



Mount Vernon  
Council  
of Citizens'  
Associations

# Record

By Subscription \$15 Per Year

Volume XL, No. 5, May 2008

## MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING

April 23, 2008, 8 p.m.

Walt Whitman School, Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

**PRESIDING:** Co-chair Katherine Ward.

**ATTENDING:** Co-chairs David Dale, Pat Rae, Katherine Ward; Committee Chairs Queenie Cox, Judy Harbeck, John Jeszensky, David Plummer, Deb Sell-Pugh, Dallas Shawkey, Scott Taylor (for Louise Cleveland), Catherine Voorhees, David Voorhees; Treasurer Tonda Phalen; Secretary Carol Coyle; Editor Gretchen Schroeder. Representatives (18 voting) from Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on the Potomac, The Fairfax, Huntington, Mount Vernon Civic, (Mount Vernon Manor), Mount Vernon on the Potomac, New Alexandria, New Gum Springs, Potomac Valley–Riverbend, Riverside Gardens, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wellington, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor North, Woodley Hills, Woodley Hills Estates; Boy Scout from Troop 654.

### MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	David Dale .....	703-765-8247
	Patrick Rea .....	703-385-3322
	Katherine Ward.....	703-627-8782
Treasurer	Tonda Phalen .....	703-768-7091
Secretary	Carol Coyle .....	703-780-7955
Editor	Gretchen Schroeder .....	703-980-9181
BUDG	David Voorhees .....	703-765-7551
COAF	Queenie Cox.....	703-360-2414
EDUC	Judy Harbeck.....	703-780-1883
E&R	David Plummer .....	703-360-7964
H/HS	Louise Cleveland .....	703-780-9151
PL/Z	Deb Sell-Pugh .....	703-768-2818
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey .....	703-360-2185
TRANS	Catherine Voorhees.....	703-765-7551
SCAWH	John Jeszenszky .....	703-799-9635
	John McCormick.....	571-331-1066
SCSP	Frank Cohn.....	703-780-5698
FCFCA	Jim Davis .....	703-799-3278
SFDC	Jim Walton.....	703-780-9555
	Tom Hook .....	703-765-6869

**MINUTES and TREASURER'S REPORT** approved as published.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget and Finance** – Minutes as published.

**Consumer Affairs** - Minutes as published

**Education** – Minutes as published. Insufficient lead time for the Committee to compose a new resolution on the County's School Budget, so Judy will testify based on the recent one.

**Environment and Recreation** – Minutes as published except that Co-chair Dale noted that the proposed park land next to Kings Crossing is zoned commercial. Chair reported on field trip to the Waste Water Treatment Plant at Lorton. County staff have been invited to attend the May Committee meeting.

**Health and Human Services** – Minutes as published. Next meeting topic will be Non-Profits.

**Planning and Zoning** – Minutes as published.

**Public Safety** – Minutes as published.

**Transportation** – Minutes distributed at the meeting. Community reps are against ads in the bus shelters for security reasons. There is to be a 10-year transit study on buses. (*Editor's Note: The Transportation Committee minutes distributed at the meeting are published in this issue of the Record on page 9.*)

**Affordable and Workforce Housing** – No meeting this month.

*continued page 2...*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Thank you** to all who attended and contributed to making this year's Gala a huge success. The venue, the food, and the music were all wonderful. Donations amounted to a little over \$1,000 which means we won't have to raise dues next year. The special collection to benefit the Fort Hunt Park Summer Concerts also raised a little over \$1,000. Our Citizen and Organization of the Year were both deserving and appreciative.

Thanks to all, with special thanks to Mount Vernon Country Club for the many 'extras' they provided.

-Queenie and Carol

P.S., Mark your calendars now—April 25, 2009—same time, same place.

# Council Minutes

# Committee Reports

## CO-CHAIRS' REPORT

Frank Cohn has agreed to chair a **Special Committee on Long-Range Strategic Planning**.

Katherine notes that we are making a difference. Our concerns about **infill** have convinced the County to revisit requirements re: angle of plane. There will be a public meeting in June.

**New parking restrictions** go into effect May 1. To report non-compliance, call Parking enforcement, (Police and Fire NON-emergency) 703-691-2131 or the Supervisor's Office 703-780-7518.

## RESOLUTIONS

### E&R/P&Z-2008-03J: VEGETATIVE BUFFER AREAS RECORDED ON DEEDS AND IN LAND RECORDS

Resolution approved 18-0-0.

## MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS' TIME

www.myneighborhood.com gives links to census, HUD.

Expansion of **parking lot at Mount Vernon**: Sheldon Hoenig reports that everything was okay, restrictions agreed to, etc., until the contractors arrived. They disregarded the agreements and took virtually all of the trees. Frank Cohn states that the State has guaranteed that the buffer of trees will be replaced. There will be an onsite meeting on May 19 at 5:30 p.m.

## PUBLIC TIME

Steve Hunt reports that the **Fort Hunt Sunday Evening Concert Series** is in jeopardy again this year for lack of funding, and *The Voice* is again spearheading a funding drive.

## SUPERVISOR'S TIME

### PCASO

April 28 there will be a **pilot teleconferencing program** for testimonies to the BOS from this part of the County. *Please see the Public Safety minutes on pages 7-8.*

Supervisor reports that **next year's budget deficit** will be about double this year's. He challenges David (Budget) and Judy (Education) to help figure out what happens next year. He would also like them to post mortem after decisions are made this year.

To make up the deficit, Supervisor supports a **County meals (restaurant) tax**. Many adjacent jurisdictions already have implemented this. Right now this can only be done by referendum; he would like to see the referendum requirement done away with.

Carol Coyle, Secretary

## BUDGET & FINANCE

The Budget and Finance Committee held a joint meeting with the Education Committee on Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m., with special guests State Senator Toddy Puller and Delegate Kris Amundson. For a synopsis of the discussion at the meeting, see the Education Committee minutes on page 3.

The next Meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be held on June 4, 2008 at 7:30 at the principal's conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School.

The agenda for the meeting will be discussion of a resolution regarding the "tourist tax" and a review of the County Budget as approved by the Board of Supervisors.

The Budget Committee has no resolutions to present.

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Committee Chair Queenie Cox was away on business. Katherine Ward chaired the meeting. Association represented was Stratford Landing.

*continued page 3...*

Treasurer's Report			
For Period January 1, 2008 through May 8, 2008			
	Budget 2008	Actual to Date	Budget/Actual
Balance Beginning Period		\$5,753.36	
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Dues	\$4,500.00	\$3,816.00	-\$684.00
Record Subscriptions	\$225.00	\$270.00	\$45.00
Gala Income	\$2,400.00	\$4,010.00	\$1,610.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$7,125.00</b>	<b>\$8,096.00</b>	<b>\$971.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Record Expenses	\$4,000.00	\$511.49	\$3,488.51
Administrative	\$300.00	\$62.41	\$237.59
Gala	\$2,000.00	\$2,963.46	-\$963.46
Web Site	\$225.00	\$0.00	\$225.00
Postage	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$100.00
Miscellaneous	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Insurance <sup>1</sup>	\$0.00	\$660.00	-\$660.00
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$7,125.00</b>	<b>\$4,397.36</b>	<b>\$2,727.64</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$9,452.00</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Unbudgeted item approved by the General Council on 1/23/2008.

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

**The Examiner:** The issue of *The Examiner* being distributed again all over the Wellington Community (WCA) was brought up. This paper had been stopped community wide for over a year. Now they are at it again. The customer services number of the paper was called and asked to stop delivery. They agreed to do so and said they would immediately contact the distributor. WCA rep told the customer service rep from *The Examiner* that they intended to contact the Better Business Bureau about this constant intrusion and non compliance with requests to stop. That seemed to get their attention.

**Recycling Improvements:** Marjy reiterated once again that she was going to pursue a resolution about how to get Fairfax County to recycle more products and especially more types of plastics.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

---

### EDUCATION

---

The Education Committee met at 7:30 p.m. on May 7, 2008, in the library at Whitman Middle School. Associations represented were: Wellington, Tauxemont, Williamsburg Manor North, Mt. Vernon Farms, Springbank, Riverside Estates, Waynewood and Hollin Hills. Co-Chairs David Dale and Pat Rea also attended. The initial portion of the meeting was held jointly with the Budget & Finance Committee.

Special guests were elected Commonwealth representatives, Sen. Toddy Puller and Del. Chris Amundson, who had been invited by the Budget & Finance Committee to discuss Commonwealth budget issues and initiatives.

Puller and Amundson described some of the financial and political issues which came up specifically in the recently concluded session and those which are perennial concerns, particularly for Fairfax County and Northern Virginia which continue to substantially fund the Commonwealth while seeing a relatively small return in terms of support for schools, local transportation, and health care. This failure to adequately fund Commonwealth responsibilities, coupled with "Dillon Rule" strictures which severely limit local legislative and funding authority, continues to shift burdens to local government and thus to local residential property owners since the residential property tax is the major source of local funding.

Amundson noted that she believes there is growing recognition in Richmond that the severe state-wide transportation infrastructure problems, where years of under-funding will soon result in both subpar maintenance and unavailability of any funds for new construction or improvements, will have to be addressed by new or expanded funding sources. Amundson is hopeful that

the June special transportation session will make progress in establishing and identifying additional or expanded funding sources.

With respect to education funding, Amundson noted that a major disaster for Fairfax was averted when a proposal to stop re-benchmarking of cost standards was defeated. This proposal would have essentially frozen the state benchmarks estimating average costs to comply with state educational standards, which provide the basis for state funding to local education. The result would have been many millions less in state funding, even as FCPS already receives direct state aid at a much lower level than average (13.5% vs. 33.3%). Perennial underfunding of education by its own standards, let alone the realities of today's needs, is however likely to continue.

One possible diversified funding source for schools could be a local meals/restaurant/hotel tax which could ease some pressure on residential property taxes and provide an income stream from tourism, commuters and other nonresidents as well as local diners. Under Virginia law, the legislature can empower the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to levy such a tax, or the voters can do so directly through referendum.

Historically, Virginia legislature has been loathe to permit local control although, given the budget situation and changing philosophy and makeup of the body, Amundson believes that could change (but not until 2010 at least) if there were an effective grass roots lobbying campaign from citizens and counties affected. She also noted that revenue from meals and hotel taxes are not considered in state education funding formulae and would not reduce state funding (example: Virginia Beach, which receives a relatively high level of state funding because its very significant resort revenues are not "counted" in determining wealth).

A local meals tax referendum to benefit schools was defeated in the early 1990s probably due to restaurant lobbying alleging concerns that diners would take their business elsewhere, voter suspicion over whether funds might be used for other purposes, and lack of positive outreach and support from the then BOS. Today's climate may be different: Alexandria and Arlington both have meals taxes with no deleterious business effect and the public may now recognize the potential value of this minor and "voluntary" tax which also reaches non-residents and tourists to provide a diversified revenue source and relieve some property tax pressure. Positive BOS support and clear dedication to schools of funds generated would also go far to encourage passage. Supervisor Hyland has suggested placing such a referendum on the November ballot.

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

Following the joint session, the Committee considered the Chair's upcoming testimony to the School Board on finalization of the Approved FY2009 Budget.

Although the BOS did, in this difficult budget time, provide over \$40million in additional funding over FY2008 levels, schools are still faced with cutting an additional \$30million from the FY2009 Advertised Budget over and above the over \$100million in cuts already made. Exacerbating the problem is additional projected enrollment rises and other costs (such as fuel) which essentially account for the entire BOS transfer increase. FCPS Financial Services has proposed closing the shortfall primarily by reducing the teacher COLA to 2%, postponing contribution to support retirement obligations as mandated by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), reducing bus purchases, slowing needed updates to the Student Information System (SASI), reducing and eliminating scheduled expansion of full day kindergarten as well as Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES). (Documents can be viewed at [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu))

In this dire situation—which will likely continue for several years—there are no good choices.

The Committee directed that the Chair should present the previously adopted MVCCA Resolution, directed to the BOS and supporting full funding of the Advertised Budget, to the School Board as evidence of MVCCA's strong support for education and its priority interests. The Committee directed that the Chair should support FCPS shortfall suggestions as to full day kindergarten, FLES, and bus purchases and reiterate opposition to any possible revisiting of IB/AP/activity fees, or reductions to programs which benefit schools with large numbers of disadvantaged children, including Math and Science Focus and Project Excel.

The Committee was concerned that reducing the COLA to 2% would further erode salary competitive position and teacher morale. Moreover, postponing any GASB contribution might put future promised benefits at risk and will likely require larger future payments. Recognizing that quality teaching staff is the single most important element in educational progress, the Committee directed the Chair to support a COLA of no less than 2.5% and to express concern over making no GASB payment at all. With great reluctance, given that FCPS already has among the highest class size in the area, the Committee also voted to accept a class size raise of an additional .5 students (total 1 for FY2009) and urge lower reductions in Instructional Assistants (IAs) to ameliorate the class size increase.

The Committee has great concern that these cuts, which may need to be expanded in future budgets if additional appropriate

levels of funding are not received from the BOS, the Commonwealth and/or possible new sources such as a meals tax, will inevitably have a damaging effect on the performance and reputation for excellence of FCPS, and on the ability of students to reach full academic potential.

Although FCPS did undertake system-wide reductions and evaluations to arrive at the FY2009 Advertised Budget, and ranks well locally and nationally in per pupil and administrative costs, the Chair will also urge a more proactive approach to demonstrating the needs and efficiencies of FCPS and a more publicly visible stem-to-stern cost/benefit analysis, as well as additional, publicly reported, talks with the County "side" to locate potential joint savings or overlap areas.

The next meeting is June 4, 2008, at 8 p.m. in the Walt Whitman Middle School library.

---

### ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

---

The committee met on May 7, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the South County Government Center (Richmond Highway) Room 221. Present were David Plummer (chair), Collingwood-on-Potomac, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon-on-Potomac, Newington Civic Assn, Newington Forest, Riverside Gardens, Spring Bank, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont Community Association, Wellington, Woodley Hills Community Assn, and Williamsburg Manor.

David Plummer called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. The draft agenda was adopted, and the minutes were approved as published in the *Record*.

#### **New Alexandria Flooding**

Camyllyn Lewis, engineer, and Randy Bartlett, Director, both of DPWES Stormwater Management presented a brief review of water levels during the Isabel flooding and basic features of the levees and flood walls proposed by the Corps to remedy the situation. Some questions could not be fully addressed until more specific designs and detailed studies are made. Construction costs will be in the neighborhood of \$12 million with annual maintenance of about \$150,000. Further progress hinges on funding from the County to be voted by the BOS later this spring or this summer. Federal appropriations are being requested and may be viable since the cost-to-benefit ratio is greater than one.

#### **North Hill plans from FCPA**

Scott Sizer of FCPA presented a time line for development of a park and housing on North Hill, focusing on the park portion. David Bowden, FCPA Planning Division Director, was also in attendance. A tree inventory has been completed rating the

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

quality of the tree cover, but some committee members wanted confirmation of the results with the trees in full leaf. A geotechnical study is still in process. A survey map showed the general topography (level vs. sloping areas) and possible points of pedestrian and vehicular access to the parkland. Mr. Plummer provided a list of possible park features to be considered by FCPA. The entire list will be provided to the FCPA. Asking for funds from the upcoming park bond issue was suggested. A meeting later in May will focus more on housing.

### Leatherland Update

Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan briefly reviewed the recent Planning Commission vote on the Leatherland rezoning application submitted by Carr Homes.

### Passive Public Nature Park

Martin Tillett presented a revised resolution to support a passive public nature park on about 8.9 acres behind the Kings Crossing commercial area known as the Fairchild property. This property was to have become parkland if the Kings Crossing Development, as planned and approved, had become a reality. After some discussion on public access and a suggestion that bond referendum money be applied, the resolution passed (12-0-0).

### Dyke Marsh

A resolution to support marking of the boundaries of Dyke Marsh by the National Park Service passed (12-0-0). This would help keep duck hunters and motorized recreational vessels out of the marsh, the boundaries of which are not obvious and extend well beyond the visible vegetation. Markers would also make everyone more aware of this environmentally sensitive area.

A second resolution with the intent of keeping current duck hunting restrictions passed (10-0-2). This resolution is joint with the Public Safety Committee and directed at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

A third resolution supporting restoration plans for Dyke Marsh passed (12-0-0).

### Mount Vernon Parking

A brief discussion was held updating the parking lot construction at the Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens. A meeting was held between the National Park Service, Mount Vernon and affected citizens. The contractor has admitted the mistake of removing trees and other vegetative buffers between the new lot and Route 235, although new retaining walls may have put said trees in jeopardy in any case.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the E&R Committee will be held on Wednesday, June 4, in the Mount Hybla Room of the South County Government Center at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

---

## HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

---

The HHS Committee met on May 6 at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, Engh Room, to hear reports on ongoing concerns and to meet with representatives of outstanding nonprofit community-based organizations (CBOs) serving the Mount Vernon/Lee area. Nine MVCCA member associations were represented: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood-on-Potomac, Hollindale, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Stratford Landing, Mount Zephyr, and Wellington; MVCCA Co-chair Pat Rea also participated. Four guest resources, including South County Regional Director for Human Services Telly Whitfield (and others named below) contributed to our discussion, focusing this month on the “frontlines” of local assistance for basic needs, in a time of economic change and stress, particularly for low-income working families.

### CBOs report from the frontline:

Mindful, during our March focus on the County budget, of the role of private, not-for-profit community-based organizations (CBOs) in our public/private network of health and human services, the HHS Committee invited four organizations based in the Richmond Highway Corridor that complement each other to provide an array of critical services. Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC, [www.lortonaction.org](http://www.lortonaction.org)) and United Community Ministries (UCM, [www.ucmagency.org](http://www.ucmagency.org)) respond to basic needs—food, furniture and clothing, financial assistance with utilities, etc.—in the southern and northern parts of the Route 1 Corridor; New Hope Housing ([www.newhopehousing.org](http://www.newhopehousing.org)) and Good Shepherd Housing and Family Services ([www.goodhousing.org](http://www.goodhousing.org)), provide, respectively, temporary shelters (averaging 45-90 days stay) and transitional housing services (combining up to 2 years of secure housing with counseling and skills training toward self-sufficiency). All four agencies started more than 30 years ago, remain focused on needs of low-income and primarily working people in this area, accept both walk-ins and referral from the County’s Coordinated Services Planning team (703-222-0880), and receive competitively awarded grants from the County’s Consolidated Community Funding Pool. (New Hope also receives a County contract to operate its spectrum of 6 shelter programs—Eleanor Kennedy for single persons, Mondloch House for families, etc.) All four must put considerable effort into raising private funds, leveraging public dollars and developing programs that help people achieve self-sufficiency.

Their directors provided a lively and informative discussion of

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

the challenges of providing these key services, and more, in the available “continuum of care.” LCAC Exec. Dir. *Steve Forke* emphasized the role of the local community in building and sustaining an agency that is the smallest of the four (10 staff, just 3 full-time) yet received in FY2007 more than 5 thousand requests for emergency assistance, is providing food to 25 families a week, and offers key programs such as English as a Second Language for adults, One-to-One Tutoring for children, After-school and Summer Programs for youth, and more. Lorton community contributions—in-kind, volunteer, and cash—are steady and provide hope that LCAC will be able to keep the food pantry stocked even in this time of dramatically rising demand. UCM Exec. Dir. *Cynthia Hull* described their larger operation (100 staff, serving 8 to 9 thousand people a year, currently 60 to 100 a day seeking food); UCM’s model programs build self reliance: the Bryant Early Learning (BEL) Center, Workforce Development, Neighborhood Initiatives, and Healthy Families Fairfax. Though New Hope Housing (which served 771 individuals, 124 of them children, in FY2007) primarily operates temporary shelters for individuals and families, Development Dir. *Larry Padberg* emphasized varied approaches to meet particular needs; recently, they have begun to provide permanent supportive housing (e.g. for persons with mental illness or cognitive disorders). Good Shepherd H&FS Exec. Dir. *Shannon Steene*, though unable to attend, provided info on GS’s array of programs (584 households served in FY2007) that provide housing along with budget counseling and other services for clients able to build on their limited resources to achieve self-sufficiency. The intense need for secure affordable housing persists, even as the complex effects of market changes unfold.

These local agencies have become models, in many respects, for other CBOs in the county, not least in their ability to meet regularly and assist each other, without duplicating services. All agree that food (especially protein) is now at the center of a “perfect storm”: rising prices, depletion of area food banks, reductions in federal school meals programs, and the approaching summer months. Local “pantries” that regularly provide bags of groceries to hundreds of local families are going bare. Holding a neighborhood food drive is an excellent way to raise awareness of these organizations: see their web sites for more on items most needed.

### Reports on planning

**North Hill:** The April 29 community meeting with county staff of the two Authorities, Redevelopment and Housing (RHA) and Parks (PA), that are jointly developing the master plan for North Hill focused on preliminaries (topography, archeological findings, tree survey, etc.) and sought input and ideas for park planning; public presentation of “concepts” for the master plan is anticipated in the fall.

**State & County budgets:** Committee members were urged to attend the May 14 meeting of the Route One Task Force for Human Services for a report on County and State budget decisions that will impact services, with Deputy County Exec. for Human Services *Verdia Haywood*, et al.

**Hospital & Healthplex:** At Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, expansion and renovation of outpatient, diagnostic and other services on the first floor (and “bump out” area) are underway. On June 11 or 19 (tentative schedule), the Southeast Health Planning Task Force has requested a meeting with Inova Health System’s chief executive officer to clarify the status of planning for the Hospital and the Lorton Healthplex.

**Next HHS meeting—open to the public**  
**Tuesday, June 3, 7 p.m., MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee** will focus on a major issue in health and human services, TBA, at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital, Engh Room. Chair *Louise Cleveland*, 703 780-9151.

---

## PLANNING & ZONING

---

The meeting was held May 5, 2008, in the Jack Knowles Lecture Hall at Walt Whitman Middle School beginning at 7:38pm and was chaired by Chair *Debbie Sell-Pugh* and *David Dale*. Thirteen member associations attended. (Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hall Citizens, Hollin Hall Village, Memorial Heights, Montebello, Mount Vernon Civic, New Alexandria, Newington Forest, Riverside Estates, Spring Bank, Wellington Heights, Wessynton Homes Assoc, Woodley Hills)

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

*Lynne Strobel* presented and clarified a proposal for a drive in bank at the corner of Richmond Hwy and Ft. Hunt Rd. The developer and their representatives have followed up on P&Z request that the developer meet with local associations and groups (nearby) and get feedback from them, they have received support from the Southeast Development Corp, Montebello Civic Assoc., Huntington Community Assoc., Belle Haven Country Club, Belle Haven Civic Assoc., Belle Haven on the Green Homeowners Assoc., Belle View Condominium Assoc., New Alexandria Citizens’ Assoc. The site is currently used as a staging area for VDOT construction and trailers in conjunction with the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project. Question 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

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

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 with in the development property. A motion to oppose was made and seconded, motion failed. Motion not to oppose was made and seconded, motion passed. **Motion to oppose failed 4-8-0**  
**Resolution not to oppose passed 8-4-0**

### Sunrise Senior Living (Lorton)

Proposal for an assisted living facility, not full care, adjacent to shops at Lorton, New Hope Church and Cross Point Community. Facility will consist of 80 units serving senior citizens of average age of 80. This type of facility is meant for people to age in place. Total lot is 5.3 acres. Rear of lot will remain wooded with open space remaining at approximately 67% , tree save total for full 5.3 acres is 40%. Design of the sewer system has been placed under the parking lot to minimize environmental impact. Sunrise is looking into LEEDS certification but cannot guarantee any specific standard will be used. Open space and tree space shall be proffered in plan as "no other use"/conservation easement to add to the existing easement next to the property. Plan is for traditional Sunrise style facility, Victorian with gables porches and gardens. Plan presents as front from all four sides. 64 parking spaces are required for the lot. Currently lot is wooded to the rear, near Cross Point and a house is located toward the front of property. An OTA, rezoning (currently .5-1 DU per acre to R-5) and S.E are all required to accommodate this use. Date for PC hearing is July 10, 2008. It was stated that the Cross Pointe community supports this use. The property is zoned residential (R-1) and needs to be rezoned R-5, and the comprehensive plan amended. David Dale presented a resolution not to oppose the Out- of – Turn Amendment, not to oppose based on information presented.

**Motion to support the resolution passed 10-2-0.**

### BRAC- APRs for information only

#### Item 1- WRIT NVIP LLC.

Land is currently zoned I-4 and is un-proffered property. If APR nomination is approved, 70-90 % would become office space, with as many as 2 "upscale" hotels. Near Pohick Estates and town home community. Current by right FAR is .5 would increase to .8-1. Property is described as being at the "front door to Ft. Belvoir". Shuttle with numerous stops would be provided in transportation plan to the Springfield-Franconia Metro.

#### Item 2- Scannell Properties

118 acres currently zoned for I-6 Heavy Industrial use. To develop large one story building for "research and development type company". Is 1 mile from museum? Plan to disperse den-

sity through out site. FAR is .153 if RPA is included, .33 FAR without RPA. RPA will not be development and will include conservation easement. Access to development will be from Telegraph Rd and Cinder Bed Rd. Rezone to I -4 proffered development.

The next meeting will be held June 1, 2008 Jack Knowles Lecture Hall 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

---

## PUBLIC SAFETY

---

Associations represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hills, King's Crossing, Mount Vernon, Mount Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Southwood, and Waynewood.

Our first speaker was Sara Mariska, for Hardwood, LLC, to provide information on a request to build a bank with a drive-through service lane on the east side of Fort Hunt Rd. at Richmond Hwy. Concerns have arisen on the issue of having a drive through at that location as it would increase traffic using the cut-through at Richmond Hwy and on the possible bank robberies. At the chair's request, MPO Clift, the Mount Vernon District Station Crime Prevention Officer, attended the meeting to review the concerns. At present, the bank will be a speculative building as no bank has contracted for it. The builder can build the bank by right. The only reason the builder has to obtain approval is that permission from the Board of Supervisors is needed for the drive-through. The entrance will be on the northwest side of the bank facing the corner of Fort Hunt Rd. and Richmond Hwy. Patrons will have to park in the back and walk around to the front of the building. There will be a sidewalk and landscaping along the side road which parallels Fort Hunt Rd. and Richmond Hwy in front of the bank. The drive-through will be on the opposite side by the parking lot. The building will have bullet proof glass and the latest security. The committee discussed the issues of possible bank robberies and additional traffic. The major concern was the use of the cut-through from the side road across the Richmond Hwy lanes to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge and to I 495/95 west for the purpose of traveling up Route 1 to Alexandria. This would tend to increase the possibility of accidents at that intersection. It was agreed that it would be best if the cut-through was closed. Other than that issue, there was no other significant public safety concern and the committee had not objection to the drive-through bank.

Our second speaker was Anne Harrison, Executive Director, Child Safe Net, Inc. In the fall of 1999, Diane Beatty, the President of Child Safe Net was astonished to learn that her father had been arrested in a local park because he was there to meet

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

a 13-year old girl with whom he had made an Internet contact for the purpose of a sexual encounter. Instead, he met the Fairfax County detective who had posed as the girl on line. Subsequently, Diane Beatty founded Child Safe Net to better support the protection of children from sexual predators. Together with the Fairfax County Police, they spent two years planning, developing and implementing the 'Protecting Children against Sexual Offender (P'CASO) program. The law enforcement portion of the program is in the Police Department. P'CASO has three major goals:

To provide for comprehensive, local criminal investigations of child abuse and exploitation by predators using the Internet to solicit children for sex, distribute child pornography, and prey on children in the community.

To reduce the risks that children face from sex offenders who have been released back into the community by proactively monitoring and strictly enforcing the terms of their release.

To raise the awareness of the dangers children face from sexual predators through the delivery of safety educational programs to adults and children.

2<sup>nd</sup> LT. Scott Durham, Supervisor, Child Investigations Unit, Fairfax County Police Department, then discussed the P'CASO operations under him. For the last five years there have been six detectives who perform the following functions:

Four detectives are in the Sexual Predator Enforcement and Apprehension Detail (SPEAD) who proactively monitor the 350-400 registered sex offenders in Fairfax County to ensure strict compliance with the terms of their release from prison.

An Internet surveillance detective to intercept on line predators before they can harm children.

A computer forensics detective with the high level of training and expertise necessary to develop the evidence required for successful prosecution of persons who abuse and exploit children

Until 2008, Child Safe Net received an earmark from the federal government which was used to fund the six police positions and there is funding available through June 30, 2008. Unfortunately, this funding was not renewed for FY 2009. As a result, Fairfax County will have to fund the positions. Due the fiscal constraints this year, the County was only able to fund only four of the Police positions beginning July 1, 2008. The Police will reduce the number of SPEAD officers from four to three. The internet surveillance detective will remain. The functions of the computer forensics detective will be absorbed into the duties of three existing computer forensics positions.

LT Durham commented that the police believe there are over 2,800 computers in Fairfax County that contain child pornogra-

phy. He noted that the P'CASO detectives are federally deputized and work closely with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Eastern District of Virginia on child abuse and sex exploitation cases. He commented that a key component of the P'CASO program is public education and that his office has already made approximately 80 – 90 presentations to various groups.

He noted at the end of his presentation that there is no national sex offender registry. However, the [childsafenet.org](http://childsafenet.org) contains a lot of valuable information along with links to several other good websites, including the site for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

The chair then resumed a discussion begun in April about the hunting waterfowl on the Potomac River south of Dyke Marsh. The areas immediately north and south of the federal Dyke Marsh are Virginia waters rather than Maryland waters. In 1994, two regulations were promulgated by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. One does not permit hunting within Virginia waters north of Dyke Marsh to the Alexandria line. Another regulation permits some limited hunting in the area immediately adjacent to and south of Dyke Marsh. It stipulates that no stationary waterfowl hunting may be erected, that blinds shall be by licensed floating blinds only, and that blinds could be used for hunting on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and Thanksgiving Day, during the hunting season, between 4 a.m. and one-half hour after sunset. The President of Friends of Dyke Marsh has learned that there may be an effort to consider deleting the second regulation at the summer meeting of the Board of Directors of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. To prevent this, a draft resolution has been prepared to proactively oppose such an action. The committee discussed the draft and passed it after making some additions.

A second resolution addressing waterfowl hunting south of the adjacent area was offered and discussed, but the committee decided it needed some additional information before it was ready for further action.

The committee then reviewed the progress of the ongoing Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) training for Mount Vernon District residents at the Alexandria Fire Training Academy. The chair has had an initial discussion with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department Battalion Chief Roatch concerning the problems. It was agreed that there will be a meeting after the training is completed to review the training and problems experienced so that improvements can be made.

The Public Safety Committee's next meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 5 in Community Room #3, Mount Vernon Governmental Center.

---

---

# Committee Reports

---

---

## TRANSPORTATION

*(Editor's Note: These are the April 2008 minutes, published here for the record.)*

The Transportation Committee met on Monday, April 7, 2008 in the Library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. The meeting was chaired by Catherine M. Voorhees. Attending were: Ms. Katherine Ward, Co-chair MVCCA; Frank Cohn (Former Transportation Committee Chair), Dick Steeg (VDOT Operations), Randy Dittberner, Hari Sripathi and Steve Black (all VDOT Traffic Engineering) and representatives of 18 member citizen associations (Engleside, Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Huntington Civic, Marlan Forest, Montebello, Mt. Vernon on the Potomac, Mt. Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Southwood, Stratford on Potomac, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wellington, Wessynton, Woodland Park, Woodley Hills).

### VDOT Presentation on Route 1

Guest Speaker: Hari Sripathi, Regional Traffic Engineer, VDOT VDOT presented their data and analysis of traffic on Richmond US Route 1 from the Beltway to the Occoquan River, with their rationale for recommending lowering the speed limit. Under the VA Strategic Highway Safety Plan, they are to reduce injuries 10% by 2010. According to Mr. Sripathi and his boss, Mr. Steeg, the budget realistically does not provide them with other options to reduce injuries.

The VDOT Route 1 Corridor study was based on a 26 mile study area (from Kings Highway to the Stafford County Line). Out of 20 top NOVA Primary Crash Corridors, the first and sixth crash corridors were on Route 1, the rest were located elsewhere. However, VDOT's presentation emphasized that Fairfax County's section of US1 has more accidents per year than any other highway in VA. The reasons VDOT gave were that the northern section of Route 1 (7.57 miles) is a complex road structure due to its 59 intersections, 28 signals, and 229 commercial entrances. According to their studies, this area has a speed variation greater than other highways (pace speed 31 to 45 mph).

VDOT explained that when the speed variation among vehicles is smaller, the rate of accidents is lower. That is, if all of the vehicles are in a free flow condition, there is speed harmonization. If vehicles stop at lights or to go into shopping centers, the free flow condition is broken. Because of the large number of entrances to commercial establishments on Route 1, VDOT feels that lowering the speed limit will decrease the speed variation (thereby harmonize the traffic velocities) and, as a result, decrease the rate of accidents.

After VDOT's presentation, there was a lively and lengthy Q/A period.

**Q.** Explain VDOT's theory on speed harmonizing and throughput:

**A.** Think of a funnel, fast delivery of the rice into the funnel can plug up the funnel; however, on US1, signals, turnoffs, buses can cause faster traffic to plug up at squeezes so a slower pace of traffic could adjust and get greater throughput? The transportation committee wondered about the amount of traffic that gets through at the slower pace. VDOT's response was that traffic will flow better. [But, the question was will the amount of vehicles that go through the area in a certain time be reduced if the speed is reduced?]

**Q.** Has VDOT considered leaving speed limits in place until a traffic study is done?

**A.** There is a need for improving safety and lowering accidents, now studies and engineering adjustments (e.g., increasing the length of the dedicated left turn lanes) take a long time and realistically, VDOT does not have the budget for those improvements. Plus, VDOT needs the 10% reduction in injuries.

**Q.** Has VDOT considered other factors ( cell phones, distractions, alcohol, etc) which may be the cause of the high accident rate.

**A.** No. VDOT does not do enforcement. VDOT believes speed lowering should help whatever other factors are present. Driver behavior is hard to handle and is an enforcement issue.

The transportation committee felt a follow-up study by VDOT should be done after any change to the existing traffic situation to see if the change has had the desired effect. VDOT had no plans to do such a follow up analysis.

Since VDOT had asked for our input as Stakeholders of the Route 1 Corridor, the Committee offered the following criticism of US1 design: no frontage roads, no off lanes for people existing to the commercial establishments (in lieu of frontage roads), and no off lanes for buses at stops. In addition, concerns about whether VDOT has considered that vans driving to Woodbridge would use neighborhoods and the GW Parkway to avoid the reduced speed on Route 1.

VDOT understands the citizen frustration, but traffic light timing is maxed out because there are too many driveways/entrances, the cost of right-of-way is high (larger than the actual construction costs), the budget is limited and major changes take time and money.

Co-chair, K. Ward, summarized what many of the Committee felt: VDOT's presentation is an argument for doing the mass transit study, which the Committee has asked for since 2005. While VDOT agrees, another entity (VA Transportation Authority) is responsible for the mass transit study. However, if VDOT pushes to get the mass transit study completed, it may fix the traffic problem.

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

VDOT provided us with statistics on crashes vs. time of day (but not the locations or what types)

5 am to 10 am, rush hour	approx. 400 crashes	18 % of crashes
10 am to 3 pm,	600	28 %
3 pm to 8 pm, rush hour	800	38 %
8 pm to 5 am	364,	16 %

### **Randy Dittberner, VDOT – Intersection List Slated for Improvement Studies**

There are 30 troublesome intersections in Northern VA, 4 of which are in the Mt. Vernon District: Fort Hunt Rd/Quander Rd; South Run Rd/Silverbrook Rd; Pohick Rd/Newington Forest; and Pohick Rd/ Whernside Street.

VDOT will be taking data at these sites (volume, turns, etc.) to determine if changes need to be made to the intersections. These sites were chosen from CPU traffic volume data. These are all new studies which should be underway in the coming year. The Transportation Committee was asked to keep VDOT apprised of troublesome intersections. Frank Cohn brought the intersection of Rt. 235 (Mount Vernon Highway) and Rt. 623 (Mt. Vernon Road) to VDOT's attention and our Supervisor's office has said that VDOT will study the same.

Neil McBride of Newington Forest commented on Silverbrook Rd and the increase in development at old prison site resulting in more traffic leading to more accidents. VDOT agreed to work with the community concerning that intersection.

### **Mt. Vernon became a Regional Parking District on April 9, 2008**

Frank Cohn representing the MVCCA at the Board of Supervisors hearing and testifying in support of allowing large community parking districts. The previous process was upside down; individuals could park trailers, boats, etc on streets; but the community had to go through red tape, delays and \$\$ to stop the parking of trailers, boats, etc. A key point made at the Board of Supervisors' hearing was taxpayers should not be providing free parking to those who own these conveyances. Now, that the parking district is in effect, complaints need to be directed to a special non-emergency number of the police.

### **Ads on Bus Shelters**

Only one Bus Shelter is being considered for ads in the Mt. Vernon District (Silverbrook Rd at Royal Robin Lane). This matter was brought up in the February Council meeting and was referred back to the P&Z Committee. The Planning Commissioner asked for the transportation committee input on this matter before the public hearing. The transportation committee voted against the ads and information was provided to the Planning Commissioner.

### **New Parking Lot at Mt Vernon Estate**

The clear cutting of the trees between Rt. 235 and the parking lot was not what citizens expected. The mature tree canopy is lost. But, the National Park Service made a design decision. The plans still call for a barrier between Rt. 235 and the parking lot and Frank Cohn and other transportation committee members will meet with both Mt. Vernon and the National Park Service to voice displeasure and ask what can be done.

---

## TRANSPORTATION

---

The Transportation Committee met on Monday, May 5, 2008 in the Library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. The meeting was chaired by Catherine M. Voorhees. Attending were: Katherine Ward, Co-Chair MVCCA; Earl Flanagan (Planning Commissioner) Rollo Axton, Randy White (Fairfax County Department of Transportation), Lora Byala (consultant working with Fairfax County on Public surveys), Huntwood LLC representatives and counsel and representatives of 18 member citizen associations (Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Huntington Civic, Montebello, Mt. Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Southwood, Stratford on Potomac, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wellington, Wessynton, Woodland Park, Woodley Hills, Stratford Landing, Mount Vernon Manor and Williamsburg Manor North ).

### **Comprehensive 10-year plan for Bus Service**

Fairfax County is developing a comprehensive ten-year plan for Fairfax County Connector and Metrobus Service countywide. This project will determine how to improve bus service in the county over the next ten years. There will be a meeting on May 19, 2008 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the South County Government Center. There are other meetings in the county in which the public will be given the opportunity to shape Fairfax County's Bus Service. Please attend one of the meetings (see Fairfax County web site), go online (Fairfax County Web Site) and provide your comments.

### **Drive-thru bank at the corner of Fort Hunt and Route 1**

Representatives of Huntwood LLC presented their proposal for a Special Exception for a drive-thru bank on previously vacant land. The gas station, which was there previously, was purchased for the reformatting of Route 1 due to the Woodrow Wilson Bridge construction. The transportation committee was concerned with whether the mix of pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular traffic would be a problem as a bike lane is being added along side of Richmond Highway between the proposed project and Route 1. Would the curb cut cause traffic to slow or stop thereby impeding traffic? (i.e. would traffic flow freely through as VDOT requested in last month's meeting to avoid accidents?)

---

---

## Committee Reports

---

---

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

---

Huntwood LLC representatives indicated that ten cars could be stacked up, with more cars being able to stack up in the parking lot. The committee felt signage would be necessary to direct traffic flow and wanted traffic to go out of the service road only. There was concern about cars trying to enter Route 1 from the establishment. Other drive-thru areas have more room available for stacking cars for service and the committee was looking at how the volume of anticipated cars could be accommodated without impeding traffic. The Richmond Highway Corridor is a Highway Corridor Overlay District that has special zoning regulations that do not favor drive-thru banks. The Fairfax County Zoning Ordinance, Part 6, Section 7-600: **Purpose and Intent:** ".....in general, to protect and promote the health, safety and general welfare of the public by the prevention or reduction of traffic congestion and/or danger in the public and private streets, a limitation is placed on certain automobile oriented, fast service, or quick turn-over uses by the imposition of the Highway Corridor Overlay District. Except as allowed by right or except as qualified by Sections 607 and 608 below, the following uses shall be regulated in the Highway Corridor Overlay District: 1. Drive-in financial institutions. 2. Fast food restaurants. 3. Quick-service food stores. 4. Service stations. 5. Service station/mini-marts."

The transportation committee will discuss this further in our June meeting as there are several unanswered questions:

- Is there controlled access to the drive-thru site?
- If a curb cut remains at Route 1 will anticipated pedestrian and bike traffic as well as vehicular traffic be impeded?
- What is the volume of vehicles for a bank without a drive-thru with respect to other retail uses? Which would have less impact on the flow of traffic?

#### **VDOT Recommendation to lower speed limit on Route 1**

The committee discussed VDOT's presentation supporting their conclusion to lower speed on Rt. 1. While the Committee understands that action needs to be taken to reduce accidents on Rt. 1, the committee indicated a number of reasons to delay this decision, including the funded projects that will improve 11 intersections (29 total intersections are planned), continuous sidewalks on both sides of Rt. 1 eventually and other engineering solutions. The committee would like to lobby our state representatives as well as our local representatives to ensure that money for Rt. 1 improvements are obtained or maintained.

The Committee met April 22 at the Mount Vernon Government Center. Community organizations represented were: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mason Hill, Mount Zephyr, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac Sec. IV, Woodley Hill Estates and Woodley Hills Comm. Assn. Pat Rea, MVCCA Co-Chair and Elisabeth Lardner MV Distr. Member of the FC Regional Housing Development Authority (RHA) also attended.

The Committee reviewed the press release for the upcoming public meeting on North Hill, scheduled for April 29. It was anticipated that there would not be much information available at this point on the housing portion of the development. Discussion turned again to the recently installed four manufactured homes by the County in Woodley Hills. Woodley Hills residents voiced disappointment that the manufactured homes were selected without their input. The units installed, while outwardly attractive, have poorly designed floor plans. The residents resolved to make a record of what they considered desirable characteristics and possible design features of manufactured homes based on years of experience at Woodley Hills.

The County's recently published memorandum on the status of the Affordable Housing Preservation Initiative was reviewed by the committee. It was noted that the 2207 units recorded is a good beginning but was far short of the needs for affordable housing units in the County. This situation reinforces the need to proceed with the North Hill development so new units can be added to the number of available affordable units.

Discussion also turned to the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment regarding Residential Studio units also known as Single Room Occupancy Units (SROs). Members of the Committee recounted their work in the effort to have this type of housing constructed to house single low-income persons or low-income single parents. Members of the Committee were asked to make comments to this proposal before the May 7 deadline.

Members of the Committee suggested that arrangements be made to invite members of the County Staff involved in planning and administering affordable housing for future meetings.

The May meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m. at the Woodley Hills Community Center, 2975 Camellia Drive, Alexandria, 22306.

## Committee Reports

### SPECIAL COMMITTEE FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Committee met on May 6, 2008, in Room B-42 of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Attending were: Frank Cohn, Committee Chair; Pat Rea, MVCCA Co-Chair; Katherine Ward, MVCCA Co-Chair; Earl Flanagan, Planning Commissioner, Mt Vernon District; and Committee members, Sheldon Hoenig and Bill DeMaso.

The Committee accepted the methodology to proceed with finalizing the wording of the Committee's understanding of the mission of the MVCCA. This draft should form the basis for developing a "Vision Statement" encompassing the concept for the Committee's existence. Bill DeMaso agreed to develop an initial draft of such a statement. All Committee members were requested to draft statements of 'Goals' they envision for the MVCCA, five years into the future and beyond. Draft 'Goal' statements to be forwarded to the Chair as soon as developed, to be consolidated for Committee-wide distribution by the Chair.

The next meeting of the Committee is projected for 6-7 p.m. on June 3, 2008, place to be determined.

## Committee Resolutions

### ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

#### E&R 2008-5: Marking the Boundaries of Dyke Marsh

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh is a 485-acre freshwater tidal wetland, one of the last large freshwater tidal marshes along the Potomac River shoreline in the Washington, D.C., area;

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh is at least 5,000 to 7,000 years old, has survived in a metropolitan, heavily developed area, and is one of the most significant temperate, climax, riverine, narrow-leaved, cattail marshes in the U. S. National Park System, nationwide;

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh was designated by the U. S. Congress "so that fish and wildlife development and their preservation as wetland wildlife habitat shall be paramount";

**WHEREAS**, there were 400,000 visitors to the Belle Haven/Dyke Marsh area in 2007 and 1.2 million users of the Mount Vernon Trail annually;

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh is the site of scientific research by the U. S. National Park Service, Georgetown University and others and offers educational opportunities;

**WHEREAS**, there has been a decline in some bird species, including the Marsh Wren, the Least Bittern, King Rail and Virginia Rail; there is at least one plant on the federal endangered and threatened species candidate list, one plant is extinct in Dyke Marsh (*Plantago cordata*) and at least one fish, the *Short-nosed sturgeon* (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) is on the federal endangered list;

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh supports the only known nesting population of the Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus plustris*) in the upper Potomac tidal zone;

**WHEREAS**, the U. S. National Park Service has begun an environmental impact statement process to prepare a management and restoration plan to enhance the ecological services, enhance the historic for the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and enhance the scientific research and educational and interpretative programs offered to the public;

**WHEREAS**, the eastern boundaries of the marsh are not marked and the actual eastern boundaries of Dyke Marsh exceed the vegetated area of the marsh;

---

---

## Committee Resolutions

---

---

**WHEREAS**, the Belle Haven Marina is the Dyke Marsh and boaters, canoers, kayakers and others cannot determine when they are in the marsh or in sensitive areas;

**WHEREAS**, vessels with internal combustion engines are prohibited in the marsh without an NPS permit, water skiing and jet skis are prohibited and pets must be leashed;

**WHEREAS**, intrusions into sensitive breeding and nesting areas have been observed;

**WHEREAS**, the poaching of turtles has occurred in Dyke Marsh for many years;

**WHEREAS**, waterfowl hunters can erect duck blinds on the borders of the marsh and to enable hunters to erect blinds outside the boundaries, the boundaries must be marked;

**WHEREAS**, with the opening of National Harbor, the expansion of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge, and Alexandria's encouragement of boat customers, river traffic, including jet skis, will increase, causing more wakes and detrimental erosion;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations asks the Board of Supervisors, and our federal, state and local legislators to do whatever is required to ensure that the National Park Service marks the boundaries of Dyke Marsh immediately and not wait for the completion of the Dyke Marsh Restoration and Long Term Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement.

### **E&R 2008-08: FCPA Development Wish List for North Hill**

**WHEREAS**, the MVCCA continues to promote the protection of park space on North Hill by supporting that at least 24 acres of North Hill be redeveloped into a community-focused park, protecting existing tree cover and serving the needs of local residents and the community;

**WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) has solicited community opinion and input as to what amenities should be included in the development plan for the property known as "North Hill";

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations requests that the following amenities be considered by the FCPA when developing the North Hill Urban Forest into a community park:

- passive
- walking trails, tied-in with the existing planned trails so that people can actually use trails to go some place
- bike-friendly trails
- nature trails with bird boxes, signage for plant ID's, play up springs/wetland that are the source of the North Branch of Little Hunting Creek
- handicapped accessible
- education learning areas
- maintain archeological site
- picnic areas
- exercise stations (natural products no plastics)
- playground for kids (natural products no plastics)
- fenced dog park for small dogs
- parking that is not on Route 1
- skate board area
- restrooms or port-a-potty
- neighborhood/community garden plots—fenced and rented space those who live in the area
- keep the fences up that divide the area from the Bryant School so that soccer and other active groups will not use this space for their activities.
- limited open grass areas—again to reduce the active sports from Bryant from moving into this area.

---

---

# Committee Resolutions

---

---

## PLANNING & ZONING

### Drive In Bank, Richmond Highway and Ft Hunt Rd. SEA 84-V-035

**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 development is supported by the following nearby communities and businesses:

- Southeast Development Corp
- Montebello Civic Assoc.
- Huntington Community Assoc.
- Belle Haven Country Club
- Belle Haven on the Green Homeowners Assoc.
- Belle View Condominium Assoc.
- New Alexandria Citizens' Assoc.

**WHEREAS**, the proposed parcel has an intensity of 0.11 FAR;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed bank poses no additional increase in likelihood of stormwater 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

### Resolution on Sunrise Assisted Living Out-of-Turn Plan Amendment

**WHEREAS**, Sunrise Assisted Living wishes to build an assisted living facility at 8911 Ox Road in Lorton, and

**WHEREAS**, the current R-1 zoning would need to be changed to R-5, and

**WHEREAS**, the Comprehensive Plan would need to be amended before the rezoning could be approved, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed use as an assisted living facility is deemed by the community to be a better use of the property than single family homes at a density of 1 unit per acre, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed development of the assisted living facility would provide substantial environmental benefits beyond what is provided in the R-1 zoning district, such as over 40 percent undisturbed tree save area plus additional open space, and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has agreed to place a conservation easement on the 5.3 acre tree save area at the rear of the development;

**WHEREAS**, the adjacent tree save area, owned by the Cross Point HOA, will be enlarged and the environment will be improved by these two contiguous tree save areas;

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has committed to not damaging the tree save area by ensuring that the limits of clearing and grading do not damage critical root zone of trees in the tree save area;

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has committed to no utility trenching near or through the tree save area;

**WHEREAS**, the proposed change to the Comprehensive Plan would be as an option on the parcel with the following restrictions:

- it only applies when the use is an assisted living facility
- mandates a minimum 40% undisturbed tree save area
- mandates LEED certification
- mandates innovative storm-water management
- mandates consolidated access with the adjacent property
- mandates architectural styles compatible with the area.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations does not oppose the out-of-turn Plan Amendment as presented.

---

---

## Committee Resolutions

---

---

### PUBLIC SAFETY / ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

#### **PSaf/E&R – 1- 2008: Resolution on Virginia Duck Hunting Regulations, Potomac River Shoreline Adjacent to Dyke Marsh**

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh is one of the last large freshwater tidal marshes along the Potomac River shoreline in the Washington, D.C., area; and,

**WHEREAS**, the U. S. Congress in 1959 designated Dyke Marsh, by law, as part of the U.S. National Park System “so that fish and wildlife development and their preservation as wetland wildlife habitat shall be paramount;” and,

**WHEREAS**, Dyke Marsh is one of the most significant temperate, climax, riverine, narrow-leafed, cattail marshes in the U. S. National Park System nationwide; and,

**WHEREAS**, there has been a decline in some bird species, including the Marsh wren, the Least bittern, King rail, and Virginia rail; at least one Dyke Marsh plant is on the federal endangered and threatened species candidate list, one plant is extinct in Dyke Marsh (*Plantago cordata*), and at least one fish, the Short-nosed sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) is on the federal endangered list; and,

**WHEREAS**, there were 400,000 visitors to the Belle Haven/ Dyke Marsh area in 2007 and 1.2 million users of the Mount Vernon Trail annually; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 1994, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries promulgated a regulation (4VAC15-260-160) stipulating that no stationary waterfowl hunting blinds adjacent to U. S. National Park Service lands in Great Hunting Creek and Dyke Marsh be erected, that blinds adjacent to these lands shall be by licensed floating blinds only, and that blinds could be used for hunting on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and Thanksgiving Day, during the hunting season, between 4 a.m. and one-half hour after sunset; and,

**WHEREAS**, there has been no substantial change in the reasons for the adoption of the regulation and, indeed, since 1994 there are more visitors, more users of the Mount Vernon trail and more nearby residents; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries may consider repealing these regulations in the summer of 2008.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) requests the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to retain this regulation which protects the safety of the other wildlife, boaters, walkers, researchers, students, and visitors to Dyke Marsh; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the MVCCA requests that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors support retention of this regulation; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the MVCCA requests that the senators and delegates representing the Mount Vernon District in the General Assembly support this resolution by requesting the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries to retain this regulation.

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 28, 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—June 12, 7:30 p.m. at MVGC—SUPV

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
AWH	5/29	7:00	Woodley Hills CC	Jeszenszky/McCormick
BUDG	6/4	7:30	WWMS	D. Voorhees
COAF	6/3	7:30	WWMS	Cox
EDUC	6/4	8:00	WWMS-MC	Harbeck
E&R	6/4	7:00	SCGC-Hybla	Cleveland, Acting Chair
H/HS	6/3	7:00	IMVH/Engh	Cleveland
PL/Z	6/1	7:30	WWMS-LH	Sell-Pugh
PSAF	6/5	7:30	MVGC	Shawkey
SP	6/3	6:00	TBD	Cohn
TRAN	6/2	8:00	WWMS	C. Voorhees

*The Record (USPS 702-510, ISSN 1055-5986) is published monthly except August for \$15 per year by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203. Periodicals postage is paid at Alexandria, Virginia.*

POSTMASTER: Send address changes for the *Record* to:



P.O. Box 203  
Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203  
[www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org)

Periodicals Postage  
Paid at  
Alexandria, Virginia