



Mount Vernon  
Council  
of Citizens'  
Associations

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# Record

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Volume XXXVII, No.6, JUNE 2005

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday June 22, 8 PM, Mount Vernon Governmental Center  
Community Room

## 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

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## MINUTES

May GC

**Organizations Represented:** Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood, Cross Pointe, The Fairfax, Gum Springs, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Marlan Forest, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Zephyr, Newington, Newington Forest, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, River Towers, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Sulgrave Manor, Wessington, William H. Randall, Williamsburg Manor

**Opening Remarks.** The meeting began at 8:05 p.m., Co-Chair Mack Rhoades presiding. Because of a production constraint, neither the April minutes nor the April Treasurer's Report appeared in the *May Record*. Both were approved as submitted.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget and Finance.** Chair George Bauer referred to the minutes published in the *Record*. Rachel Carter is spearheading the Committee's agenda this summer.

**Consumer Affairs** – Chair Queenie Cox referenced the Committee's minutes published in the *Record*. A guest speaker will give a presentation on solid waste management this evening (*see below*).

**Education.** Chair Judy Harbeck referenced the minutes as published in the *Record*. She noted that the Board of Supervisors is determining the disposition of surplus properties (none in the Mount Vernon District).

**Environment and Recreation.** Chair Jim Davis referenced the minutes as published and said the County is \$800 million in arrears on stormwater management facilities. Phosphorus and peak flow are issues.

**Health and Human Services** – Chair Louise Cleveland, in referencing the May minutes, described progress in building county programs for youth and teens that encourage healthy choices and encouraged neighborhood associations to consider contributing to the fund (described in the report) that provides program equipment and scholarships at the teen center for our area.

**Planning and Zoning** – Chair David Dale referenced the minutes as published. An excellent video on stormwater retention is available.

**Public Safety.** Chair Dallas Shawkey referenced the minutes as published. He said the Committee plans to work with the Budget Committee on compensation for public defenders. He noted that seven miles of the Beltway, from Telegraph Road to Route 210, will soon be posted 50 mph. In July, lane configurations in the area of the Wilson Bridge project change and the number of lanes reduced. The District of Columbia began imposing a \$250 fine for drivers

whose license plates are covered. (This is to ensure visibility to red-light cameras.) He noted that 4,662 drivers received \$100 fines for using a cell phone while driving in the District in 2004; 31 percent of these were Virginia drivers.

**Transportation** – Chair Frank Cohn referenced the minutes as published. He said that a task force has been formed to work on issues related to the BRAC proposals (which would bring another 18,000 employees to Fort Belvoir). Five representatives from Supervisor Hyland's district (including Frank and Earl Flanagan) and three from Supervisor Kauffman's office will serve on the task force.

**Fairfax Federation** – Representative Pat Rea is now First Vice President of the Federation.

## ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

**Brett Kenney**, Supervisor Hyland's chief aide, noted several points:

If the BRAC recommendations are approved, many improvements will be required in the Fort Belvoir area.

Mount Vernon will need one more elementary school and accelerated construction of the middle school. The new high school is already oversubscribed.

Some Walter Reed functions will come to Fort Belvoir.

JPI has filed new plans for the King's Crossing site; 24 percent of the proposed development would be commercial.

## RESOLUTIONS (all Planning & Zoning)

*Bellapais* passed 20-0-1.

*New Hope Church* passed 21-0-1.

*Epiphany Lutheran* passed 19-2-1.

*Lorton Valley* passed 20-0-0.

## INVITED SPEAKERS

**Environment** Chair Jim Davis introduced **John Rapphahn** of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (National Park Service), who spoke of the concert series at Fort Hunt Park that starts on June 12. The budget for the series is all donations. He gave Jim a plaque for his assistance with the series. Mr. Rapphahn just received a number of historical photos of the park and hopes to find photos of the guns in place at Fort Hunt in 1917-18.

**Consumer Affairs** Chair Queenie Cox introduced **Jeff Smithberger**, head of the County's solid waste management program. The County handles trash collection and waste disposal/recycling for 43,000 households, or 13 percent of the County. The remaining 87 percent is handled by 30 private companies. The West Ox and Lorton facilities handle 2,400 tons of waste every day, and drivers log 2 million miles per year. The Lorton facility provides electricity for 70,000 homes.

In response to citizens' comments about customer service, environment and recycling issues, during a May 2004 public hearing on solid waste collections, the Board of Supervisors appointed a Solid Waste Task Force to address those issues. The SWTF presented its report to the Board on May 23, 2005. Chair of the Task Force was Bill Lecos, head of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. County regulations for public and private haulers differ; for example, private carriers are not required to recycle if a community does not have 200 residences. If a community served by a private hauler wants the County to pick up its trash, must have at least 50 percent of its residences agreeing to County service before submitting a petition to the County for service.

The County service operates like a cooperative; fees are linked to costs. In 1990, the annual fee to a subscriber was \$240; in 1995, \$270; in 2000, \$185. It is now \$240 and will increase to \$270 in 2006. These fees are less expensive than those of the private sector. The County can achieve economies of scale that the private sector cannot match.

## CO-CHAIRS' TIME

Co-Chair Mack Rhoades thanked both speakers for their time and informative presentations. He noted that the Council would meet in the Mount Vernon Government Center in June and July. No meeting will be held in August.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

## BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget & Finance Committee did not meet this month as scheduled due to a number of scheduling conflicts and illnesses. The committee continues to focus on fighting unfunded mandates. Fall 2005 is the timeframe in which legislators will be addressing this issue. With that timetable in mind, it is the committee's intention to communicate via email this summer so that we will be ready to address this issue at that point in time. Rachel Carter of the Mount Vernon Civic Association continues to spearhead this project.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, September 7th at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room at Walt Whitman Middle School. Our focus will be to follow up on our strategies of persuading legislatures, both U.S. and Virginia, to take a close look at unfunded mandates and their financial impact on state, county and city budgets.

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The meeting scheduled for June 7th at Walt Whitman Middle School at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference room was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. due to a lack of attendees. A resolution on the Solid Waste Task Force appears elsewhere in the *Record*. This resolution is being submitted by the Chairman of the Consumer Affairs Committee. There will be no scheduled meetings until further notice.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

## EDUCATION

The Education Committee met on Wednesday, June 1, 2005, at 8 pm in the library at Whitman Middle School. Associations represented were Riverside Estates and Mount Vernon Farms.

The meeting was intended to define issues for potential small group activity over the summer and to identify the appropriate focus for the next school year.

It was the sense of the committee (those who attended and based on concerns of members expressed at other meetings) that next year we should focus on our middle and high schools, with particular reference to efforts to close the achievement gap—the primary reason our diverse schools have relatively low average scores. Included within these broad areas are concerns about continuing to increase opportunities for high achieving students, reviewing issues concerning dropout rates, and presenting a balanced picture of the actual quality of education in our local schools which, despite low average scores, continue to have large numbers of high achieving students—a fact which sometimes is not well publicized to parents or community.

The committee will also try to get an earlier start on the budget process by forming a small joint focus group with Budget & Finance committee to look at budget issues at the time when the budget is actually being shaped as opposed to when it is formally presented. This will also dovetail with both committees' expressed concerns about the impact of unfunded mandates on local resources.

Other issues that will arise will include: the plan for identification and disposition of surplus school real property; the potential implications of affordable housing initiatives and the proposed expansion of Ft. Belvoir; the 2005 School Bond Referendum, and the continuation of the administrative consolidation plan.

The committee will not meet as a group in July in August, 2005, but will meet in the small groups delineated above. Any committee member (or other interested parties) who would like to work on a small "minority achievement" group or in a joint group on budget issues should e-mail or call the Chair.

Next meeting: September 7, 2005, 8 pm. Whitman MS library

## ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

The Environment and Recreation Committee met Wednesday, June 1, at 7:30 PM in Room E-114 of Mount Vernon High School. Attending were: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mount Zephyr, Potomac Valley/River Bend Estates, Riverside Estates, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, and Woodlawn Manor.

John Thillmann, vice president of Landmark Communities, presented plans for environmental amenities and stormwater

management at the proposed Mount Vernon Gateway development, bounded by Route One, Janna Lee Ave. and Buckman Rd. Their plan proposes a gated community including several buildings of commercial and retail space, plus 430 residential units, including 120 townhouses and 310 condominium units, some of which are reserved for affordable housing and elderly residents. To reduce transportation impacts, every unit will be wired for high-speed internet and the developers will provide \$400,000 to support two shuttle vans to Metro over the first few years of occupancy. They have also offered to pay for a number of road and traffic light changes at surrounding intersections, which should further reduce congestion and thereby mitigate air quality impacts.

In addition to the 17 ac. on the Gateway site, the developers will voluntarily take responsibility for stormwater from 10.2 ac. of "car lots and junkyards" on the opposite side of Route One. The principle stormwater management feature will be a 3-ac. wet pond at the north end of the site, featuring three fountains to aerate the water and prevent eutrophication. Thillman also promised a number of innovative, "low-impact" features such as pervious parking pads, Filterra<sup>®</sup> biofiltration units, and several rain gardens. In addition, the plans retain 40 percent open space, compared to the 20 percent that would have been allowed under the proposed zoning, and the developers have proffered \$50,000 for stream restoration in Little Hunting Creek, with no restrictions on location.

However, Thillmann was unable to provide statistics to demonstrate that the proposed stormwater management features are adequate to meet the county's requirement that the project result in no net increase in peak flow, and achieve a 40-percent reduction in phosphorus loadings, compared with predevelopment conditions. Nor was he able to discuss whether this project, as currently designed, could meet the 5-percent reduction in peak flow that was recommended in the *Little Hunting Creek Watershed Management Plan* (Dec. 2004). These apparently are among the last calculations that engineers perform on a site plan, but Thillman will communicate the results to the E&R Committee as soon as they are available, along with the total square footage of residential space.

On other matters, **Riverside Estates** reminded communities near Mount Vernon Estate that this is the time of year for increased vigilance about idling buses, a major source of air pollution in this part of the district. **Spring Bank** reported that the King's Crossing development has swollen to 1,000 residential units, although the developers have said they will retain the Fairchild property as parkland. **Stratford Landing** reported that the county has scheduled a cleanup beginning June 20 for the "trashiest stream in Fairfax County," namely the stretch of Little Hunting Creek between Huntley Meadows and Route One. Followup activities will include formation of an Adopt-a-Stream organization and negotiations with the merchants along Route One whose shopping carts are a prominent feature in this much-abused streambed.

Next meeting Wednesday, July 6, 7:30 PM, Room E-114, Mount Vernon High School.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

## HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

H/HS Committee canceled its June meeting; instead, members attended one (or both) of two public Task Force meetings focused on human services issues and held at South County Center in the first week of June, both chaired by Anne Andrews. Member associations represented included: Collingwood on Potomac, Gum Springs, Hollindale, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon Manor, Stratford on Potomac-Sec.4, Sulgrave Manor, Wessynton, and Williamsburg Manor. Some key points from these meetings are summarized below. In addition, on the acute regional shortage of psychiatric beds reserved for emergency needs, please see the June 9 *Mount Vernon Voice* report on these meetings.

**The Route One Task Force for Human Services**, on June 1, explored outcomes of the state legislative session (with Del. Kris Amundsen, Del. Mark Sickles, and Sen. Toddy Puller reporting) and the County budget process for FY2006 (with Deputy County Exec. Verdia Heywood). The 2005 General Assembly acknowledged the need to increase h/h resources substantially, just to meet cost increases and maintain the current access to needed services. Adjusting Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement should help our local providers, including Mount Vernon Hospital (MVH). The County's new fiscal year (starting July 1) will provide for a number of improvements: new positions for early intervention in delayed development of infants and toddlers, new "stations" for school-age childcare in Lorton and Stratford Landing schools, and programs for medically fragile persons in our shelters, for mental health in homeless shelters, and for the Jail Diversion program to begin in July. An Advisory Council, of 31 members, chaired by Del. James Scott, will meet in late June to begin targeting kinds of/areas for Affordable Housing.

**Southeast Health Planning Task Force**, on June 2, received a report on current operations at Mount Vernon Hospital (MVH) from retiring Inova Vice President and MVH Administrator Susan Herbert. Continuing positive developments include: particular commendation, in a recent accreditation visit, for our physicians for "safe and personal care;" an increase in acute rehab beds approved for Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement; and increased usage in centers of excellence that is contributing to much-improved finances. (The May 1 financial report showed MVH to be very near "break-even" for 2005.) The newly installed "64-slice" CAT scanner, the first in the metro area, is generating publicity and much interest in the promise of fast and very clear diagnostic imagery. But, the Psych unit is experiencing difficulties, along with unprecedented demand for its (recently expanded) 30 beds, as other regional hospitals close down their Psych departments and contribute to the growing regional crisis in emergency mental health care; very ill, volatile, and even violent patients now require increased expenditure for security. Inova's VP for Strategic Planning, Pat Walters, sketched a plan to locate an Inova Healthplex—with Emergency Department sublicensed under MVH—on 14.5 acres at Lorton Road/I-95 South. More detailed Inova plans for both this Lorton healthplex and for expanded facilities at MVH are anticipated, perhaps in June.

The BRAC announcement—involving 18,000 employees to be added to Fort Belvoir and DeWitt Hospital expanding to a 165-bed facility—reverberated through all discussion of planning for

enhanced services. The most optimistic reading is that long-delayed transportation planning *must* now be expedited, for sake of the Army as well as the community. Also, Inova dialogue with Army medical planners was urged, "now."

Supervisor Hyland, participating in both meetings, described ways that BRAC will impact planning of all kinds. He noted that BRAC plans will intensify pressures here for more commercial development *and* for affordable housing preservation.

### Community meetings—open to the public

**Tuesday, July 5, MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee**, 7:30 p.m., IMVH 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room C-D. Updates, on several h/h issues: mental health emergency facilities, local proposals for affordable housing, and more. Louise Cleveland, 703/780-9151

**Thursday, Sept. 1, Southeast Health Planning Task Force**, 7 p.m., South County Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy, Rm 221C, Inova proposals for Mount Vernon Hospital and a Lorton Healthplex? Anne Andrews, Chair, 703/780-1773.

**Tuesday, September 6, MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee**, 7:30 p.m., IMVH Room C-D.

**Thursday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m., Route One Task Force for Human Services**, 7 p.m., South County Center, on the county's "Long Term Care Initiative." Anne Andrews, Convener, 703/780-1773.

## PLANNING AND ZONING

The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM. In attendance were representatives from the following associations: Engleside, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Marlin Forest, Montebello Condominiums, Mount Vernon, Newington Forest, Newington, Spring Bank, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Sulgrave Manor, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, and Williamsburg Manor North. The Committee heard three land use cases.

The first land use case was Lyndham II, rezoning application RZ 2003-MV-060 in the 9000 block of Telegraph Road, tax map 108-1 ((1)) 12-16, 108-1 ((3)) 1,2,2A. This project is to rezone 12.79 acres from R-1 to PDH-8 to build 42 town homes and 32 detached homes and providing 35% open space. This is a continuation of Lyndham Hill I to the south. It was previously before P&Z in May 2004, and has worked to resolve staff concerns. The Committee voted to oppose.

The second case was Brookfield Ridge, rezoning application RZ 2005-MV-001, 8207 Ridge Road, tax map 89-4 ((1)) 56, 57A and 69. This is a rezoning from R-1 to PDH-2 with a resulting density of 1.99 dwelling units per acre to build 22 single-family detached homes on approximately 11 acres. PC date July 13, 2005. Middle Valley CA has not had time to review current plan, especially concerning the stormwater runoff on the downhill neighbors. Information only, no vote was taken.

The third case was a return appearance for Groveton Heights for RZ 2004-LE-012, 2999 Memorial Drive at Richmond Highway, 92-2 ((1)) 0013A. This is a Lee District rezoning of 4.59 acres from C-3 to PRM to build a mixed office, retail and residential development.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

The Council previously opposed this project in November 2004. They returned for plan changes, discussion of the proffer statement, and to get feedback from the Mount Vernon District. The greatest lingering concerns were about stormwater (green roofs requested by P&Z), lack of adequate parking for the residential units, and the request that the Council be contacted if the design plans are changed. No vote was taken.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:45PM. NOTE MEETING CHANGE: The next meeting is Monday, June 11, 2005 at 7:30PM in the Community Rooms of the Mt. Vernon Government Center, across the street from Whitman Middle School.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

Associations represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon Civic, Potomac Valley River Bend, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Stratford Landing, and Waynewood.

Our speaker for the evening was David Jacobs, Director of Outpatient Services, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services, Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board (CSB). His presentation concerned the Fairfax Jail Diversion Coalition which will become operational on July 1, 2005. The coalition was put together by the Fairfax County Police, Sheriff's office, magistrates, judges, the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board, and private and county mental health facilities. It was formed to develop community-based options for a coordinated response to individuals with mental illness who have committed minor, non-violent offenses. In particular, it concerns the diversion of persons with mental illness to treatment rather than jail where there are no services for the mentally ill. The coalition comprises the criminal justice and human service systems of Fairfax County including the cities of Fairfax, Falls Church, and the towns of Clifton, Herndon and Vienna. A jail diversion work group was formed from these organizations to identify and gather data on the local picture/problem. They defined the population to be served by jail diversion. They identified outcomes and measures to evaluate success. They then agreed upon and developed a pre-booking diversion model. The group then checked in with the stakeholders for reactions to the model. It was then presented to the sponsors for approval. Implementation was then planned for the model. Funding was then requested for inclusion in the FY2006 Budget.

The population to be served is adults (18 years and older) displaying behaviors associated with a serious mental disorder who have apparently committed a misdemeanor offense within the CSB service area as judged by the police officer on-scene. The Pre-Booking Model has a diversion occurring at the point of contact with law enforcement officers before formal charges are brought. This relies heavily on effective interactions between police and community mental health services. The outcomes desired are (1) reduced number of arrests of the target population, (2) reduced rate of criminal recidivism among the target population, (3) improved access to

treatment for them, (4) reduced officer time to clear calls for them, (5) increased officer comfort level with responding to mental health emergencies, (6) decreased law enforcement/criminal justice system cost for responding to the mentally ill, (7) active connection to wrap-around support for those who need it, and (8) improved consumer and family member satisfaction with system response.

There will be a team of police officers trained in crisis intervention (CIT). An initial group of 30 police officer, sheriff's deputies, and public safety communications staff received 40 hours of specialized crisis intervention training during the week of June 6-10. These CIT officers will be available to respond and serve as a resource for cases when mental illness is suspected.

Effective July 1, 2005, the staff at the Assessment & Triage Center (ATC), located within the Woodburn Mental Health Center, will respond to persons diverted by police. Emergency staff will screen and assess these persons to make safe clinical disposition of them. A jail diversion case manager will be assigned to each within 24 hours. A police officer will be assigned at the ATC between 2pm and 8am to accept custody for each person brought in so that the initial police officer can return to his/her normal duties.

Further, an intensive case management team comprised of two case managers and a team leader, funded by the CSB, will provide intensive case management activities in response to the person's needs. This team will address basic need areas of housing, shelter, food, medical care, family contact, etc. There are many challenges for this team. These include limited amounts of public housing, shelter, and a lack of permanent supported housing. The biggest challenge is the decline in the number of mental health beds in the northern Virginia area.

A part of this effort includes the diversion of publicly intoxicated persons (DIP) to detox treatment rather than going to jail. In 2004, 3983 persons were arrested for being drunk in public. In the first quarter of this year, 773 were arrested. Police officers' time get tied up in arresting these persons. Deputy sheriffs are involved in booking these persons at the jail. New DUI law mandates jail time for many DUI cases. Detox Diversion will be effective July 1, 2005. It will be funded by the Sheriff, CSB, and the Police. Individuals must voluntarily agree to diversion from arrest. (Individuals not eligible for diversion are those with other warrants and those who are violent or uncooperative). There will be two detox diversion teams providing support for the police from 5pm until 2am Tuesday through Saturday - the hours with the highest incidence of police calls. One of these teams will operate in the Huntington/northern Richmond Hwy area. Persons who are eligible and elect to go to detox vice jail will receive on-scene assessment and diversion to either the Detoxification Center in Chantilly or Alexandria Regional Detoxification Center - whichever is more convenient. Services will be arranged and provided to assist these persons to overcome their alcoholism.

The Public Safety Committee's next meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 7, in Community Room #3, Mount Vernon Governmental Center.

# THE COMMITTEE reports

## TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met on June 6, 2005 in the Media Center of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Attending were: Mr. Earl Flanagan, Mount Vernon District Transportation Commissioner; Mr. Robert Brubaker of Metroped; and representatives of 21 MVCCA member associations (Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View Condo, Berkshire, Collingwood Springs, Fair Haven, Gum Springs, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Marlan Forest Heights, Montebello, Mount Zephyr, New Gun Springs, Newington Forest, Riverside Estates, Southwood, Stratford on the Potomac, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wessynton, Woodland Park).

Mr. Bruce Taylor of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) provided a presentation on Community Parking Districts. If a community desires restrictions, the process requires a petition indicating at least 60% in favor of the restriction, which then is presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Parking restrictions at FCDOT are aligned with traffic signage, commercial vehicle parking and photo red lights. No special requirements are needed to control the parking of trucks weighing over 12,000 lbs and garbage trucks on residential streets; that is prohibited by law. Enforcement of parking restrictions is difficult since rules change frequently, police are not well versed in changes and parking tickets in residential neighborhoods are frequently negated by judges. Ticketing is usually accomplished on the basis of the complaint of a resident. Residential Permit Parking was started in 1982 near Metro Stations to preclude commuters from parking all day in adjacent neighborhoods. Residents receive parking passes for

their own vehicles and can apply for one additional visitor's pass – but only one. Signage is expensive and the desires of communities differ. Also, red light cameras are expensive and current fines do not cover the expense of their installation. The current law authorizing their placement expires June 30, this year. Attempts to revoke the sunset provision failed in the legislature.

An update on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project was presented. Originally, the fly-over design for a Telegraph Road connection with the Beltway was rejected due to a lack of funds. However, Supervisor Hyland has found some funding and the design is now back for consideration. A public meeting is scheduled for June 15, 5:30 PM – 9 PM at the Burgundy Elementary School to discuss construction concepts for the interchange.

Earl Flanagan presented 22 items from the 1997 MVCCA resolution which addressed the then needed changes of the Comprehensive Plan, to select those which needed to be resubmitted. General consensus was obtained with a vote of 17 Yes, 0 No, and 2 Abstentions. A new, updating resolution will be considered at the next meeting.

The Pedestrian Safety Resolution, printed elsewhere in the *Record*, was discussed and passed unanimously, as changed with a vote of 17 : 0 : 0.

The next meeting of the Committee has been scheduled for TUESDAY, July 5, at 8 PM, to be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Mount Vernon Government Center in view of the holiday and school closure. Agenda to be determined.

# THE COMMITTEE resolutions

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY RESOLUTION

*referred to committee?*

**WHEREAS**, In the past, VDOT has not placed emphasis on pedestrian safety.

**WHEREAS**, Money is presently available in support of pedestrian safety measures.

**WHEREAS**, A comprehensive pedestrian safety program according to widely acceptable standards must accomplish the three E's; i.e. Engineering, Education and Enforcement.

**WHEREAS**, In view of a series of serious accidents on Richmond Highway involving pedestrians, the police have recently resorted to Enforcement action by ticketing pedestrians who were observed in unsafe acts, interfering with the flow of traffic; such action, however, is being taken without concomitant and supporting Engineering intervention which would assist pedestrians to cross safely.

**WHEREAS**, It is a known fact of life, that pedestrians will not walk extended distances to reach a crosswalk when they need to cross the street.

**WHEREAS**, Under Virginia law, pedestrians are authorized to cross streets and highways anywhere, as long as they do not interfere with traffic.

**WHEREAS**, Under Virginia law, when a pedestrian is hit by a car while crossing a street or highway apart from a painted crosswalk, it is the presumption that he/she was interfering with traffic.

**WHEREAS**, Under Virginia law, a vehicle is not obligated to stop for a pedestrian attempting to cross on a painted crosswalk, apart from a signalized intersection, on a highway where the speed limit is in excess of 35 MPH, such as on Richmond Highway.

**WHEREAS**, At currently available painted crosswalks on Richmond Highway, situated apart from signalized intersections, such as the crosswalk at Highland Lane, there exists no safety island even though the speed limit is set at 45 MPH.

**WHEREAS**, A painted crosswalk across Richmond Highway, away from signalized intersections, where the speed limit is 45 MPH, provides a false sense of security to a pedestrian, since vehicles retain the right of way, thereby negating any increased safety.

**WHEREAS**, No safe crossings are available for pedestrians on large stretches of Richmond Highway, even at some bus stop locations or at the Herbert Harris (new Engleside) Post Office; specifically, no safety island exists which could facilitate a safe crossing in mid-block.

**WHEREAS**, Adjoining jurisdictions, such as the District of Columbia have taken extraordinary measures such as placing warning signs in medians and posting red flags at crosswalks; no such ingenuity has been observed in Fairfax County.

**WHEREAS**, Efforts over the past years by the Safe Crossing entity and the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen Associations, to install safety islands and lighted crosswalks on certain stretches on Richmond Highway, have met with negative results.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mount Vernon Police Commander recommend engineering interventions on Richmond Highway where such an effort could reduce pedestrian traffic violations and increase pedestrian safety. Interventions should help provide safer pedestrian crossings to all bus stops and other major pedestrian locations such as grocery stores, schools, medical facilities and the Post Office.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the Board of Supervisors instructs VDOT to:

- Install safety islands in support of known pedestrian crossing locations apart from signalized intersections at all locations identified by police.
- Install four painted crosswalks, one on each side, at all critical signalized intersections, such as exist on Richmond Highway
- Provide highlighting with high visibility pavement designs, flags, street signs and/or lighting to alert drivers of location of crosswalks apart from signalized intersections.
- Install signs advising motorists of need to yield to pedestrians at painted crosswalks, stating: State Law Requires Yield to Pedestrians.
- Install Jersey Barriers at locations where attempts by pedestrians to cross would be particularly hazardous.

f. Initiate an effective pedestrian safety education program, targeting primarily non-English speaking citizens.

g. Eliminate all existing mid-block crosswalks where speed limit exceeds 35MPH.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT**, VDOT, pending engineering, funding and other administrative matters leading to permanent installations, provide an immediate pilot project, using only paint, to display safety island and turning lane arrangement on the road surface at the Herbert Harris Post Office/Wyngate Housing Project location on Richmond Highway, or at such other location preferred by VDOT. Such pilot project is meant to present a sample installation for other locations along the highway.

## SOLID WASTE TASK FORCE RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors appointed the Solid Waste Task Force to work towards resolving waste collection issues related to service quality, competition, air emissions from trucks, safety, disaster and emergency response, unified recycling activities and other issues that may be specified by the (BOS); and

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Task Force (SWTF) went beyond its mandate by studying the privatization of Fairfax County (County) trash collection services; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWTF stated in its November 30, 2004 minutes that county residents would have an opportunity to comment on the report before delivery to the BOS; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWTF did not allow county residents to comment on the report before delivery to the BOS; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWTF report discusses certain benefits for private haulers to obtain more county residents as clients; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWTF acknowledged that the fees paid by county residents who obtain solid waste and recycling services from the County "covers the total cost of the county collection services" and that no funds from the General Fund are used.

**WHEREAS**, the SWTF report does not address the impact on public streets that may require additional road maintenance because of multiple pick ups by private trucks; and

**WHEREAS**, the SWTF recommendation does not address the increase traffic generated from private trucks on county streets; and

**WHEREAS**, the County does not have oversight authority for contractors who do not work for the County while providing collection and recycling services to County residents; and

**WHEREAS**, there is no regulatory or oversight authority or standardization of customer services for private haulers, who may raise prices at will, overcharge customers and/or provide inadequate or poor service; and

**WHEREAS**, the County operates its services as a cooperative and has established quality customer service communications with its customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the County currently acts as a mediator between private haulers and county residents to resolve customer service issues; and

**WHEREAS**, there is an inequitable number of private haulers in certain areas within the County; and

**WHEREAS**, a growing number of communities across Fairfax County are petitioning for County provided trash removal services.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations request that the Mount Vernon Magisterial District Supervisor convey to the BOS that Mount Vernon residents oppose the elimination, reduction or privatization of solid waste and recycling services currently provided by the County.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the BOS implement a mechanism, to include changing certain requirements of Fairfax County Code Chapter 109, if necessary, that would provide the County oversight authority for all solid waste and recycling activities in the County.

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

For period from January 1, 2005 through June 9, 2005

	Budget 2005	Actual to Date	Budget to Actual (to date)
Balance Beginning Period		\$2,868.84	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Dues	\$4,653.00	\$4,296.00	-\$357.00
Record Subscriptions	\$480.00	\$345.00	-\$135.00
Gala Income	\$3,475.00	\$2,570.00	-\$905.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$8,608.00</b>	<b>\$7,211.00</b>	<b>-\$1,397.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Record Expenses	\$4,508.00	\$2,245.10	\$2,262.90
Administrative	\$389.00	\$462.18	-\$73.18
Gala	\$2,743.00	\$1,216.28	\$1,526.72
Web Site	\$690.00	\$405.00	\$285.00
Membership	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Record Postage	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$8,805.00</b>	<b>\$4,528.56</b>	<b>\$4,276.44</b>
Balance Ending Period 6/9/05		\$5,551.28	

**COMMITTEE CALENDAR  
FOR JULY 2005**

**MVCCA Board-MVGC-SUPV Thurs, July 14, 8:00 pm**

Date/Day/Time	Comm.	Place	Chair	Phone
7/5 T 7:30	H/HS	IMVH-C	Louise Cleveland	703.780.9151
9/7 W 7:30	COAF	WWMS-PCR	Queenie Cox	703.360.2414
9/7 W 7:30	BUDG	WWMS MC	George Bauer	703.768.1774
7/6 W 7:30	ENVR	MVHSE114	Jim Davis	703.799.3278
9/7 W 8:00	EDUC	WWMS L	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
7/7 Th 7:30	PSAF	MVGC	Dallas Shawkey	703.360.2185
7/5 T 8:00	TRANS	MVGC	Frank Cohn	703.780.5698
7/11 M 7:30	PL/Z	MVGC	David Dale	703.765.8247

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