



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

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Record

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NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday October 26, 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	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
SAHC	Jerry Ireland	703.768.6923

PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday September 28, 8 PM
Walt Whitman Middle School Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

MINUTES

Organizations Represented: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on the Potomac, Collingwood Springs, Crosspointe, Gum Springs, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Mount Vernon, Newington, Newington Forest, Potomac Valley – Riverbend, River Towers, Riverside Estates, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Sulgrave Manor, United Voice of King's Cross, Villamay, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor North

BRAC PUBLIC INFORMATION PANEL

How will the Mount Vernon District cope with 18,000 new jobs at Fort Belvoir as a part of Base Realignment and Closure? Representatives of the Board of Supervisors, VDOT, Public Schools Facilities Planning, and Fort Belvoir will speak out and answer questions at a public open meeting in the Walt Whitman Middle School Jack Knowles Lecture Hall, on Thursday, November 17th, at 7:30 pm. You are invited to this meeting sponsored by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations and the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations.

CANDIDATES NIGHT

Candidates standing for elections this year can be heard at Stratford Landing's "Candidates Night," Stratford Landing Elementary School, Thursday, October 27th, starting at 9 p.m., following the regular association meeting

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee membership is: Patrick Rea, Queenie Cox, Earl Flanagan, Jim Davis, David Dale. Nominations for officership in the MVCCA will be welcomed. The election will be held at the November, 2005 Council meeting.

NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Because the date of the November Council meeting normally would fall on Wednesday, November 23rd, Thanksgiving Eve, the meeting will be held one evening prior thereto, Tuesday, November 22nd.

GOLF TOURNAMENT REMINDER

The Mount Vernon Community Golf Tournament will be held, as scheduled, Monday, October 24th. Questions? Phone Bryan Armstrong 703-780-3585 or Pete van Belt, 703-780-8700.

THE RECORD ▶ OCTOBER 2005
Nov. 2 7:30pm SCC Transportation
policy changes for Comp. Plan.

THE COUNCIL minutes

Opening Remarks. The meeting began at 8:03 p.m., Co-Chair Errol Bergsagel presiding. The minutes and treasurer's report were approved. The planned agenda was revised to permit Supervisor Gerry Hyland to speak first and to allow the Planning and Zoning Chair to give the Committee's report out of the normal sequence.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES' TIME

Supervisor Hyland distributed Board Matter documents and discussed various issues:

- **Completion of Fairfax County Parkway.** The Supervisor was advised that it would take 900 days to clean up Site 27. He has prepared a letter to the Secretary of Transportation advising to go around that site and then readjust. This roadway is critical given the BRAC recommendations.
- **Engleside Post Office Access.** The Board of Supervisors (BOS) has authorized public hearings to add a left-turn lane from Route 1 to the Engleside Post Office.
- **Verizon Cable Agreement.** The BOS has authorized staff to enter into an agreement with Verizon to provide cable service for the County in late 2005. Both Cox and Comcast indicated their support for this. The same standards will prevail that are in place for other providers.
- **Annual Plan Review.** A total of 45 nominations will be reviewed by the Planning Commission. Co-Chair Mack Rhoades and Tim Sergeant of Crosspointe will shepherd the nominations forward.
- **Route 1 Revitalization Meeting.** The Urban Land Institute will meet with County Economic and Community Development officials on October 5 and 6 to discuss the future of the corridor.
- **Economic Development Authority Bus Tour.** Prospective developers will tour Franconia and the Route 1 corridor with Supervisors Hyland and Kauffman to review available potential sites.
- **Possible Marriott Hotels.** Woodlawn Plantation is negotiating with Marriott for a 154-room Residence Inn at the south end of the plantation. This will work only if a proposed 40-foot land exchange with Fort Belvoir takes place. A possible hotel/conference center near the IMP Building next to the main entrance is also under discussion.
- **Lorton Healthplex.** An out-of-turn plan amendment will be considered for a site behind Lorton Elementary School.

- **Tax Relief for Seniors.** As noted in the press release distributed to the Council, a public hearing to increase asset and income limits to match State limits will be held October 17.
- **Questions.** Asked about a possible proffer for lite rail by Marriott to its new (proposed) hotels, Supervisor Hyland said most of the Congressional delegation agrees that some sort of rail is required if the BRAC proposal to expand Fort Belvoir is to work. Federal funding is essential for this. It was noted that officials of the future Army Museum always believed that additional rail would be required for that facility to be successful. Proposed rail construction timetables must be accelerated.

Supervisor Hyland noted that a certain Fredericksburg man is no longer selling permits to construct duck blinds along Little Hunting Creek. The "goose poop" law that prompted this is a "classic example of citizens working their will on the body politic."

Regarding the status of the unfinished Safeway on Route 1, VDOT is building two poles to rectify the fact that the building was designed with no way to bring electricity to the site.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning and Zoning. Chair David Dale referenced the minutes as published in the last issue of the *Record* (hereinafter, the *Record*) and presented three resolutions.

- *Halley Farm.* The resolution passed 22-0-1.
- *Huntington Mews.* The resolution passed 23-0-2.
- *Sprint Cell Tower.* The resolution passed 25-0-0.

Budget and Finance. The annual meeting with senior County budget and finance representatives will be held October 5. Issues the committee will address include how land is assessed; unfunded mandates (\$1 billion is mandated for the County; only \$400 million is funded); the \$47 million unallocated carryover; increasing the stabilization fund; and analysis of asset and income issues for seniors.

Consumer Affairs. Chair Queenie Cox referenced the Committee's minutes published in the *Record*. Association Presidents are encouraged to send representatives to Committee meetings. The Committee is looking into the use of restrooms at Metro stations. Federal law now permits an individual to receive a free annual copy of his or her current credit report from each of the three credit

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reporting companies. Call 1-800-877-8228 or go to www.annualcreditreport.com. Co-Chair Al Bornmann noted that the reports can be printed from this website, and requesting an annual report does not count as one of the six occurrences that are allowed before an individual's credit score is reduced as a result of multiple (e.g., six or more) report requests.

Education. Chair Judy Harbeck referenced the minutes as published in the *Record*. The principals of West Potomac High School and Carl Sandburg Middle School will meet with the Committee in October.

Fairfax Federation. Representative Judy Harbeck said the Federation will hold a meeting on BRAC on November 17 at Whitman School. A joint meeting with the Council will also be held. She noted that the Army paid to build schools on base. Most children at Fort Belvoir schools participate in the free or reduced-cost lunch programs.

Environment and Recreation. Chair Jim Davis referenced the minutes as published in the *Record*. Participants are needed for the Belle Haven and Dogue Creek Watershed studies. He has referred the Weatherburn stream reclassification issue to Supervisor Hyland; the main issue is how the reclassification task was performed. Designation methodologies should be the same as those used initially.

Health and Human Services. Chair Louise Cleveland said the Committee is following several strategic planning efforts this year: Inova's plans for Mount Vernon Hospital/Lorton Healthplex, regional crises in hospital and community services for mental health, and county strategy for long-term care services and for affordable housing. She also reported on the sparse public description (and uncertainty) of Inova's plans, as reported to the community Task Force on Sept. 27. Budget Chair George Bauer asked for and Supervisor Hyland agreed to provide an interim report in November or December on the status of the \$17.9 million set-aside for affordable housing.

Public Safety. Co-Chair Bornmann, speaking for Chair Dallas Shawkey, referenced the minutes as published and noted that pedestrian safety is a major issue for the Committee. The bicycle trail on Fort Hunt Road along Belle Haven Country Club is too narrow and too close to the road; it does not comply with what was promised.

Transportation. Chair Frank Cohn said that VDOT is reluctant to get involved in safety issues along Route 1 and Old Mill Road. A Woodrow Wilson Bridge engineer expressed concerns about the

Telegraph Road flyover at a recent meeting. A homeowner on Lukens Lane raised the question of sidewalks along Old Mill Road. Supervisor Hyland will revisit the history of proffers for this sidewalk. It was noted that a task force intended to study the issue of speeding along Morningside Lane was never convened; Supervisor Hyland said he would push for this. Further discussion followed concerning the sidewalk and trail along Belle Haven Country Club. The lack of a pedestrian crossing light at Shields Avenue and Route 1 was discussed.

BOARD MEMBER TIME

Co-Chair Bergsagel said the three Co-Chairs had appointed a **Special Committee on Affordable Housing**. Page 7 of the *Record* provides a statement of high-level functions (in conformance with Council bylaws) for the Committee; a longer list will be provided at the October meeting. The Committee will provide a mission statement.

The Annual Meeting of the Council will take place in November. **Nominating Committee** members will be Queenie Cox, Pat Rea, David Dale (absent), Earl Flanagan, and Jim Davis.

Concerning the **Health and Human Services resolution** referenced on page 5 of the *Record*, the Special Committee on Affordable Housing had already been established when the resolution reached the Board of Directors. The latter portion of the resolution was incorporated into the Committee's statement of function. The first part of the resolution has been returned to the Committee for reuse.

NEW BUSINESS.

Earl Flanagan noted that County staff is looking at revisions to parking requirements for detached and multi-family houses.

The 38th annual Candidate's Night at Stratford Landing School will be held on Thursday, October 27 at 9:00 p.m. (Doors will open at 8:30 p.m.)

Jerry Ireland said that a pre-committee meeting on Affordable Housing will be held on October 11 to prepare a mission statement and attend to other business. The Committee would like to meet on the second Tuesday of each month, because it needs input from other committees that meet during the first week of the month.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget & Finance Committee met on October 5th at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School. In attendance were representatives of Hollin Hills, Potomac Valley / River Bend, Stratford on the Potomac (Section IV), Stratford Landing, Williamsburg Manor and Wessington Homes home owner associations.

Un-funded Mandates Reform Act of 1995

In his June 28, 2005 letter posted to Fairfax County's website, the County Executive, Anthony Griffin details that the County has some \$1,078 million in mandated funding for which the County receives \$497 million in revenue leaving the County to fund the remaining \$582 million as "un-funded mandates." Stated another way, in 2005, the County must fund 54% of the mandated projects as opposed to 52% in 2004. This document along with a complete listing of the mandated projects can be found at: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/>. The MVCCA Budget and Finance Committee notes that categorizing some of the line items as un-funded mandates is a "push" in some instances. This leads us to believe that the size of the problem may be overstated. Regardless, the trend in mandates is clear.

Land Assessment Rates

The MVCCA Budget and Finance Committee continues to explore the relationship between zoned density and assessment rates. The Committee believes that higher density land should be taxed at higher levels to compensate for the higher level of services received on a relative basis. Janet Coldsmith, Director of the Real Estate Division of Fairfax's Department of Taxation, will be our guest at our December 7th meeting when we plan to discuss this concept along with general real estate taxation procedures.

Homestead Exemption based on 25 Years of Ownership

The concept of the "Homestead Exemption" was revisited. Rather than exempting only the first \$100,000 of assessed value, the discussion focused on exempting homes completely that had been owned for 25 years or more. Celia Boertlein has since provided information from the U. S. Census Bureau that this type of exemption would exempt pretty close to one third of all homeowners.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in the Principal's Conference Room at Walt Whitman Middle School. Barbara Emerson, Fairfax County Budget Specialist, and Marsh Wilds, Fairfax County Revenue Specialist will be our guests. This is always an informative meeting and one not to be missed.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The October 2005 MVCCA Consumer Affairs Committee (COAF) meeting was on Tuesday the 4th, at 7:30 PM in the Principal's Conference Room of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Attending the meeting were representatives of: Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon Lakes, Mount Zephyr, Potomac Valley/River Bend, Hollindale, and Stratford Landing associations; and guests: Robert Brubaker and Pat Davis of Metroped, and Stephen Snell of "Metro Riders for Restroom Access".

The meeting's main topic was the routine lack of access to public restrooms in Fairfax County WAMATA Metro Stations. After a round of discussion starting off with the background of the issue by Robert Brubaker, and an outline by Stephen Snell of his August experiment on the availability of public restrooms on the Metro system, COAF Committee members drafted a resolution addressed to our Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) for consideration by the Transportation Committee and Public Safety Committee during their November meetings. It is envisioned that we will present the coordinated resolution at the November MVCCA Board meeting for inclusion in the Record and for consideration by the General Council during the November meeting.

Discussion continued about the probable increase in home heating costs this coming winter due to the dual hurricanes that have wreaked havoc on the gas/oil industry in the Gulf of Mexico. Local utility companies are providing hints to consumers on how they can use less energy and perhaps not use as much energy as they did in the past. Some are offering "budget" plans, freezing utility rates for a 12 month period at a fixed, established cost based on last years usage.

The next meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee (COAF) will be on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2005 at 7:30 PM in the Principal's Conference Room of the Walt Whitman Middle School. The Agenda will be: The above WAMATA METRO Restroom Resolution and other topics as brought by the membership. Remember Polls will close at 7PM in Fairfax County.....make sure to get out and VOTE, and then come to the COAF Committee meeting.

EDUCATION

The Education Committee met at 8 pm, October 5, 2005, in the library at Whitman Middle School. Representatives of the following associations attended: Gum Springs, Sulgrave Manor, Hollin Hills, Stratford Landing, Williamsburg Manor North, Mt. Vernon Farms, and Riverside Estates. Additionally, representatives of Mt. Vernon Civic and Waynewood voted on the Resolution by e-mail. Presenters were Principal Rima Vesilind, and Assistant Principal Nancy Kreloff, from West Potomac High School, and Principal Donna Pasteur and Assistant Principal Wendy Eaton, representing Carl Sandburg Middle School.

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The main purpose of the meeting was to get a sense of the “State of the Pyramid” with respect to West Potomac and Sandburg with particular reference to areas which need additional resources and support. This theme will be continued at the November meeting with representatives of Mount Vernon High School and Walt Whitman Middle School in the expectation of developing a common theme of needs to be addressed.

In that regard, Ms. Vesilind, gave a slide presentation which pointed out some of the notable achievements and successes at West Potomac including continued student success in the National Merit Scholarship program, SAT and Advanced Placement program participation and scores. She particularly singled out the performing arts areas for many excellent performances and the social studies department for innovative programs including publishing compendiums of student essays, which are available for purchase by the public. West Potomac is fully accredited and although the school overall made Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) under the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), some subsets did not and the school continues to address what is a nationwide problem of underachievement by poor, minority and immigrant children.

The committee was also pleased to hear that Ms. Vesilind (and Ms. Pasteur as well) reported that our schools are receiving significant and helpful attention from both the Cluster 4 Office and the school system’s Department of Instructional Services with regard to implementing and evaluating programs, providing teacher support, and disseminating information on best practices and successful programs from other schools. The committee was also relieved to hear that county statistics showing WP had very high dropout rates were largely the result of a reporting error.

Ms. Vesilind also reported that WP’s enrollment is now about the same as last year—about 2000—which puts the school at full capacity, with every room in use every period and many teachers therefore without a “home” classroom. A continuing problem is a pattern of late registrations which causes staffing issues in the first weeks of school.

Safety and security concerns remain due to WP’s unique multi-building campus but increased staff vigilance, changes in traffic patterns and assigned parking spaces have enabled better control and identification of visitors, authorized or otherwise. The lack of a sidewalk on Quander Road contributes to safety concerns as students must walk in the street. While every secondary school in the County has some gang members (or wannabes), there is zero tolerance for any gang (or other inappropriate) activity, and offenders are quickly removed from school and school premises.

Ms. Pasteur reiterated the zero tolerance policy and both principals reported that discipline and school morale have been improved by implementation of the Positive Behavior Intervention Services

(PBIS) program which emphasizes positive interaction and mutual respect, with a clear instruction and delineation of behaviors expected.

Ms. Pasteur went on to note that Sandburg’s enrollment is slightly down, to about 1078, which is consistent with a slight downturn in middle school enrollment county-wide. Sandburg benefits from its original construction as a high school so that it is not overcrowded and each teacher has an assigned classroom, as well as other facilities not usually present in a middle school.

Sandburg also has reached full accreditation status and, in addition, made AYP this year. To improve test scores and achieve AYP, particularly in the subsets of students who historically struggled, Sandburg carefully analyzed scores so that all staff could see problem areas, and set manageable goals for improvement based on “Safe Harbor” requirements. Ms. Pasteur also noted that in January, they will implement a state-funded Algebra awareness program to improve performance in 9th grade Algebra (which tends to include weaker math students due to increased 8th grade Algebra enrollment and emphasis). Afterschool programs, as part of the anti-gang/Safe Kids, and including both academic and recreational components, have been very successful and well attended. Sandburg also has a small afterschool pilot program (extending past 6 pm) which is run by the County’s Parks and Recreation Department.

Both principals saw a need for increased technology; at both schools, existing computer labs (mobile or fixed) are in constant use but do not meet demand. Ms. Vesilind particularly noted that additional computers in classrooms (some have only one) would be useful to make optimal use of available instructional programs and improve the quality of differentiated services. It was also hoped that the system would soon provide laptops to secondary teachers, as has been done for elementary school teachers, since this would greatly improve communication and productivity.

Ms. Pasteur also noted that staffing high poverty schools with additional teacher support such as instructional coaches and other specialists (or increasing each school’s “discretionary” instructional services budget so schools could meet their own unique needs) would be highly beneficial. She stated that, after seeing the positive effects of instructional coaches on improving instruction and teacher performance at other schools, she was able to hire an instructional coach by restructuring some staffing. While she was pleased by the result, such flexibility is limited and comes at a price to other resources and, to some extent, optimal class size. This was also echoed by Ms. Vesilind.

On other matters, the Committee discussed the upcoming School Bond Referendum, and unanimously adopted a Resolution, printed elsewhere in the RECORD for consideration at the next Council meeting, encouraging a “Yes” vote in November.

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The Chair announced (1) a Cluster IV Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting on November 10, 2005, and encouraged members to urge PTA officers and others to attend; (2) the first meeting of the MVCCA Affordable Housing Committee on October 11, 2005, which Lois Passman agreed to attend as education committee liaison, and (3) the joint meeting of MVCCA and the Fairfax Federation on November 17, 2005, concerning, among other things, potential education impacts of Ft Belvoir expansion under BRAC recommendations (see also meeting description elsewhere in this RECORD).

Committee member Connie Lorentzen reported that the Superintendent's Office is continuing to look at streamlining and reorganizing of citizen advisory committees and that the School Board, in its continuing efforts to improve accountability, may implement a "policy governance" business model. It is unclear at this time what the implications may be.

Next meeting: November 2, 2005, 8pm Whitman MS library
Speakers: Eric Brent, Principal, MVHS
Otha Davis, Principal, WMS

ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

The Environment and Recreation Committee met Wed, Oct 5, 7:30 PM, Room E-114, Mt Vernon High School. Attending were: Hollin Hall Village (2), Mt Vernon Civic, Mt Vernon Manor (also: Co-chair MVCCA), Mt Vernon on the Potomac, Newington Forest, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington, Wessynton and one interested citizen.

An Historic Designated District nomination, is requested for inclusion on the National Historic Register, of approximately 512 acres at the Old Lorton Prison Site. About 190 buildings and structures contribute to the particular historic period target. Contributing buildings include the Reformatory, the Main Facility, the Workhouse Arts Center and many, many more structures and buildings significant to the operation and development of this former prison site. The Committee heard a presentation from Neil McBride. If this District becomes included on the National Register, Federal and State Tax Incentives could be offered for adaptive re-use of this designated district. The tax incentives, as Fairfax County Staff estimated, could be as high as \$20 Million. The Committee voted 7-0-2 to approve of this nomination. See resolutions.

Several Committee members spoke of their relationship to the Prison. Amazingly enough, no committee member claimed to be a former resident. This issue goes before the Board of Supervisors on Oct 17, 2005.

Opposition to this nomination from the area immediately across Silverbrook Road was also noted. There was no one attending from that area.

Lukens Lane development's newest plan was heard. The Committee voted 9-0-1 to disapprove of the presented plan.

The Committee referred to MV Voice newspaper and victim accounts of the reported cutting of trees in the Resource Protection Area. The Committee was supplied with current information regarding Fairfax County Ordinance and State Law. The Committee, while appalled by the activity, believed that there may be enough laws on the books but little backbone to enforce it. The Committee will examine previous illegal RPA activities and see what solution resulted.

Next meeting Nov 2, 7:30 PM, Room E-114, Mt Vernon High School.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

The Committee met Oct. 4, in order to focus on "Fairfax County's Long-Term Care Initiative: What strategies will strengthen the available choices for all residents of Mount Vernon District who will seek long-term care services for themselves or for a family member or friend? The committee also received updates on (1) Katrina evacuees in Fairfax County, (2) the quarterly community task force meeting on Inova's hospital/healthplex planning, and (3) MVCCA's organizing of an affordable housing "special committee."

Participating with keen interest were 12 MVCCA representatives—from Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on Potomac, Hollindale, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Zephyr, Stratford on Potomac, Stratford on Potomac-Sec. 4, Sulgrave Manor, and Wessynton—joined by 1 additional interested citizen and 3 guests invited as resources.

Representing the county's citizen advisory *Long-Term Care Coordinating Council* were *Karen Brown* (also executive director of Brain Injury Services, Inc.) and *Kay Larmer*, LTCCC staff liaison to the County Executive's office. Updating us on County response to those arriving from the Gulf Coast areas was Regional Manager for Human Services (for Region I) *Ken Disselkoen*. The HHS chair reported on health planning and affordable housing issues.

County response to Katrina

The county home page now features a valuable information resources link for both evacuees and the general public (www.fairfaxcounty.gov) and telephone hotline to provide assistance (703 817-7771). In addition to emergency rescue teams, Fairfax sent 3 teams to help with setting up and managing disaster relief in Gulf Coast areas. Meanwhile (by Oct. 1), roughly 1500 people have arrived from devastated areas. Family situation, financial circumstances, and job skills, vary widely. Many first arrivals found shelter with relatives or friends; later, groups from D.C. Armory were placed in hotels. Most are seeking or have found jobs—some

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were hired as teachers or bus drivers for county schools. About 175 school children are enrolled; PTAs have provided school supplies and other assistance. Red Cross supplies registrants with \$360 and hotel money for a month; individuals and faith communities contribute furniture, clothing, etc. The county has issued 374 families food stamps and E-Medicaid cards; human services coordination with area services is ongoing. Predictably, finding housing is the big challenge, and elderly are hardest to place. Individuals and organizations able to provide a home or other specific assistance are urged to contact the Adopt a Family program through the hotline above. UCM is one of three agencies countywide assigned to perform follow-up case management. Outpouring of disaster aid is impressive, but local agencies need continuing cash contributions to keep up with their expanded role in emergency and transitional assistance. UCM's phone for disaster relief is 703-768-7106; their web page lists (non-cash) current needs, www.ucmagency.org.

Planning for Hospital & Healthplex

At the quarterly (Sept. 27) meeting, the Southeast Health Planning Task Force heard Inova representatives sketch "Phase One" plans now approved by medical staff but not yet presented to Inova's Board: (1) a "bump-out" on the first floor of Mount Vernon Hospital (MVH) to make more room for more outpatient and diagnostic imaging services; (2) 3 operating rooms in plans for the Lorton Healthplex; (3) MVH and Lorton Hpx to be considered by Inova as "a single financial entity" so that each contributes to the other's success. In 2006, planners will consider feasibility, in light of "changing demographics," of such services as "centers" for Breast, Women's Health, and Sports Medicine. Those with questions or comments may call HHS Chair Cleveland.

MVCCA's Special Committee on Affordable Housing

HHS members were invited to participate in the Oct. 11 organizational meeting of the new AH committee; monthly meetings will be scheduled on the 2nd Tuesday (below, Nov. 8). HHS representatives report frequent questions about issues such as appropriate models and equitable distribution across the county; we stress to the new AH committee the importance of communicating to the Council and to area residents more information on the kinds of AH especially needed and appropriate here (as well as countywide) and what "best practice" models (design and management) may have positive impact in neighborhoods and for the area as a whole.

Making good LTC choices available

Most of us know that the population of seniors and adults with disabilities living in the community is growing fast in numbers and in cultural diversity, so HHS interest in county LTC plans and strategies is intense: Is there anyone who has *never* needed care outside a hospital setting personally, or for a family member, or a neighbor? Anyone who does *not* wonder whether local government can find strategies and leverage resources that promote development

of good choices, available when and where they are needed? For the rest of us, two key resources are now available through links on the county web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/seniors to

- SENIOR NAVIGATOR, for those seeking informational links to LTC resources (local assisted living residences, adult day social programs, in-home "personal care aides," and more) or direct expert advice; or to

- LONG TERM CARE-Long Term Care Coordinating Council-FINAL REPORT, for those concerned with effective planning for choices that maximize independent living, the "strategic plan" developed by a citizens' task force and adopted by the County in 2002.

Note: County libraries and the 3 senior centers in our area provide one-on-one assistance with these internet resources.

The County is fortunate that a large group of citizens and experienced professionals has collaborated with county staff, tirelessly, since 1999, first to identify and estimate needs and trends (2000 Report), then to produce a county strategic plan (2002), and currently to further implementation of recommended strategies. Our 2 guest resources, Brown and Larmer, are exemplars of the high level of experience and dedication, found in the private sector and in county staff, that is fueling the voluntary Long-term Care Coordinating Council (LTCCC). They reported on progress (since Jan. 2003) in 4 LTCCC priorities: (1) improving and expanding a workforce that is too often under-trained and under-compensated in both money and social respect; (2) strengthening the range of services available, e.g. working on development of "PACE" (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, to prevent premature or inappropriate institutional nursing home care) and of "DayBridge" (for young adults with challenging physical disabilities); (3) increasing public awareness and access, e.g. by facilitating single point access to both expert advice and linked services through Senior Navigator and by developing a culturally diverse speakers' bureau for long term care; and (4) planning for an LTC nonprofit entity that can broker public/private partnerships, encourage innovation, and address growing service needs.

Community Meetings, open to the public

Tues., Nov. 1, MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee, 7:30 p.m., IMVH Room C-D: "Mental Health Services Update: IMV Hospital, the new jail diversion program, and plans for community-based delivery." Louise Cleveland, Chair, 703 780-9151.
Tues., Nov. 8, MVCCA Special Committee on Affordable Housing, 8 p.m., Mount Vernon Government Center. Jerry Ireland, Chair, 703 768-6923.

Wed., Nov. 30, Route One Task Force for Human Services, 7 p.m., South County Center: Fairfax County's "Affordable Housing Initiative," Anne Andrews, Convener, 703/780-1773.

Wed., Dec. 14, Southeast Health Planning Task Force, 7 p.m., quarterly meeting at Mount Vernon Government Center: Inova's plans for enhancing Mount Vernon Hospital and building a Lorton Healthplex are ongoing. Anne Andrews, Chair, 703/780-1773.

PLANNING AND ZONING

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. In attendance were representatives from the following associations: Engleside, Hollin Hills, Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Middle Valley, Montebello, Mount Vernon, Mount Zephyr, Newington, Newington Forest, Potomac Valley-River Bend, Riverside Gardens, Spring Bank, Waynewood, Wellington, Wessynton, and Williamsburg Manor North. The Committee heard two land use cases and heard a short presentation on Laurel Hill. No votes were taken.

Neil McBride gave an update on Laurel Hill site. The Adaptive Reuse Task Force Plan, adopted by the BOS in February 2005, calls for preservation of the historic core and promotes socially positive reuse complementary with the surrounding area. Recently, however, other residents have started to push for removal of all the historic structures and the construction of (yet another) shopping area. The Committee reaffirmed the support for the Task Force plan previously passed by the Council.

The first land use case was Dominion Ridge, located at 9608 Fernedge Lane, tax map 107-4-((6)) 1, 2, 3 and 107-4-((1)) 40A. The application is for a rezoning to allow Winchester Homes to develop 69 town homes on the 8.74 acre site, at a density of 7.89 du/ac. The comprehensive plan density for the site is 8 to 12 du/ac. The site is currently used by the Loyal Order of Moose as a lodge. A special exception is also being requested to allow the Moose Lodge to continue to operate until a new location can be found or constructed. This was for information only.

The second case was Ridge Road, RZ 2005-MV-001, 8207 Ridge Rd, tax map 89-4-((1)) 56, 57A, 69. This project has been before the P&Z Committee many times. The applicant has reduced the number of homes to 20 with a net density of 1.8 du/ac; it is planned for 2-3 du/ac. The developer has been working with the Middle Valley CA but it begins to appear that there will be no plan that both sides agree to. This was for information only; the previously presented plan was opposed by the Council.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next Planning and Zoning meeting is Monday, November 7, 2005, 7:30 PM, in the Jack Knowles Lecture Hall of Whitman Middle School.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Associations represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollindale, Hollin Hall, Mount Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Southwood, Stratford Landing, Stratford on Potomac Sect IV, Sulgrave Manor, and Waynewood. MVCCA Co-Chair Bornmann also attended.

The Chair opened with updates on two items the committee has been briefed on and is tracking. The first is the Virginia Serious and

Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (VASAVOR). Before this program, serious and violent offenders (capital murder, 1 and 2 degree homicide, st nd abduction/kidnaping, sexual assault/rape, robbery, assault, weapons charge, manslaughter, and/o car jacking) who were released upon completing their long sentences just went somewhere without supervision for their community reentry. The result was high recidivism. About 70% committed new violent crimes. With Federal funds, Virginia awarded a grant for the District 29 Probation and Parole Office (Fairfax County) to start VASAVOR almost two years ago. The program provides services to offenders before and after they are released. An individual plan is developed for each offender. Those planning to return to Fairfax County are transferred to the Fairfax County Adult Detention Center sixty to ninety days before their release. As needed, the plan is developed for services, as needed, for education, vocational training, intensive employment assistance, residential placement, physical/mental health services, substance abuse treatment, sex offender services, intensive supervision, and offender monitoring through technology. So far, 141 have been in the program. Only four have committed new violations resulting in being recommitted to the Department of Corrections. Fourteen have committed technical violations. VASAVOR has been successful so far. The only concern is that the Federal funds will run out in June 2006.

The second is the issue of the lack of inpatient psychiatric beds in Northern Virginia. Currently, there are now only a total of 208 operating, adult private psychiatric beds in Northern Virginia and 127 bed at the Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute. Of these, Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) plans to close Dominion Hospital with its 40 operated bed as soon as it receives permission to build a hospital in Loudoun County. This has created a continuing and growing problem for the criminal justice system in Fairfax County. When a person is apprehended and appears to have a psychiatric problem, the Magistrate, Police or Sheriff's Office must immediately determine where to place that person. The psychiatric beds in Northern Virginia are usually full. A search has to begin around the state. There is significant expense incurred in taking these persons to Fredericksburg or even Richmond with the additional expense of bringing them back a forth for hearings.

Our speaker was Fatemeh Allahdoust from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) who brought her assistant, Ken Kanownik, and Bill Harrell, VDOT Traffic Engineer. The focus of her presentation was the VDOT policy for addressing the continuing problem of pedestrian safety on Richmond Hwy. Ms. Allahdoust brought with her the VDOT 'Policy for Integrating Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations' which was adopted by the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board on March 18, 2004. There must be at least three to four feet of passable path along a roadway to put in a sidewalk or path. VDOT is working on plans to have a continuous sidewalk on at least one side of Richmond Hwy in Fairfax county. VDOT uses the guidance provided in the Federal Highway Administration's 'Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways.'

Bill Harrell then discussed planning for Richmond Hwy. There is a consultant looking at developing a plan for it. We then began a review of specific locations. The first was the Highland Lane pedestrian crossing on Richmond Hwy where a woman was recently a fatality. There is no crossing light there. Bill Harrell said the

THE COMMITTEE reports

crossing will be removed within the next two months. Other Richmond Hwy crossings discussed included the one at Buckman Rd. Sherwood Hall Ln., Fordson Rd., Boswell Rd., Beacon Hill Rd., and Huntington Rd. In addition, the timing of several lights at other intersections not on Richmond Hwy was discussed. Mr. Harrell said he would have his office review them if the chair would send him a list with the problems.

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

SPECIAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The MVCCA Affordable Housing Committee met at 7 PM on October 11, 2005, in Supervisor Hyland's conference room located in the Mount Vernon Government Center. Among those in attendance were representatives from the following associations: MVCCA-Planning and Zoning Committee, MVCCA-Education Committee, MVCCA-Transportation Committee, NGSCA & Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services, Ventures in Community (VIC), Fairfax County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, and the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce.

The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss how the committee would be organized and what goals are to be achieved.

Some of the issues discussed included:

1. The definitions relating to affordable housing and how low income is defined by the Federal Government, the State of Virginia, and the County of Fairfax. The Federal Government's standard on what constitutes low income has a direct impact across state and county levels.
2. Dealing with the negative opinions associated with affordable housing. There is a plan to start a poster or billboard campaign to educate the general public on what affordable housing really is and whom it is for (examples include—teachers, firefighters, police officers, nurses, retail workers, etc.). County supervisors are less inclined to sign off on feasibility studies for affordable housing unless they know there will be community support.
3. How affordable housing has a significant impact on schools and education. Researching school test scores and the affects on academic study.
4. Misconceptions associated with the use or non-use of mass transit by low-income families. Density issues and how they relate to traffic.
5. Researching the history of Section 8 and how it has changed from its original intended use.
6. Ways to continued the effort to preserve affordable housing in Fairfax County.

There are 4 primary goals this committee would like to achieve:

1. Researching and educating the committee on the County's view of affordable housing definitions, policies and procedures.
2. Coming up with creative alternatives to bring new affordable housing developments into the community and have the community's support for them.
3. Researching and organizing information and getting it back to the Mt. Vernon Council and the community. There is a need to develop a partnership between land developers and the community in order to exchange what each other's expectations are.
4. Changing future policies on affordable housing.

The committee will form four teams over the next few days with one team lead from each team bringing new information from each team to the committee meeting. The team names are as following with team lead to be selected by the next committee meeting:

1. **Information Team** – to define the terms affecting our community in order for us to communicate effectively and create real answers to the affordable housing problem. This team will also research and collect information from other studies and County, State and Federal information that impacts the Affordable Housing issues.
2. **Public Support Team** – This team will build a bridge with the community to help explain the problems associated with Affordable Housing and raise wide-spread community support for solutions to the Affordable Housing problems.
3. **Developer and Community Partnership Team** - This team will work to build a process for developers to use to receive community support and create a process for the community to tell the developers what they would like to see in their neighborhoods. This team will also work with the community and developers in communicating the processes to follow in creating a successful Affordable Housing Development.
4. **Action Team** – This team will work to take all new information and make the changes in the County, State and Federal laws or policies to fix long tern problems related to the Affordable Housing problem.

The second Tuesday of each month is tentatively the schedule for the monthly meetings. The MVCCA Affordable Housing Committee will next meet at 8 PM on November 8th 2005, in Supervisor Hyland's conference room located in the Mount Vernon Government Center.

TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met on October 3, 2005 at 8:00 PM in the Walt Whitman Middle School Library. Attending were: Mount Vernon Transportation Commissioner, Earl Flanagan; 19 representatives of MVCCA member organizations (Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View Condo, Birkshire, Collingwood Springs, Hollin Hall, Hollin Hill, Huntington, Mt Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Zephyr, Potomac Valley-Riverbend, Riverside Estates, Southwood, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wellington, Wessynton, Westgrove, Woodland Park); one interested citizen.; and one late visitor from Planning and Zoning.

Earl Flannigan called the meeting to order at 8 PM in the absence of the Chairman .

A draft resolution about trailers, recreational vehicles, boats, vans, trucks, busses and other commercial vehicles on Virginia Maintained roads was taken up as the first order of business. A letter of suggested changes from Michael Kline, Captain of the Mount Vernon Police Station was read. Following much discussion and attempts to amend the draft resolution, the Committee unanimously voted to defer action pending answers to the concerns raised. Earl was asked to draft a revised resolution that addresses the concerns raised by the membership.

The remaining hour of the meeting was spent briefing the membership about:

1. Woodlawn Plantation proposal to provide the right of way for the widening of Old Mill Road to 4 lanes and extending the road from Pole Road to Telegraph Road as a substitute for the closing of Woodlawn Road by Fort Belvoir.
2. Community Benefit Agreements that are provided by developers as legal promises made to civic groups similar to the MVCCA in exchange for approval of developer plans.

3. Hot Lanes proposed for the Beltway, I-95 and I-66 which would be paid for by private industry in exchange for charging tolls from vehicles that are occupied by less than HOV vehicles that would travel free.
4. Bill Dean urged support for the MVCCA Golf Tournament that will provide partial funding for sidewalks along Old Mill Road.
5. A County staff study to increase the required parking provided for single family detached housing from 2 off street spaces to 3 off street spaces.
6. The status of the 13 transportation changes that the MVCCA wants made to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. Supervisor Hyland has submitted them to the County staff for recommendation and Planning Commissioner Byers has asked that they come before the Planning Commission during the Annual Plan Review this fall.
7. Skytran, a new transportation technology that has been developed to provide magnetic propulsion for individual elevated vehicles on call, thereby not wasting energy propelling empty/near empty large existing public transportation vehicles. A similar system that has been in operation at the University of West Virginia for many years was also reviewed. More information on both technologies was requested of Frank Cihak and Bob Brubaker.

Members desired the status of requested and scheduled road repair, and VDOT contacts for traffic lights that are out of sync.

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee will be on Monday, November 7, 2005, at 8:00 PM in the Library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Agenda topics to be determined.

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(10)

THE COMMITTEE resolutions

NATIONAL REGISTER FOR PROPOSED DC WORKHOUSE AND REFORMATORY HISTORIC DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the final Fairfax County BOS accepted Laurel Hill Task Force Plan included a similar, but larger area to be preserved for adaptive re-use, and

WHEREAS, a complete Resources Inventory Listing and examination of buildings and structures in the proposed District has been completed, and

WHEREAS, approval and endorsement of this nomination has been gained by the Fairfax County History Commission, and

WHEREAS, inclusion of this proposed District could allow qualifying parties for state and federal rehabilitation tax credits, and

WHEREAS, National Registry Listing should improve likelihood of more competent development partners in the proposed District, and

WHEREAS, opposition to this nomination did not attend the MVCCA Environment and Recreation Committee meeting having been invited to join the Mt Vernon Council of Citizens Associations in the recent past, and

WHEREAS, opposition to this nomination compares the nomination to construction of a middle school, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations approve and endorse of the nomination of the proposed D.C. Workhouse and Reformatory Historic District to the to the National Register of Historic Places, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT the MVCCA recommend the same approval and endorsement by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF 2005 SCHOOL BOND REFERENDUM

WHEREAS, at the November 8, 2005, general election, Fairfax County voters will be asked to approve a School Bond Referendum in the total amount of \$246.325 Million ("2005 School Bond") to provide for the capital construction, infrastructure and renovation needs of Fairfax County Public Schools ("FCPS"), and

WHEREAS, the 2005 School Bond includes the following:

- (1) \$32.8 Million for new construction and planning, including modular units for Waynewood Elementary School;
- (2) \$177.126 Million for renovation and planning of existing schools, including planning for the renovation of Sandburg Middle School;
- (3) \$35 Million for infrastructure management, including technology network upgrades, major maintenance and replacement costs, and security upgrades;
- (4) \$1.399 Million in bond issuance costs; and

WHEREAS, although student enrollment growth appears to be slowing, construction both of new schools and additions to existing schools is required to continue to address the backlog of capacity shortages created by past rapid enrollment growth as well as new growth; and

WHEREAS, renovation needs continue to grow as older schools reach and exceed the estimated useful life of 25 years, or otherwise require substantial modification to meet modern educational and safety needs; and

WHEREAS, substantial capital funds are needed to upgrade technology infrastructure to current needs, provide additional security measures, and conduct major maintenance such as roof replacement, heating and cooling system replacement and major paving, as needed; and

WHEREAS, in addition to serving the school population, FCPS facilities are important assets serving all the citizens of Fairfax County in that they are also used by a wide variety of community, cultural and civic organizations, by adult education and senior programs, by School Age Child Care and Teen Centers, as well as by many recreation programs under the direction of the Fairfax County Department of Community and Recreation Services; and

WHEREAS, the sale of all authorized school bonds is managed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in such a way as to preserve the County's excellent bond ratings, and to maintain the County's net long term debt and debt service costs at appropriate levels so that the County's bonded debt will not be a contributing factor to any increase in local taxes,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations, in consideration of all of the above, recommends approval of the 2005 School Bond Referendum at the general election to be held on November 8, 2005.

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS
Treasurer's Report

For period from January 1, 2005 through September 8, 2005

	Budget 2005	Actual to Date	Budget to Actual (to date)
Balance Beginning Period		\$2,868.84	
RECEIPTS			
Dues	\$4,653.00	\$4,368.00	-\$285.00
Record Subscriptions	\$480.00	\$345.00	-\$135.00
Gala Income	\$3,475.00	\$2,645.00	-\$830.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$8,608.00	\$7,358.00	-\$1,250.00
DISBURSEMENTS			
Record Expenses	\$4,508.00	\$2,989.60	\$1,518.40
Administrative	\$389.00	\$487.18	-\$98.18
Gala	\$2,743.00	\$1,516.28	\$1,226.72
Web Site	\$690.00	\$405.00	\$285.00
Membership	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
Record Postage	\$400.00	\$300.00	\$100.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$8,805.00	\$5,698.06	\$3,106.94
Balance Ending Period 9/8/05		\$4,528.78	

COMMITTEE CALENDAR
FOR OCTOBER 2005

MVCCA Board-MVGC-SUPV Thurs Nov. 10th, 8:00 pm

Date/Day/Time	Comm.	Place	Chair	Phone
11/1 T 7:30	H/HS	IMVH-C	Louise Cleveland	703.780.9151
11/1 T 7:30	COAF	WWMS-PCR	Queenie Cox	703.360.2414
11/2 W 7:30	BUDG	WWMS MC	George Bauer	703.768.1774
11/2 W 7:30	ENVR	MVHSE114	Jim Davis	703.799.3278
11/2 W 8:00	EDUC	WWMS L	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
11/2 W 7:30	PSAF	MVGC	Dallas Shawkey	703.360.2185
11/7 M 8:00	TRANS	MVGC	Frank Cohn	703.780.5698
11/7 M 7:30	PLJZ	MVGC	David Dale	703.765.8247
11/8 T 8:00	SAHC	MVGC-S	Jerry Ireland	703.768.6923

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