



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

Record

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MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING

December 19, 2007 8 p.m.

Walt Whitman School, Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

PRESIDING – Co-chair David Dale.

ATTENDING – Co-chairs David Dale, Dan Rinzel; Committee Chairs Louise Cleveland, Queenie Cox, Debbie Sell-Pugh, David Voorhees, Larry Zaragoza; Representatives from Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hall, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, New Alexandria, New Gum Springs, Newington, Newington Forest, Riverside Estates, Skyview Park, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, United Voice at Kings Crossing, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Williamsburg Manor North, Woodley Hills, Woodley Hills Estates.

MINUTES approved as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT accepted as printed. Reminder that dues notices have been sent.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Environment and Recreation – (out of order as Larry had to leave)See minutes.

Budget and Finance – No December meeting. County budget will be presented in February, and that's when the committee gets busy.

Consumer Affairs – No December meeting. January 8 meeting topic is unwanted newspapers (DC Examiner) delivery and discussion of a resolution to ask State representatives for legislation to prohibit this.

Education – See minutes.

Health and Human Services--See minutes. December's report reviews an Implementation Plan to prevent and end homelessness in Fairfax County over the next ten years. The Plan represents the joint effort, over the past two years, of a large citizen task force—businesses, advocates from faith communities, service providers, and others—to agree on how strategies proven effective in other localities might be implemented in Fairfax County. The Plan, recently presented to the BOS, will need public support to be approved by them (in March). In advocating a "Homes First" strategy for human services delivery, the Plan relates to the county's initiative in preserving affordable housing as well as to issues in mental health treatment. The HHS web page (on www.MVCCA.org) links an informational list of our 2007 reports to MVCCA on these and other ongoing issues.

Planning and Zoning – See minutes. Committee will meet with E&R on January 9.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the Date! The MVCCA 2008 Gala will be on Saturday, April 26 at the Mount Vernon Country Club from 6 to 9 p.m. Start thinking about who should be honored as the Citizen of the Year and the Organization of the Year. Nominations forms are on pages 10 and 11 of this issue of the *Record*.

In mid-December, MVCCA dues information and applications for 2008 were sent to all Association treasurers and presidents of record or to another designated billing agent where requested. Dues are due and payable as of **January 1** and a completed membership form must accompany payment. The 2008 Dues Notice and Membership forms are also available on the MVCCA website. Questions regarding membership can be addressed to Tonda Phalen at tonda1@aol.com. Thank you for your prompt renewal.

The Board is seeking a chair for the Transportation Committee and a Webmaster. If you are interested in serving, please contact any co-chair.

Council Minutes

Public Safety – No December meeting.

Transportation – See minutes. Frank has resigned as chair; Bill Dean is the interim chair until someone is appointed by the co-chairs.

Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing – Committee proposes that Council participate in a community forum on the Plan to Prevent and Help End Homelessness. Resolution was withdrawn pending more information.

CO-CHAIR'S REPORT

(by Co-chair Dan Rinzel)

WHEREAS Frank Cohn has devoted many years of selfless service to citizens of the Mount Vernon area; and

WHEREAS Frank Cohn has done so with diligence, expertise, and humor; and

WHEREAS Frank Cohn has announced his need to retire as chair of the MVCCA Transportation Committee; and

WHEREAS his retirement will create a vacancy that will be difficult to fill;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations commends and thanks Frank Cohn for his many years of service to the community.

Approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS – Proposed revised by-laws will be made available to Board members for discussion at the next Board meeting with the hope of having them available for a vote by the full Council in February or March.

RESOLUTIONS

P&Z – Approval of Special Exception for EXXON development at Route 1 and Lorton Road.

Substitute resolution to oppose the development passed 16-0-1.

Discussion included observation that this development is not needed and would unnecessarily complicate traffic in the area, report that South County Federation opposes the development, and observation that there are transportation issues that should be addressed; resolution was withdrawn.

Motion to direct Transportation to look at the traffic impact of the proposed development passed 15-0-2.

SUPERVISOR'S TIME (presented by Brett Kenney)

King's Crossing is on hold pending VDOT 527 process; hearings are deferred to May.

Army Corps of Engineers Report on the Huntington Flood is due out January 15.

County Park and Planning wants to hear from citizens.

The County Budget will be presented February 25 (no advance, not even for the Supervisors); impact on the School budget will be presented after that.

Supervisor Hyland's Town Meeting February 2 at the MVHS Theater.

Exhibits start at 8 a.m.; program starts at 9:30. Various reports followed by Hyland's Virtual Tour.

Funding for Fairfax County Parkway link through EPG is about \$60 million short.

Martha Washington Library expansion is delayed because of engineering considerations.

PUBLIC TIME

Wellington Heights has finally prevailed on a speed table on Morningside Lane.

Council is in need of a chair for Transportation Committee as well as a WebMaster for the MVCCA Website.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m..

Carol Coyle, Secretary

BUDGET AMENDMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc. (MVCCA) is a non-profit, tax-exempt volunteer organization engaged in representing the interests of the citizens of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District; and

WHEREAS, the MVCCA maintains a modest cash reserve of about \$7,000;

WHEREAS, the MVCCA does not currently maintain any liability insurance insuring the MVCCA, its officers, directors, volunteers and members from claims of injury resulting from the MVCCA's activities; and

WHEREAS, the MVCCA Board of Directors believes that it is in the best interest of the MVCCA, its officers, directors, volunteers and members and person dealing with and impacted by the MVCCA's activities that the MVCCA purchase liability insurance;

NOW THEREFORE, the MVCCA hereby approves amendment to its adopted Budget to authorize the expenditure of not more than \$700 to purchase a policy of Directors & Officers Liability Insurance, such insurance policy carrying a liability limit of \$500,000 with a \$1,000 deductible.

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations Treasurer's Report For Period January 1, 2008 through January 10, 2008			
	Budget 2008	Actual to Date	Budget/Actual
Balance Beginning Period		\$5,753.36*	
RECEIPTS			
Dues	\$4,500.00	\$543.00	-\$3,957.00
Record Subscriptions	\$225.00	\$0.00	-\$225.00
Gala Income	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	-\$2,400.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$7,125.00	\$543.00	-\$6,582.00
DISBURSEMENTS			
Record Expenses	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
Administrative	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Gala	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Web Site	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Postage	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Miscellaneous*	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$7,125.00	\$0.00	\$7,125.00
ENDING BALANCE		\$6,296.36	

*Beginning balance results from December 2007 Report balance of \$6,208.46 minus actual expenses paid in late December, i.e. \$224.70 for Record expenses and \$230.40 for Web expenses.

Committee Reports

BUDGET & FINANCE

The meeting was held January 2, 2008. Five communities were represented. Issues concerning the Fairfax County Budget Process were discussed. The committee also discussed issues outside of Fairfax County which will require further investigation. These issues included state budget and tax issues as well as federal taxation issues.

One issue in particular which was discussed was the Homestead Exemption. During his campaign, Governor Kaine floated the idea of a Constitutional amendment that would allow localities to exempt (rebate, refund, forgive, whatever) 20% of residential real property tax. Va. Constitution Art X, § 4 requires state authorizing legislation prior to local implementation of a homestead allowance. Accordingly, Fairfax County cannot implement a homestead allowance without state level authorizing legislation. Va. Constitution Art X, §1 requires uniformity in tax levies. Accordingly, before enacting legislation authorizing localities to implement a homestead allowance, the Virginia Constitution must be amended.

The proposed county budget will be published for comments on February 25, 2008. Public hearings are scheduled for March 31-April 2, 2008. The Budget and Finance Committee has reserved a time slot at the Public Hearings for March 31.

The next meeting for the Budget and Finance Committee will be the joint meeting on February 20, 2008 with the Education Committee at the Walt Whitman Library.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School in the Principal's Conference Room. The following member association representatives attended: Mt. Vernon Lakes Condo (Lee District); New Gum Springs; Potomac Valley-River Bend; Spring Bank; Stratford Landing; Sulgrave Manor; and Co-Chair Katherine Ward.

The committee finalized the resolution on unwanted newspapers, which appears elsewhere in the *Record*. The committee also discussed the use of member e-mails. The member rep that distributed the committee's e-mail addresses to outside organizations apologized to the committee. The member rep explained that this was an accepted practice for other committees of which he is a member. He learned that one practice used by one committee might not be acceptable for another committee—at least he found that the Consumer Affairs Committee does not share e-mail addresses outside the committee. The committee accepted his apology.

The committee then discussed concerns and issues the committee should consider addressing during 2008. These issues included supporting our elected officials to control payday loans and increased cell phone coverage by having a cell phone tower on either the Lamond property or Mt. Vernon Unitarian Church.

For MVCCA Co-Chair time, Co-Chair Katherine Ward asked the committee about developing goals for the year and identified several areas that may be of interest to the committee in the Fairfax County 2008 Virginia General Assembly Legislative Program.

Our next meeting will be on February 5 at 7:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School in the Principal's Conference Room. Topic: Goals for 2008.

Note: Advance information will be provided so that we can stick to our goal of ending the meeting at 9 p.m. If you're not a member and would like to attend, please attend because the information will be available at the meeting. We would like to hear from you!

EDUCATION

The MVCCA Education Committee met at 8 p.m. on January 2, 2008, in the media center at Whitman Middle School. Associations represented were: Forest View HOA, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Williamsburg Manor North, Newington Forest, and Mt. Zephyr. Co-chair David Dale also attended.

Dr. Carol Horn, Director of Gifted/Talented Services for FCPS, as well as a long time Mt. Vernon community member and teacher, was the featured speaker, having been re-scheduled from the December meeting which was snowed out.

Prior to Dr. Horn's presentation, the Chair briefly discussed the upcoming budget schedule, including the annual meeting with the Budget & Finance Committee, to be held on February 20, 2008. Committee members were urged to check the website (www.fcps.edu) for the Superintendent's Budget to be released January 10, 2008 as well as the 2008 Capital Improvement Plans, which again delays the South County Middle School.

Dr. Horn opened her remarks by briefly tracing the history of Gifted/Talented (GT) in FCPS from original inception in 1963 to today. Originally, admission to special GT centers (then grades 2-12) was solely on the basis of achieving a score of at least 140 on standardized IQ tests, and later also a high score on certain achievement tests. In 1973, school-based programs for children of IQs of 130-139 were added and consisted significantly of pull out programs and/or special problem-solving exercises designed to challenge thinking skills. High school programs were phased out as availability of honors, AP and IB classes filled the need of both high achievers and those who sought challenge.

As research into brain development began to demonstrate that intellectual capacity—and the brain itself—changes in response to environment and is not static over time, it became apparent to the educational community that, while reliance on a single test/single day assessment certainly identified gifted kids who are also good test takers, it did not identify others who could benefit from additional challenge to reach full potential and, indeed that all children benefit from some of the strategies used for the gifted.

In 1993, FCPS moved to adding multiple criteria for GT (center and school-based) qualification, including performance on tasks, school performance, observation, parent and teacher reports, and use of assessments which were less affected by language acquisition. While use of multiple criteria is a much more onerous and uncertain process, it reflects the reality that children's abilities can change over time and exposure to stimuli, and that intellectual capacity can be masked by socio-economic factors, by command of English and by learning disabilities when a single criteria is used.

Similarly, the focus in FCPS is now to offer a continuum of gifted services to provide all students with opportunities to engage in complex subject matter, with school staff at all levels working together to provide the level of service appropriate to each learner including preparation to move to a higher service level.

Thus, where programs used to be defined in terms of school-based versus center, the focus now is on levels of service stated as I through IV, and services (I-III) are available in all schools, provided by itinerant GT resource teachers and school personnel in concert. Level IV includes GT centers, including 22 recently developed "school-based centers", and some Middle School Honors programs.

Levels I and II serve essentially all students and are delivered primarily by the classroom teacher based on lessons and strategies modeled and

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shared by the GT resource teacher. At level II, services build on differentiated instruction and flexible instructional groupings, already used in FCPS to address differing educational needs, to further enhance areas of academic strength often with direct collaboration of GT specialists. The Young Scholars program (began in 2000) is part of this and is beginning to show results as the first participants reach high school.

Level III provides enrichment and curriculum extensions for identified students. In addition to collaboration with teachers (including ESOL and Special Ed) as in Levels I and II, identified students receive some direct instruction from GT resource teachers in various forms including pull out, flexible groupings, or working with groups in the base classroom.

Level IV includes GT centers (23 ES and 11 MS). Identified students receive a specially developed highly challenging curriculum which tracks, but expands on, the regular Program of Studies and the requirements of SOL testing.

One recent development is the 22 "school-based" centers where center eligible students receive Level IV services in their base school through clustering in a classroom with a GT qualified teacher, perhaps with other selected students from the base school and/or with other students added through flexible grouping in areas of academic strength. While center qualified students may still choose at any time to attend a "full" center (and be bused there although busing may be eliminated in that case in the new budget) many prefer to remain in the base school. Establishment and organization of a "school-based" center is the decision of the base school administration. None exist as yet in our area but it is likely the trend will continue as schools become more adept at differentiated instruction and flexible grouping to serve a variety of needs and more concerned over the "brain drain" which affects school demographics and test scores—and as parents become more confident and more insistent that children's needs can be met in their neighborhood school.

A question was raised as to whether, given that all middle schools now have honors sections in all core subjects (which was not previously the case) and that middle school center classes now usually include other non-center students based on ability in the particular subject area, middle school centers are no longer needed and needs could be met with honors classes, as they are now in high school. Dr. Horn noted that they have been studying that issue but based on strong support in some areas of the County, it is unlikely that change will be made soon.

Following Dr. Horn's interesting presentation, the Committee briefly discussed budget issues. The Chair noted that, based on an unexpected jump of over 1600 students this school year and a projection of another 1000 plus for the 2008-9 school year, the new FY2009 budget will have to provide for nearly 3000 more students when enrollment had previously been expected to flat-line. This alone, coupled with always rising costs for fuel, insurance and the like, will likely mean increases in class size and minimal cost of living increases for teachers, to get even a low increase budget.

Since the meeting, the Superintendent's Budget was released. It makes a number of cuts (including reducing staff through increasing class size) and asks for about a 3% increase, the lowest in memory (note that the 3000 students represents a 1-2 % increase in population served). Among other things, it also adds some fees for participation in sports, band and other extracurricular activities and discontinues payment of AP and IB test fees, except for free-and-reduced lunch children. We in this area should find these new fees very troubling since, with nearly all our schools (Mount

Vernon and West Potomac pyramids) running at double—or more—the County average for this poverty category, we know there are many other families with incomes "above the line" who will find it very difficult to pay fees of potentially hundreds of dollars so their child can play a sport, or be in band, etc, and/or take AP and IB tests. It is likely this will reduce participation in both extracurricular activities, which shows clear links to improved school performance and reduction in risky behaviors, and in high level academic courses since, while students could still take the course, without taking the exam there will be no college credit possible, nor recognition of difficulty through grade bonus points which could affect college admission.

The School Board will hopefully make some changes and public hearings will be February 6, 2008 (see the School Board website through the school site www.fcps.edu to sign up to testify or see changes in date). This date also conflicts with the next regularly scheduled Committee meeting which may be re-scheduled as a result. The Chair will e-mail any re-schedule and also post it to the MVCCA website (www.MVCCA.org); interested persons should monitor both.

The next regular meeting (currently February 6, 2008, but subject to re-schedule) will discuss budget issues in more detail, in preparation for the scheduled joint meeting with the Budget & Finance Committee. Also on the agenda will be long range plans for the Committee and a possible update on South County boundary and middle school construction issues.

February meetings:

February 6, 8 p.m., Whitman MS library (check website for possible re-schedule)

February 20, 7:30 pm, Whitman MS library.

Speaker: Deirdre MacLaughlin, FCPS Director of Finance (joint meeting with Budget & Finance)

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The meeting was held January 2 in the Mount Hybla Room at the South County Government Center Building beginning at 7:00 p.m. and was chaired by Chair Larry Zaragoza.

In attendance: Newington Civic Association ; Winstead Manor (guest); Woodley Hills Civic Association; Hollin Hall Village; Collingwood-on-Potomac; Spring Bank Civic Association; MVCCA co-chair; Mt, Zephyr; Williamsburg Manor; Mount Vernon on the Potomac; Newington Forest; Sulgrave Manor; Friends of Dyke Marsh (guest); Wessynton (committee chair).

Task Force to create a Vision for Mt. Vernon

Following up on last month's discussion concerning a Task Force to Create a Citizens' Vision for the Richmond Highway Corridor, the Spring Bank member spoke of the need for a citizens' group to develop a vision for the Corridor. An interdisciplinary Special Committee be formed by the MVCCA to obtain information and data and feed it back to the Committees was recommended. The E&R Committee passed a motion where the E&R Committee recommended the creation of a special interdisciplinary committee be formed to develop a long-range vision for the Route 1 corridor and adjacent areas based upon the interests and needs of the MVCCA community. This committee would use the comprehensive plan as one of its baseline documents for analysis and initially work within annual plan review cycle.

Committee Reports

Medications and Toxins in our waterways

The Collingwood-on-the Potomac member attended an initial Fairfax County Task Force meeting concerning the disposal of medications. County staff has created a county task force on this subject and will be holding a number of stakeholder meetings on the topic. The crux of the problem is too many medicines are being flushed down the toilet and into our waterways causing the fish in our streams and rivers to show signs of both genders. Wastewater management personnel do not test for toxins or medicines. Thus, our wastewater treatment centers do not have the ability to remove these toxins.

The Fairfax County task force is exploring alternatives to determine proper methods of disposing medications (to create a takeback program for drugs in Fairfax County) and to lobby the state to instruct DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) to mandate programs in other counties. The county wishes to have a policy in place by May (before school is out). The State of Maine provides prepaid mailers to citizens to mail unused medicines so the State can incinerate the medications. St. Louis, MO has centers at grocery stores where people can take excess medications for proper disposal. Contact Tom Crow of the County Health Department at Thomas.crow@fairfaxcounty.gov for more information.

Glenda Booth, president of Friends of Dyke Marsh (FODM) spoke with us about the 380 acre fresh water tidal marsh that is managed by the National Park Service and issues which the FODM consider threaten Dyke Marsh. 1) Proposed river traffic from National Harbor, MD to Alexandria and the possibility of jet skis in the marsh area; 2) Two duck blinds located on either side of the marsh; and 3) Fairfax County plans to expand the Martha Washington library, which may result in more storm water run-off into the marsh.

According to FODM, nearly half of Dyke Marsh's original 650 acres has been destroyed. Protection did not occur until the 70s, even though Congress set aside Dyke Marsh for the protection and preservation of wildlife in 1959. The Federal Government is considering the restoration of Dyke Marsh and a scoping document should be coming out in May of 2008.

FODM expressed concern for the planned approach to expand the Martha Washington Library. FODM would like to see low-impact development (LID) approaches where mature trees are not cut down and the current amount of impervious surface is not expanded. FODM asked if patrons of Martha Washington library use the 3-tiered parking lot of the adjacent recreation center. E&R Committee members stated that it is reasonable to ask the status or intent of the County in view of the Cool County Initiatives program concerning LEED certification and LIDs.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 6 in the South County Government Center on Richmond Highway beginning at 7:00 p.m.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

The H/Hs Committee met Tuesday, January 8, at 7 p.m. at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, with nine member associations represented: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood-on-Potomac, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hills, Hollindale, Mount Vernon, Stratford on Potomac-Sec. IV, Tauxemont, and Wellington. MVCCA

Co-Chair Pat Rea participated as our liaison to the Council. With one additional local citizen and five outstanding County professionals as guest resources, we comprised a group of 16.

Building a System of Prevention, Countywide and in our Community

HHS Committee focuses throughout the year on emerging community needs and available resources, both public and private nonprofit, to respond effectively and to build stronger and healthier communities. Because we place particular value on effective prevention programs—too often the ones neither mandated nor sustained by federal and state government—we have advocated sustained County action in this area, for years. So, we invited a remarkable group of County professionals to bring us an update on Prevention—the underlying principles, the strategies, the partnerships needed and developing among public agencies and in consort with community-based organizations.

Four of our guests come from the Dept. of Systems Management for Human Services, which plays a special role in bringing together public and private resources, countywide and in the local communities.

Fairfax County Prevention Coordinator Denise Raybon began three years ago in a new countywide position to facilitate partnerships and build on many pieces, located in different agencies and places, to encourage a "system of prevention." Since her previous report to HHS (see MVCCA Record December 2005), she points to encouraging progress and an agreed framework in which many partners now share priorities, information and resources, even accountability for some measurable outcomes. Though "prevention" has entered the lexicon of nearly every recent County Initiative, the initial "system" emphasis focuses on "ensuring healthy children, youth and families." Nationally and locally, human services professionals recommend stating positive goals, recognizing particular strengths in each diverse community as potential resources to build on, and also identifying the "indicators" (such as the number of youth entering the Juvenile Justice System for violent crimes or reporting bullying or depression) that must be measured and then investigated: the point is to ask "Why?" and to get at root causes that call for appropriate strategies and programs that build resilience and encourage youth to understand and make safer, healthier choices.

Fairfax County Domestic Violence Coordinator Seema Zeya had led us an eye-opening discussion of domestic violence and provided key resources previously (see the June 2006 MVCCA Record), so it was encouraging to hear of progress, aimed especially at "DV" intervention and victim assistance, that were priorities funded in the current FY2008 budget: DV Detectives, Court Advocacy, and the Supervised Visitation and Exchange Center. Recently approved by the BOS is a DV Fatality Review Team (the first in Northern Virginia) that will look for patterns and common causes in closed cases. In the next fiscal year we can expect some changes as part of the "Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault (DASA) Program Organizational Transfer and Process Redesign." (DASA includes Fx Co Women's Shelter, the Victim Assistance Network or VAN, and Anger and Domestic Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program.) DV—the major cause of violent crime, countywide and at the Mount Vernon station—clearly needs increased community attention to causes and to prevention as well as intervention.

Lori Carver-Johnson, a mental health counselor and specialist in Community Outreach Education and issues of interpersonal violence, works with youth and schools in our area, as well as adults and families, countywide. Though she works in the Community Service Board's Victim Assistance Network (VAN) program, her Outreach work with hundreds of community groups and thousands of public school students is funded for one person half-time and reaches into schools by "backdoor" requests, often from students, rather than as part of the curriculum. Her accounts of the

Committee Reports

need for teenage students to be able to identify abuse and understand how they can and should respond are moving and suggest an urgent need for expanded education in schools and communities.

Telly Whitfield, Region I Director for Human Services, and Sarah Allen, Region I Community Developer, provided valuable insight into needs identified and programs offered in our area that are part of our "prevention system." Examples are the multi-agency gang prevention effort "Road DAWG," After-School Programs (a partnership of schools and Community Recreation Services), Support on Suspension (a model program developed by Fairfax Partnership for Youth and now at Huntington Community Center), United Community Ministries (in partnership with multiple county agencies) "Neighborhood Initiatives" in Janna Lee and Sacramento neighborhoods, and more.

HHS Planning for FY2009

HHS Committee focuses throughout the year on community needs and available resources, both public and private nonprofit and voluntary, to respond effectively and to build stronger and healthier communities. The County's planning and budgeting for FY 2009 (the fiscal year that begins July 1, 2008) requires us to concentrate in February and March on our annual recommendation/resolution for MVCCA consideration, concerning Health and Human Services planning, to be drafted and approved by the HHS Committee at the Tuesday, March 4 HHS meeting, presented to the MVCCA Board on March 13, and considered for vote of the full Council March 26. The committee agreed, unanimously, to adjust our schedule as shown below, to include: (1) a meeting on Feb. 5 (with the Route 1 Task Force for Human Services), (2) an ad hoc meeting Saturday, March 1 (to review the proposed County budget plan and draft our response), and (3) a meeting March 4, to finalize our resolution on the County's proposed planning for health and human services.

Meetings—open to the public—

Tuesday, Feb. 5, 7 p.m., MVCCA's HHS Committee will convene with the Route 1 Task Force for Human Services at the South County Center, 8350 Richmond Hwy, to consider the Interim Report, presented by Margot Keily, of the Beeman Commission (examining Fairfax County's mental health system). Convener Anne Andrews, 703 780-1773.

Monday, Feb. 25, Presentation to the BOS of proposed Fairfax County FY2009 Budget Plan (Cablecast on Channel 16). PowerPoint presentation, Executive Summary, and full multi-volume budget plan are published for public review and made available both in printed format and on the county web site: www.fairfaxcounty.gov.

Saturday, March 1, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, HHS Committee's ad hoc meeting to review the proposed FY2009 allocation of County resources for human services, and draft a response. Place, t/b/a.

Tuesday, March 4, 7 p.m., MVCCA's HHS Committee meets at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital-Engl Conference Room, to finalize our response to the FY2009 county planning for health and human services in a resolution. Chair, Louise Cleveland, 703 780-9151.

Wednesday, March 5, 7 p.m., Route 1 Task Force on Human Services convenes at South County Center; Deputy County Executive Verdia Haywood presents a staff analysis of the proposed FY2009 Budget Plan's impact on health and human services.

(Engleside, Hollin Hills, Hollin Hall Village, Memorial Heights, Mount Vernon Civic, Newington, Newington Forest, Randall Civic, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor, Williamsburg Manor North, Wellington Civic, Wellington Heights, Wessynton Homes Assoc, Woodley Hills)

(note: the meeting started late because the school doors were locked)

Drive-In Bank Ft Hunt Rd and Richmond Hwy SEA 84-V-035

Lynne Strobel presented a proposal for a drive in bank at the corner of Richmond Hwy and Ft. Hunt Rd. Members of the committee followed up on request that the developer meet with local associations and groups (nearby) and get feedback from them, they have contacted Supervisors office to obtain contact information and have attempted to reach the Townhomes as suggested by Sup Hyland's staff and have not heard back. The site is currently used as a staging area for VDOT construction and trailers in conjunction with the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. Questions were raised about stacking of cars in the drive-thru and placement on the building, where the location of handicap parking spaces were, the name of the bank and signage.

The bank has less impervious surface than the previous gas station that occupied the site, has improved landscaping to meeting the need of the Richmond Highway Corridor Area Urban Design Recommendations. The drive-thru has stacking for 10 cars, the bank will have 32 parking spaces and utilize the existing service road currently utilized for the hotel and office building adjacent to the site. The developer has agreed to seek permission to continue the trail on Ft Hunt in front of BHCC to fill the gap from Huntington Ave to Rt. 1, noting that this area is not within the development property. **Resolution not to oppose passed 10-4-0.**

Proposed Development at Hilltop Sand and Gravel, Telegraph RD

Lynne Strobel presented a proposal for Hilltop Sand and Gravel at the corner of Telegraph and Beulah St. Over 90% of the property is in Lee District, the property in Mt Vernon includes the baseball field used by Pioneer Little League and one home. The proposal includes rezoning industrial, R-1, moving the existing golf course maintenance facilities, a "town center" with mixed use commercial/residential.

Out of Turn Comp plan amendment- stream buffers/headwaters.

The committee discussed the out of turn amendment, with several members questioning the urgency of the amendment. A motion was made and approved to voted to request that the Planning Commissioner request a 45 day deferral on the issue to allow a more comprehensive review of the report by the public. **Vote to defer 14-0-0**

New Business

Clarified the use of members email addresses by committee members and reminded them not to include those out side the P&Z committee of the MVCCA.

Discussion of joint meeting on January 9 with E&R committee on Leatherland/Carr Homes. Review of previously circulated by-laws and rules for the meeting.

The next meeting is February 4 at Jack Knowles Lecture Hall at 7:30p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

PLANNING & ZONING

The meeting was held in the Jack Knowles Lecture Hall at Walt Whitman Middle School on January 7 beginning at 7:38p.m. and was chaired by Chair Debbie Sell-Pugh. Sixteen member associations attended.

Committee Reports

PUBLIC SAFETY

Associations represented: Mount Vernon, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Southwood, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Waynewood, Wellington, and Williamsburg Manor North.

Our scheduled speaker was unable to attend. The committee proceeded with other business.

The chair and committee have continued to work to schedule Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training to be conducted in the Mt. Vernon District area. The new CERT Volunteer Liaison in the FC Fire and Rescue Dept has agreed to do this and is working on it. We should have a schedule later this month. The purpose of this training is to have qualified CERT volunteers in each community so that in a natural or man-made catastrophe they can survey their community and provide initial assistance until the first responders from the county, state, and federal governments arrive. By surveying their community, the CERT personnel will be able to identify the locations where assistance is most needed thus saving time for the first responders when they arrive.

An update was provided on the development of the Delancey St. replication project in Fairfax County. It will be called 'Beacon' in Fairfax County. This has been an ongoing effort for three years since Congressman Moran obtained the initial federal funding for it. The Delancey St. model was developed in San Francisco and has been very successful in assisting individuals in overcoming their drug/alcohol and other destructive behaviors while improving their educations and job skills. The model is self sustaining and self policing. However, the San Francisco model is unique. Each new location needs to adapt it to local circumstances and needs. Fairfax County OAR with the assistance of the Sheriff's Office has undertaken this task. A guidance and supervisory process has been developed. The initial group will consist of six males. An announcement has been made to men completing their confinement sentences. Ninety-six applications have been received so far. The Sheriff's Office has screened out ninety as not appropriate. The remaining six will be interviewed by the advisory committee. Those selected will move into a residence together and will be given training in the construction trade. A site has been identified for the residence and is in the process of being purchased. The only problem is that the initial funding is running out. Congressman Moran is working to provide additional funding for Beacon to continue it until it can become self sustaining.

With regard to the issue of mentally ill persons being in jail when there is no mental health bed for them, the chair reported that there is a related problem has recently been identified. On December 28, the police were called to the home of a woman in Annandale who called them. The 76 year old woman evidently has some degree of dementia and has called the police about 50 times in the last four years - and seven times in December - about a perceived intruder. Not knowing what to do, the police took her to the jail so that she would be at least safe as it appeared that she couldn't care for herself. The Adult Protective Services (APS) was called because the Commonwealth's Attorney was willing to dismiss the charges so long as she had a place to go. APS, however, did not step in because she was 'safe' in jail. It took help from JDR Court staff and OAR to finally get her out of jail and home on January 4. APS has offered services if she will accept it. Separate from those who are mentally ill, some persons are put in jail for safety but then comes the problem of when and how they can be safely released. This woman was living by herself and no relatives could be identified. She opposed being declared incompetent.

The Sheriff's office has been asked to give us some information on this issue and how many have been placed in jail without charges until the issue of safety can be resolved.

The chair reported that the effort to resolve the signage issue at the traffic lights at Fort Hunt Rd. and Richmond Hwy. has been completed. The previous signs were confusing in that drivers going north on Fort Hunt Rd. did not understand the application of the 'No Turn on Red' sign in the middle of the three lanes signage. With the assistance of LT Dave Russell, Assistant Commander, Mt. Vernon Station, VDOT has changed the sign to now allow a right turn from only the right lane on red, after a stop.

Incidentally, the Chief of Police has decided that to improve services, police station commanders should serve in that position longer. As a result, CAPT Kline will be staying as the Commander, Mount Vernon Police Station, about two more years rather than being reassigned now.

Finally, the District 29 Probation and Parole Office Day Reporting Center, formerly located at the corner of Franklin St. and Richmond Hwy., has completed the move to its new offices on the ground floor of the IMP Building next to the Roy Rogers at Woodlawn and Richmond Hwy. An open house is planned for about February to which the committee will be invited.

The Public Safety Committee's next meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 7, in Community Room #3, Mount Vernon Governmental Center. Our speaker will be from the local Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Field Office.

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Committee met on Monday, January 7, in the Library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Attending were: Ms. Katherine Ward, Co-chair MVCCA; representatives of 21 member citizen associations (Collingwood Springs, Engleside, Huntington, Huntington Civic, Marlan Forest, Mt. Vernon Manor, Mt. Vernon on the Potomac, Mt. Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Southwood, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wellington, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Montebello, Woodland Park, Woodley Hills).

Goals for 2007 were distributed and accepted without change for 2008. Key project categories of concern for 2008 were identified including the Richmond Highway corridor, WW Bridge, GW Parkway, sidewalks & trails, and road maintenance.

The committee addressed an individual direct letter campaign in support of Route 1 improvements to be done prior to BRAC in 2011 and a Route 1 corridor mass transit study being completed. Two draft letters will be sent to all Transportation Committee members for use by their association presidents. They state that among the road projects identified for funding Route 1 is missing (letter 1), and a mass transit study, to be done before major improvements on Route 1 and funded by the VA Commonwealth Transportation Board a couple of years ago, has not yet been completed (letter 2). This action, taken in support of the MVCCA resolutions on this issue, intend to show our elected state officials that their constituents want this study done soon.

Ms. Wanda Meinhardt, VDOT, will be invited to be guest speaker at our February 4 meeting. Ms. Meinhardt, in an e-mail to David Dale (co-chair MVCCA), responding to an October 2007 letter Frank Cohn (transportation chair) on road maintenance, suggested a forum style meeting.

Committee Reports

Mr. Alexander Lee will be invited as guest speaker for March for an update on the WW Bridge project. This update is less urgent since the project is too far along to respond to any changes we might suggest.

Mr. Garth Shull, Nat'l Park Service and our December 2007 speaker, responded to three Transportation Committee queries:

1. Can vegetation be trimmed to improve visibility at intersections? Yes, routine; to be done by summer of 2008.
2. Restriping of crosswalk at Mt. Vernon circle? Yes, but must be done in the summer. It will be rebuilt by Fall 08.
3. GW Hwy law enforcement for traffic violations done via federal or state code? State code.

The Environment & Recreation Committee has proposed that a special MVCCA committee be formed to take an overview of transportation, environment, housing, education, recreation, zoning and development in the Richmond Highway Corridor and the Mt. Vernon District. The approach would be holistic, multidisciplinary and long range.

Frank Cihak attended a BRAC Open House on December 4. There were some 20 exhibits, about five concerning transportation. One proposed a commuter boat, running from a realtor site in Prince William County to the Navy Yard. Nothing presented was urgent.

The next meeting will be Monday, February 4 at Walt Whitman School.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

The monthly meeting of the Special Committee on Workforce and Affordable Housing was held December 20, at the Mount Vernon Government Center. Community organizations represented were: Collingwood on the Potomac, Mason Hill, Riverside Estates, Stratford on the Potomac Sec. IV, United Voice at Kings Crossing CA, Woodley Hill Estates. MVCCA Co-chair Pat Rea attended.

Co-chair Jeszenszky explained that the resolution on the Plan to Prevent Homelessness developed during the previous meeting was considered by the MVCCA Executive Board but held aside until more information is available on what plans emerge in the community regarding a forum of this subject. Robert Trimble reported on a planning meeting held to discuss ways to conduct a forum but the meeting concluded without agreement on a definite plan.

Representatives of Woodley Hills Estates reported to the committee that they were informed of a planned briefing to Supervisor Hyland on January 14 regarding the manufactured homes that the County chose to build in their community.

Due to the conflicts of the holiday schedule the meeting was kept brief. The next scheduled meeting of the Committee is on January 24 at 7 p.m. in the Mount Vernon Government Center.

JOINT E&R AND P&Z MEETING LEATHERLAND RE-ZONING

E&R Representatives: In attendance for E&R: Newington Civic Association; Winstead Manor (guest); Woodley Hills Community Association; Hollin Hall Village; Collingwood-on-Potomac; Spring Bank Civic Association; MVCCA co-chair; Mt. Zephyr; Williamsburg Manor; Mount Vernon on the Potomac; Newington Forest; Sulgrave Manor; Friends of Dyke Marsh

(guest); Wessynton (E&R committee chair); Wellington Civic Association; Wellington Heights; Woodley Hills Estates; United Voice @ Kings Crossing Civic Association.

P&Z Representatives: Wessynton, Woodley Hills Civic, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington Heights, Williamsburg Manor North, Montebello, Woodley Hills Estates, Springbank, Hollin Hall Village, Mt Zephyr, New Alexandria, United Voice at Kings Crossing, Wellington Civic, Newington, Mt Vernon Civic.

Larry Zaragoza called the January 9 meeting to order at 7:10 pm. He reviewed ground rules for participating, and possible outcomes. He explained why the staff report was not available and why no County staff member was present. He asked that we think about where we wanted be at the end of the evening and that we focus on a general approach because of the large number of technical issues.

Discussion ensued about the ability of the assembled group to produce a viable resolution without complete information, i.e., staff report and soils report. Also discussed were the opposition of the two adjacent communities and the desirability of respecting their position on the proposed re-zoning. Another question was about the sufficiency of the proffers to warrant re-zoning from R-1 to PDH-2.

Lynn Stroebel said that the soil report was distinct from the staff report and that it had not yet been submitted. Dan Burrier-Fisher reminded the group that the P&Z resolution included a statement that the committee could change its stance when the staff report was issued. He also said that St. Clair Williams would be able to meet with the committees on Jan 14, 15, 16, or 18.

John Byers moved that public hearing on Leatherland be deferred for 30 days so that the committees could see the staff report. Discussion ensued. The motion was amended so that the public hearing would be on Feb. 28, allowing time for the Council to meet on Feb. 27. Earl Flanagan said that there was no date currently scheduled for the Board of Supervisors and that he would request a delay by the Planning Commission. The motion, as amended, passed 22-1-1.

Katherine Ward suggested that since everyone was together, and the builders reps were with us, we should continue the dialog so all sides of the issue could be addressed and questions could be asked of the builders reps.

John Byers asked about the concerns of E&R about the proposed development. Items stated included:
Opposition of neighboring associations. • Width of buffer. • Potential for landslides given soils with lots of marine clay. • Storm water management concerns because of old style design that should be carefully reviewed. • Proffers insufficient to warrant PDH-2. • Environmental damage to tree cover. • PDH should have innovation, creativity, and excellence in design. These have not been mentioned. • Carr Homes is not well regarded because of wet yards, dead-ended trails, dead trees in tree save areas, wet basements, etc., in Winstead Manor. • Large sweet gum and 80% of tree cover will be clear-cut. • Wet, seepy area, probably spring-fed, will be eliminated. • Flooding downhill along Telegraph Road and in Newington. Up-zoning will increase likelihood of re-zoning of horse farms south on Telegraph. • Increasingly crowded schools. • Telegraph Road is the main thoroughfare in neighborhood. It has very heavy traffic now. It narrows to two lanes and there are no plans to widen this part of Telegraph. • Plan call for only a few trees within a 15 ft. buffer between proposed development and Winstead Manor homes.

Committee Reports

Those in favor of PHD-2 stated:

PDH is the only tool that allows any control over tree save and other concerns. • Both VDOT and DPWES have studied and found no problem with the road Winstead Manor. • Engineers have sought evidence of flooding cited by Cindy Smith and none has been found. • Carr has a good reputation. • Sweet gum tree is not a monarch. • Landslide was due to VDOT construction. • Flooding was one-time event during construction of Winstead Manor. • People would cut down trees if they lived on R-1 lots. Residents would build swimming pools. Houses would be very large. Amount of impervious surface in chart supplied by Carr Homes is only an estimate.

Questions were addressed to Carr Homes and Lynn Stroebel: How about LEEDS certified homes? • Have you considered pervious pavers for driveways to reduce amount of impervious surface? • Have you considered handicapped-accessible designs so people can age in their homes? • Look at Hollin Hills that is an award winning, highly desirable community built in the trees. Homes there attract high prices. There are creative ways to build that are compatible with nature.

Answers from Carr Homes and Lynn Stroebel included: Commercial homebuilders are not yet building LEEDS certified homes. • Our geo-technical engineers probably would not want water to run back into the ground. • Handicapped people are not our buyers.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

COAF-01-08: Resolution on Unwanted Newspapers

WHEREAS, the first amendment which guarantees freedom of press and freedom of speech covers distributing and printing newspapers; and
WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is governed under the Dillon Rule; and
WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors does not have authority to establish an ordinance to force publishers from delivering unwanted newspapers on private property to include driveways; and
WHEREAS, some residents of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District have tried to stop the delivery of unwanted newspapers—specifically the Washington Examiner-- with limited success; and
WHEREAS, the unwanted delivery of the Washington Examiner is littering private property; and
WHEREAS, the residents of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District spend time and money disposing of unwanted deliveries of the Washington Examiner; and
WHEREAS, the residents of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District have become unwilling and uncompensated “employees” of the Washington Examiner by disposing unwanted copies of the Washington Examiner as a part of the distribution process; and
WHEREAS, residents are able to stop delivery of mail delivered by the U.S. Postal Service; and

Committee Resolutions

WHEREAS, residents are able to stop delivery of newspapers they subscribe to such as the Washington Post; and
WHEREAS, residents are able to stop unwanted telephone calls through the federal DO NOT CALL list; and
WHEREAS, residents explicitly expressed an objection to the delivery of the Washington Examiner and requested stoppage of delivery both orally and in writing to the Washington Examiner; and
WHEREAS, the Washington Examiner has not responded to the requests and continues to deliver the unwanted newspapers; and
WHEREAS, residents who receive unwanted newspapers are required spend money to stop delivery of “free” newspapers by seeking legal counsel; and
WHEREAS, in *Tillman v. Distribution Systems of America, Inc.*, 224 A.D.2d 79, 648 N.Y.S.2d 630 (1996), the New York Appellate Division ruled that a newspaper distributor did not have a constitutional right to distribute newspapers by leaving them on homeowners' property.
Therefore Be It Resolved that the MVCCA requests that State Senators and State Delegates introduce legislation based on the *Tillman v. Distribution Systems of America* legal case that will allow Virginia residents to stop unwanted newspapers from being delivered.
Be It Resolved that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) requests that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) directs the County Attorney to determine if the BOS has authority to implement an ordinance based on the *Tilman v Distribution Systems of America, Inc.* case.

PLANNING & ZONING

P&Z 08-01
SEA 84-V-035
Drive In Bank, Richmond Highway and Ft Hunt Rd.

WHEREAS, the proposed bank with a drive-thru is within the Comp Plan for neighborhood retail use with FAR of 0.25;
WHEREAS, the proposed parcel has an intensity of 0.11 FAR ;
WHEREAS, the proposed bank poses no additional increase in likelihood of storm water runoff and there is no increase of impervious surface proposed;
WHEREAS, landscaping will improve the existing parcel making it more aesthetically pleasing;
WHEREAS, the replacement of the gas station and mini mart are proposed to reduce traffic impact;
WHEREAS, the parcel is in the 100 year flood plain and there are no anticipated problems of erosion and flooding either upstream or downstream of the property;
Therefore be it resolved that the MVCCA does not oppose approval of SEA 84-V-035

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, January 23, 8 p.m.
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-Chair's Report on Board Actions

Published Items and Resolutions

New Business

- Member Association Representatives' Time
- MV Supervisor's Time
- Other Elected Representatives and Public Time

Adjournment

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Board—February 14, 7:30 p.m. at MVGC—SUPV

COM	Date	Time	Place	Chair
AWH	1/24	7:00	MVGC	Jeszenszky/ McCormick
BUDG	2/20	8:00	WWMS-L	Voorhees
COAF	2/5	7:30	WWMS-PC	Cox
EDUC	2/6	8:00	WWMS-L	Harbeck
E&R	2/6	7:00	SCGC	Zaragoza
H/HS	2/5	7:00	SCGC	Cleveland
PL/Z	2/4	7:30	WWMS-LH	Sell-Pugh
PSAF	2/7	7:30	MVGC, #3	Shawkey
TRAN	2/4	8:00	WWMS	Dean, Acting Chair

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