C. H/HS. Chair Louise Cleveland, 703/780-9151.

**Wednesday, June 1, Route One Task Force for Human Services** focuses on outcomes of the County budget planning process and an update from state legislative representatives, 7 p.m., South County Center, Anne Andrews, Convener, 703/780-1773.

**Thursday, June 2, Southeast Health Planning Task Force**, 7 p.m., South County Center, Anne Andrews, Chair, 703/780/9151.

## PLANNING AND ZONING

The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM, and in attendance were representatives from the following associations: Collingwood Springs, Huntington, Marlin Forest, Middle Valley, Montebello Condominiums, Mount Vernon, Mount Zephyr, Newington, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Spring Bank, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Williamsburg Manor North and Woodlawn Manor. The Committee heard five land use cases. No votes were taken.

The first case was a return visit for RZ 2004-MV-041 for Huntington Mews. Madison Homes is proposing to redevelop the 13.45 acres located on the north side of Huntington Avenue between the Huntington community and Riverside apartments. A new site plan was presented that reduces the number of town homes from 110 to 94 and makes the units more uniform in size. The plans are not final. There are outstanding environmental issues in the floodplain and RPA, and the adjacent Huntington Community still has concerns. The plans are not final.

The second case was RZ 2004-MV-032, an application to rezone from R-1 to PDH-5 to redevelop in Lorton Valley. The proposal includes 35 single-family homes, inter-parcel access to adjacent communities, recreation areas, private streets, and about 37% open space. The plans are not final.

The third case was for RZ 2005-MV-001, an application to rezone from R-1 to PDH-3 to develop at 8207 Ridge Road. This proposal includes 25 single-family homes, public streets, and about 37% open space. There were significant concerns about storm water management expressed by the adjacent community. The plans are not final.

The fourth case was SE 2005-MV-005, an application to amend the existing uses for the Epiphany Lutheran Church at 5501 Old Mill Road. They desire to make improvements in the fellowship hall, increase the sanctuary from 170 seats to 260 seats, add more parking, and increase the nursery school enrollment from 57 to 147.

The final case was SP 2005-MV-010, an application to construct a new church at 8905 Ox Road. About 1/3 of the property is a power line easement. The project includes a bio-retention area for storm water and a conservation easement, childcare for up to 99 children. New Hope Church needs to meet with the adjacent communities. The plans are not final.

The Planning and Zoning website [www.mvcca-pz.org](http://www.mvcca-pz.org) has related documents and links.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

The meeting adjourned at 9:55PM. The next meeting is Monday, May 2, 2005 at 7:30PM in the Jack Knowles Lecture Hall of Walt Whitman Middle School. The May meeting will start with a showing of the film Reining in the Storm, with a brief question and answer session about low impact development.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Associations represented: Hollin Hall, Mount Zephyr, Potomac Valley River Bend, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor, and Waynewood.

The Chair began the meeting with a review of the MVCCA resolution concerning the Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2006 Advertised Budget Plan. The resolution, which was passed by the Council, does support supplemental pay for state employees who provide vital services within Fairfax County but are not paid enough even with a small supplement from the state. These state employees are the magistrates, probation and parole officers, and public defenders. In addition, the Chair noted that the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Advisory Board (CJAB) also supports the supplemental pay. As Vice Chair of CJAB, he gave testimony to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on Tuesday, April 5, supporting the supplemental pay. On conclusion of his testimony, the Vice Chair had a discussion with the Chairman of the BOS. The issue was why the County had neither provided the supplement, as surrounding jurisdictions have done, nor made additional pay an item for inclusion in the Fairfax County Legislative Program. The Chairman agreed that this was not an item in the Legislative Program, but he said that the BOS had lobbied hard for supplemental salary for the magistrates with the Northern Virginia delegation last fall. At its meeting on April 5, the CJAB had voted to send a letter to the Chairman asking that a request for an additional salary supplement be included for the three categories of state employees as an item in the Legislative Program this fall.

The issue of including the four percent salary adjustment for the Sheriff's Deputies and the Police Citizens Aides (PCA) was reviewed. The adjustment for Sheriff's Deputies was not included in the resolution because during his meeting with the Budget Committee, the County Executive stated that a review of the pay for Sheriff's Deputies in surrounding jurisdictions indicated that their current salaries with the 3.07 percent cost of living was sufficient. The issue of maintaining parity the Fairfax County Police was not addressed. Based on this, the Budget Committee declined to support the four percent raise for the Sheriff's Deputies.

The County Executive also said 3.07 percent for the PCAs was sufficient. The Chair reviewed this with Fairfax County Management and Budget staff. The PCAs are somewhat unique to this County. Surrounding jurisdictions largely use sworn police officers at the front desks of their police stations along with dispatchers. Using police officers at front desks is not an efficient use of them. PCAs receive training to man front desks and most have extensive knowledge of their police district since they rarely move to other stations. It appears the pay of the PCAs was compared with that of the dispatchers who receive significantly less pay in surrounding jurisdictions and who have significantly fewer responsibilities. The Chair lobbied for inclusion of the four percent for PCAs in the resolution and obtained its inclusion. The Chair also got support for a traffic court in the

Fairfax County South County Center included.

Our speaker for the evening was CAPT. Michael Kline, the new Commander, Mount Vernon Police Station. He opened by giving the committee a short history of his experience as a Fairfax County Policeman. His first assignment 23 years ago was to the Mt. Vernon Station. He spent three years here. He then went to the street crimes section. Beginning in 1989, he was at the West Springfield Station. During the period 1993-1998, he served at Mt. Vernon Station as a Patrol Supervisor. 1998-2001, he was in Internal Affairs. For a brief period in 2001 he was acting Assistant Commander for the Mt. Vernon Station. 2002-2003, he was Asst. Commander at the McLean Station. Late last year, he was assigned as Commander, Mt. Vernon Station. He is happy to be back.

He reviewed with the committee the issue of pedestrian safety. It has been an historic problem in the Mt. Vernon District and particularly along Richmond Hwy. His station has just completed a pedestrian safety enforcement period. Ninety five tickets and forty five warnings were issued to pedestrians who disobeyed safety regulations. Yet the day after the enforcement period, a pedestrian was killed as a result of disregarding safety regulations. CAPT Kline reviewed with us the recent crime statistics for the station. His number one job is reducing street robberies which are almost twice what the county average is. The remaining statistics are at or below the county average. He also reviewed his personnel situation and personnel assignments, particularly the patrol areas, bicycle patrols, and day and night shifts. It was of interest that two of his personnel are serving on military active duty in Iraq and another is preparing to go on active duty for assignment to Iraq. The county does supplement their pay, as necessary, while they are on active duty so that they don't incur a loss of pay while serving. CAPT Kline then answered questions about crime and about the police in the Mt. Vernon Station area. It was a very informative and worthwhile exchange of ideas.

The Public Safety Committee's next meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 5, in Community Room #3, Mount Vernon Governmental Center. Our speaker will be Ms. Joanmarie Davoli, the Director of the Public Defenders Office.

## TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met on April 4, 2005 in the Media Center of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Attending were: Errol Bergsagel, Co-Chair, MVCCA; Earl Flanagan, Mount Vernon District Transportation Commissioner, representatives of 18 MVCCA member organizations (Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View Condo, Berkshire, Fair Haven, Hollin Hall, Marlan Forest Heights, Milway Meadows, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Zephyr, Potomac Valley-Riverbend, Southwood, Stratford on the Potomac, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Williamsburg Manor North); and two interested citizens.

Mr. Murray Bond, Director of Smart Trip Operations of METRO provided a short briefing on METRO's plans and answered questions from the floor. We should all remember that METRO is now an aging system with a significant increase in ridership over the years and will need to place new cars in service as well as increase the length of trains, some to 8 cars. Once trains are assembled, they

# THE COMMITTEE reports

cannot be easily reorganized by shuffling cars around since common Auto Train Controls are installed for permanent usage. Based on questions, Mr. Bond advised that wheelchairs can enter any door, but the center door lends itself better for such entry. Various seating arrangements are being tried out. Short people may need the installation of straps to obtain balance. Sensors are activated to prevent doors from closing unto people but any open door prevents the train from moving; if a door won't close, the train must be taken out of service. An extension of train service to Fort Belvoir is strictly contingent on funding by surrounding jurisdictions, METRO has no organic funding for this purpose. Booths on stations should be occupied, or the employee can be found in vicinity. Problems of congestion on REX busses need to be solved by the REX bus drivers providing clear instructions to passengers. Mr. Bond will follow up on complaint about promptness and lack of call-back for users of handicapped feeder transport, also on the current confusion concerning the use of Smart Cards.

Mr. Russ Rosenburger of Madison Homes continued his briefing on the Huntington Mews project. The number of units have been reduced and additional parking spaces have been added. Completion of the project is slated for 2007 which maybe three years before the Huntington Ave/Rout#1 intersection has been upgraded. Thereafter all Traffic Service Levels will reach Level D (passing grade), except for a side street exit on the opposite side which will remain at Level F (failing grade). The impact of added traffic from the new development was deemed as negligible by the traffic consultant employed by the developer. Pedestrians will be able to walk on side streets until they can cross at the traffic light on Foley Street to reach the METRO. It was recommended that the bus shelter at Foley Street be moved to the top of the hill and that the intersection at the traffic light at Foley be leveled; the developer will take this matter up with VDOT. Also, the intersection at the western exit from the development should be lined up with the exit from the opposite development.

Mr. Flanagan continued his briefing on Comprehensive Plan changes. He noted that FDCOT has failed to bring maps depicting change proposals up to date. We are able to make suggestions on desired changes anywhere in the County. The sub-committee which was formed at the last meeting will meet this month and develop our comprehensive plan change recommendations and placing them into a desired priority. When finalized, we will submit our document to the Supervisor requesting adoption of the desired changes and no others. All committee members should review the depicted changes on the old plans (which were distributed at the last meeting and e-mailed to all committee members) and send their recommendations to members of the sub-committee (send to Earl Flanagan, Frank Cihak and Neil McBride).

The committee opted to pursue the matter of Community Parking Districts which permits civic associations which do not have an appropriate covenant to prohibit the parking of oversized vehicles. This matter will be pursued at the next meeting.

For information, the Mount Vernon Community Golf Tournament has been scheduled for Monday, Oct 24, 2005 with proceeds going for the benefit of sidewalks/trails on Old Mill Road, Supervisor Hyland has agreed to act as Honorary Chair; Bill Dean will be our designated liaison for tournament planning.

# THE COMMITTEE resolutions

## RESOLUTION ON MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE ASSETS FOR REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOMEOWNERS

**WHEREAS**, the Code of Virginia authorizes Fairfax County to grant real estate tax relief to elderly and disabled homeowners who have gross income not greater than \$72,000 and net assets not greater than \$340,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Fairfax County's real estate tax relief program is below these limits; and

**WHEREAS**, the maximum assets allowed by Fairfax County is currently \$240,000; and

**WHEREAS**, these assets are not sufficient to generate income comparable with the maximum levels of income required to qualify for real estate tax relief.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, MVCCA supports increasing the maximum allowable assets required to qualify for real estate tax relief to \$340,000.

**MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS**  
**Treasurer's Report**

For period from January 1, 2005 through April 14, 2005

	Budget 2005	Actual to Date	Budget to Actual (to date)
<b>Balance Beginning Period</b>		<b>\$2,868.84</b>	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Dues	\$4,653.00	\$3,936.00	-\$717.00
Record Subscriptions	\$480.00	\$345.00	-\$135.00
Gala Income	\$3,475.00	\$0.00	-\$3,475.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$8, 608.00</b>	<b>\$4,281.00</b>	<b>-\$4,327.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Record Expenses	\$4,508.00	\$1,484.60	\$3,023.40
Administrative	\$389.00	\$407.61	-\$18.61
Gala	\$2,743.00	\$315.19	\$2,427.81
Web Site	\$690.00	\$270.00	\$420.00
Membership	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Record Postage	\$400.00	\$100.00	\$300.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$8,805.00</b>	<b>\$2,577.40</b>	<b>\$6,227.60</b>
<b>Balance Ending Period 4/14/05</b>		<b>\$4,572.44</b>	

**COMMITTEE CALENDAR  
FOR MAY 2005**

**MVCCA Board-MVGC-SUPV Thurs, May 12, 8:00 pm**

Date/Day/Time	Comm.	Place	Chair	Phone
5/3 T 7:30	H/HS	IMVH-C	Louise Cleveland	703.780.9151
5/4 W 7:30	COAF	WWMS-PCR	Queenie Cox	703.360.2414
5/4 W 7:30	BUDG	WWMS MC	George Bauer	703.768.1774
5/4 W 7:30	ENVR	MVHSE114	Jim Davis	703.799.3278
5/4 W 8:00	EDUC	WWMS L	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
5/5 Th 7:30	PSAF	MVGC	Dallas Shawkey	703.360.2185
5/2 M 8:00	TRANS	WWMS MC	Frank Cohn	703.780.5698
5/2 M 7:30	PL/Z	WWMS LH	David Dale	703.765.8247

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