



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

Record

Volume XLVI, No. 11, December 2014

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

REMINDER: The December General Council meeting has been rescheduled to December 17th.

Guest speaker: Arcadia's Executive Director to give an update on what they are doing at Woodlawn Plantation (restaurants, farmers markets, etc). Come hear what's so exciting !!!!

Sense of the Council on the Gala

What do we do with the Gala and annual awards?

- 1) No more Gala or awards
- 2) Awards continue at a ceremony as part of June General meeting
- 3) Gala and awards continue as in the past

Details follow the Resolutions section of this Record.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Special Election: The Nominating Committee's nominee for the open Co-Chair position to serve until June 30, 2015: Pat Rea

MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 19, 2014 at Mount Vernon Government Center

PRESIDING: Co-chair Judy Harbeck

ATTENDING: Co-Chair Harbeck, Secretary Martin, Committee Chairs Cleveland, C. and D. Voorhees, McDonald, Pohorylo, and Representatives Young and Ward.

Voting Representatives from the following citizens' and homeowners' associations: Belle View Condos, Collingwood on the Potomac, Engleside, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Newington Forest, Potomac Valley-Riverbend, Stratford Landing, Wayneood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Westgrove, and Woodlawn Terrace.

The General Council meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

The chair announced that Co-chair Ron Fitzsimmons has resigned.

THE AGENDA as published in the Record was amended to vote on readmitting a lapsed association to membership, and to add discussion of the Gala.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES of October General Council meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT is in the minutes; no report due to Treasurer's absence.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Minutes for committees are given in the Record. Consumer Affairs is still in need of a chair; anyone who is interested should contact Judy Harbeck or other BOD member. ED will hear from library supporters at its Dec. 3 meeting, focusing on the libraries' interface with schools and computer use. E&R heard a presentation on solar energy; the powerpoint can be seen on the E&R homepage on www.mvcca.org. On Dec. 3 E&R will vote on a

MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	David Dale	703-340-7971
	Judy Harbeck	703-780-1883
	<i>open</i>	
Secretary	Elizabeth Martin	703-360-0691
Treasurer	Stephen Markman	703-360-1157
Editor	<i>open</i>	
BUDG	David Voorhees	703-765-7551
COAF	<i>open</i>	
EDUC	<i>open</i>	
E&R	Cathy Ledec	703-346-0814
HHS	Louise Cleveland	703-780-9151
PL/Z	Karen Pohorylo	703-780-7825
PS	Bob McDonald	
TRANS	Catherine Voorhees	703-765-7551
SFDC	Ellen Young	ellenyoung@aol.com
FCFCA	Katherine Ward	703-660-6220

Webmaster Karen Keefer 703-660-6699

Council Minutes

resolution on fall cankerworm spraying, and probably on the Collingwood Library's request for a Special Exception Amendment to allow subdivision of the property. Wellington CA will vote on both these issues, and send a letter to E&R and P&Z. HHS notes the South County Task Force for Human Services will meet 11/20 from 1-3 at the South County Govt Center, to hear a presentation on Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. P&Z chair and Planning Commissioner met with residents of Woodlawn Crt, who have transportation concerns about the proposed daycare center. P&Z also considered Collingwood Library's SEA request. Transportation Committee met with P&Z about the Morningstar Daycare center; there is no plan re transportation issues. The intersection at Pole Rd and Jeff Todd Way is dangerous due to speeding, with a traffic fatality already. Public Safety Committee had a presentation on animal control.

Correction to the October B&F report: 3 cents should be \$3.

SFDC: will send a letter of support for the two MVCCA resolutions on Route 1 (assuming they pass). Arlington voted down the streetcar; perhaps the \$20 million in Fairfax County's budget might be reprogrammed toward Route 1 transportation improvements. SFDC met with the County Executive Office's Regulatory Initiatives Implementer, and plan to meet again.

Fairfax Federation: also concerned about libraries. Will vote on the Route 1 and Cankerworm resolutions at their membership meeting Nov 20.

CO-CHAIRS' REPORT. At the Dec. 17 meeting, there will be a presentation by Arcadia about its plans for Woodlawn Stables.

The MVCCA Board is uncertain how and whether to proceed with the Gala, and seeks input from its members. Some options:

1. Do nothing: no more Gala, or awards.
2. Have an awards ceremony to honor awards recipients as part of a GC meeting, with refreshments.
3. Continue with the Gala as it has been, perhaps at a different time of year.
4. Use it as a fund-raiser for the organization of the year.
5. Replace it with a weekend picnic, including families.

The General Council voted unanimously to approve readmission of long-term member Mount Vernon on the Potomac to the MVCCA.

RESOLUTIONS (Both joint resolutions were passed by P&Z, E&R, and Transportation Committees.)

J-2014-03A: Funding Phase 2 of the Route 1 Study. The resolution was adopted, with 16 in favor and none opposed.

J-2014-03B: Phasing of Construction for Route 1 Hybrid Option. The council debated and found certain clauses ambiguous; it was moved that the chairs of the originating committees should amend the resolution by refining the wording. The motion

passed 16 to 0. The resolution (as it will be amended) was then passed with 16 in favor and none opposed. The amended version will be published in the December RECORD.

NEW BUSINESS

Election for Co-chair position: The chair of the nominating committee introduced David Dale, who was P&Z chair for 10 years, a former co-chair, with technical skills that will benefit us. He is nominated to fill a vacant co-chair position until June of 2015. In an election by secret ballot, David Dale was elected co-chair. (17 members were present, and 16 of them voted for Dale, with 0 votes for any other candidate.)

SUPERVISOR'S TIME (Reported by Chief Aide Brett Kenney, Supervisor Hyland unavailable)

Supervisor Hyland had a North Hill meeting with staff. The process is ongoing.

A derelict boat is tied up to National Park Service property. No one claims responsibility, and there appears to be no reasonable way to get this boat removed. A number of jurisdictions and offices are involved in trying to remove the boat, which, fittingly, is named "Group Therapy."

Transit Center location on Route 1: Latest location being considered is at Buckman Rd near the Thieves Market. Potential for two centers, one on each side of the road with a pedestrian bridge crossing Rt 1.

Information meeting for the widening of Route 1 near the base and to Telegraph Rd will be held Dec. 10th at the South County Center. Traffic flow and construction schedules will be discussed.

Canker-worm (aka inchworm) tree bands are available at the Supervisor's Office for citizens to band their trees. The purpose is to help the Urban Forester collect insect counts and at the same time trap and kill the insects themselves as they crawl up the tree. At 9-11 a.m. Dec. 13 bands for fall cankerworms will be distributed in the MVGC parking lot.

On Dec. 3 there will be a meeting on the Shields Ave/North Kings Hwy intersection.

A member asked about the Vulcan Quarry, where blasting apparently is to continue for 30 years, with many acres of trees to be removed. The chair noted that MVCCA will likely take this up, following the lead of the South County Federation. Information about the blasting at the quarry is available in the 2009 Area Plan Review (APR) Comp Plan documents on the county website, and may provide useful background when we start to look at this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Martin, Secretary.

Committee Reports

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Present: David Voorhees (Committee Chair), Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Mount Vernon Civic, Wellington, Williamsburg Manor.

The committee discussed brochures provide by the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority (EDA) one of which is booklet that provides an excellent summary of information on county taxes that are involved in operating a business in Fairfax County. The brochures are available free of charge from the EDA.

The committee further discussed the predicted revenue shortfall for the fiscal year and discussed government agencies where possible cuts in expenditures may be made. Further discussions on these issues will be held at the February meeting in advance of the Proposed Budget which will be released at the end of February.

There will be no meeting in January. The next scheduled meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be Wednesday, February 4, 2014 at 7:30 at the Mount Vernon Government Center.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

There are no meeting minutes this month.

EDUCATION

The Education Committee met at 8pm on December 3, 2014, in the library of Whitman Middle School. Associations represented included Collingwood Springs, Riverside Estates, Collingwood, Wessynton and Sulgrave Manor. Co-chair Harbeck acted as facilitator and several community members also attended, including the Chair of the HHS Committee.

Members heard a presentation from Fairfax Library Advocates Dennis Hays and Kathy Kaplan, who is also Chair of the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations Library Committee, on recent changes to Fairfax County Public Libraries (FCPL).

Although much of Kaplan's and Hays' report was truly shocking, members were most concerned about the wholesale discarding of library materials—fiction, nonfiction and reference—including irreplaceable and one-of-a-kind materials without any professional discretion permitted and based on guidelines which do not meet professional library standards and are not practiced by any other library in the area.

Specifically, the FCPL director as far back as 2008 at least, without knowledge of the Board of Supervisors and without public scrutiny, ordered all libraries to discard any book which had not been checked out in 2 years by placing them in dumpsters for recycling at about 3 cents per pound. While initially librarians were allowed to count as "checked out" books which were left on tables and reshelfed, such as books which may have been read or used in the facility for research or browsed for pleasure, that small reprieve was reversed.

Replacements or updated materials were not purchased with the result that FCPL has suffered the loss of nearly 500,000 volumes since 2004. Some branches have seen holdings go down by as much as 63%. In our area, the loss at Sherwood Regional is 24%, at Mary Washington 12% and Lorton 25%. The well-known "Virginia Collection" of unique Virginia historical materials was destroyed: broken up as a collection, dispersed among branches, and many irreplaceable items discarded.

This two-year discard policy is contrary to industry standard of five years and is not followed by any surrounding jurisdictions (or FCPS), who also expect librarians to exercise judgment and do not require discard of unique or special reference material, art books or most children's books.

In the Committee's view it is also contrary to the public interest given the critical role of libraries and information access to a democratic society. Most other jurisdictions also find outlets for discards, such as book sales or donation to charitable organizations, instead of dumpsters and it is hard to see any positives in FCPL's actions.

The stated justification for library organization is the need to create a "21st Century" facility. Certainly libraries need to adjust to changing times and expansion of electronic research capability and e-books is part of that but members felt there is no justification for wholesale destruction of physical books, nor for the speed of attempting to convert to digital collections. Moreover, only about 34,000 e-books are available to the public (compared to the 400,000 discarded) and because e-books are rented by FCPL they are actually more expensive than most physical books and require periodic renewal of publishers' licenses.

While initial plans intended to replace professional librarians with "service representatives" were back-burnered there still remain unfilled professional staff positions which make it difficult for branches to provide help in locating and evaluating sources, or assist patrons in finding reading or research materials. Ironically, as FCPL tries to become digital, another casualty has been library hours for access to computers and the internet. Some of the problem is budgetary; most of it is equally operational directives which some see as an underlying effort to close libraries in order to sell or repurpose the property.

Committee Reports

Members noted that libraries have always been particularly important to the poor, immigrants, and the elderly. These groups are also the least likely to have electronic capability or competence. While students (at least those who have resources) may be tech savvy, they also need professional help to successfully get reliable information from web sources and many studies have shown that children, especially younger children, need physical books to learn and need to be able to browse to find books of interest to contribute to reading readiness and ability.

Kaplan and Hays noted that, as facts are slowly being revealed, many groups are protesting and the Board of Supervisors has become more engaged. The Committee suggested that it would be helpful to have a talking points document so interested advocates could speak in a unified voice. In particular, it seemed a first step might be to demand that FCPL be instructed to use the industry standard of at least 5 years for discard while the total situation is evaluated and there is public input on both needed updates and the speed of change.

In other matters, the Committee discussed and adopted unanimously the resolution on School Readiness, initially prepared and adopted by the Health and Human Services Committee (HHS), and printed elsewhere in this RECORD.

The Committee also briefly discussed the "Opportunity Neighborhood" program currently being piloted in our area in neighborhoods feeding to Riverside, Woodlawn, and Mount Vernon Woods elementary schools. These schools, which feed to Mount Vernon High School, have high poverty levels and were selected for the program which hopes to affect school performance and social needs by directing resources at the neighborhood level. The Committee accepted an invitation from HHS to join their January meeting which will feature the director of Opportunity Neighborhoods Mount Vernon" in order to learn more and see if there are areas where MVCCA support could be beneficial.

The Chair also distributed some FY2016 School Budget forecast materials and a Budget calendar. Unfortunately, the financial forecast once again looks gloomy, even as schools continue to be faced with rising population and rising needs and goals.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, January 6, 2015, 7:30 pm, South County Center
Rm 221.

Joint with HHS: "Opportunity Neighborhoods Mount Vernon"

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The E&R Committee met on December 3, 2014 in Room 3 of the Mount Vernon Government Center. Attending were Cathy Ledec (chair), Belle View Condominium, Collingwood-on-the-Potomac, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Newington Forest, Pavilions at Huntington Metro (alternate), Potomac Valley – Riverbend, Riverside Estates,

Southwood, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Westgrove and guests from Wellington Heights, Wessynton Homes. Also joining us were James McGlone, Virginia Department of Forestry and a representative of Friends of Little Hunting Creek.

There were no speakers scheduled for this meeting. Discussions focused on 2 follow up items from previous meetings.

The first topic discussed was the Fall Cankerworm (FCW) spraying program in Fairfax County. A Committee member presented certain points raised at the Nov 20, 2014 Tree Commission meeting where the FCW program was discussed. A resolution to cancel the spraying program was introduced and debated. This resolution was amended to add the recommendation that funds devoted to the spraying program be reallocated to control of non-native invasive forest pests and plants. Among the arguments made in favor of canceling this program were: (1) There is no scientific evidence that any trees are dying as a result of Fall Cankerworm defoliation in Fairfax County. (2) The spraying is lethal to all other species of butterfly and moth caterpillars present during spraying (not just Fall Cankerworm); it also harms migratory and resident birds and other wildlife by depriving them of a key food source during a critical time of year. (3) It would be more cost-effective to spend limited forest health funds on other threats to trees which are demonstrably more severe than fall cankerworm (e.g. non-native forest pests and invasive plant species). (4) Alternative, less destructive approaches are available to manage nuisance-related concerns expressed by residents. (5) The Fall Cankerworm is a native insect which has co-existed with the forests and woodlands of Fairfax County over thousands of years.

A substitute resolution supporting continuation of the spraying program was also introduced and debated. Among the arguments made in support of continuing the spraying are: (1) Concern was expressed about a perceived increase in dead and dying trees and the risks they pose to residential properties; (2) The program uses *Bacillus thuringiensis var. kurstaki* (Btk), a naturally occurring soil bacterium, widely believed to be safe to humans, other mammals, and insects other than butterflies and moths. The Btk is sprayed once in early spring, persists for two weeks or less, and is washed away by rain; (3) The helicopter spraying is carefully targeted and maintains a 200-ft buffer zone to minimize drift onto non-target areas; (4) Property owners are given two written notices about the planned spraying and can opt out of the spraying on their lands; (5) Urban trees and woodlands often need to be managed more intensively than the trees in extensive natural forests.

After the substitute resolution in support of the spraying program was voted on and failed (4 in favor and 9 against), the amended resolution to cancel the spraying program was approved by the Committee (10 in favor and 2 against). (The approved resolution appears in the Resolutions section at end of this edition of The Record.)

Committee Reports

The second topic discussed was the Collingwood Library's Special Exception Application to SE-2013-MV-020. Committee Chair received a letter from the Wellington Civic Association in support of the proposed land subdivision, but with reservations. Specifically, they have concerns regarding the SEA's request to remove and or alter the conservation easement and covenants from the newly created Lot #2. The original 2003 SE outlined development conditions that set in perpetuity a conservation easement among other requirements. Specifically the community is not comfortable with reducing the size of the conservation easement and the use, albeit legal, of water quality credits being provided from a distant location elsewhere in Virginia. More discussion ensued and all but one of the participants expressed support for the position of the Wellington community. The Committee then reviewed the schedule for this application; a Planning Commission Hearing is scheduled for January 29, 2015. The Staff Report will be released 2 weeks prior to this date. If a position is to be taken on this matter, this will need to occur at the next meeting.

Next meeting: 7 January 2015, 7:15pm, Mt. Vernon Government Center, room #3. Topic: Follow-up from the October Storm Water Management Tour. Invited speakers include Stewart Schwartz of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, Stella Koch, Audubon Naturalist Society, Danielle Wynne Fairfax County and others.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

On Tuesday, Dec. 2, the MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee (HHS) met (1) to receive reports re ongoing cross-cutting concerns and (2) to draft a Resolution urging sustained County investment in effective programs for early childhood education and care that are essential to providing equal opportunity for School Readiness, in FY 2016 and beyond.

Participating were voting representatives from six MVCCA member associations: Hollin Glen, Hollin Hall Village, Newington Forest, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac-IV, and Westgrove. Louise Cleveland chaired the meeting, with MVCCA Co-chair Judy Harbeck present as liaison to the Council.

John Jeszenszky reported significant recent developments re **Affordable and Workforce Housing** (as described below) and provided for our future consideration a two-page informational document with extensive links to resources, "Why Invest in Affordable Housing?"

The HHS Chair reported on the November 20 meeting of the South County Task Force for Human Services, the public forum for "Health in All Policies" (HiAP) that invites citizens from Mount Vernon and Lee Districts to convene with directors and managers of County and private nonprofit agencies and programs, in periodic meetings at the South County Center's 2nd floor Verdia Haywood suite of community rooms. The next meeting will be in mid-

February, after the Feb. 17 publication and Presentation to the Board of Supervisors of the County Executive's *Advertised Budget Plan for FY 2016* and beyond. To date, published reports from these forums appear only in HHS Reports to the *MVCCA RECORD* (see below, **South County Task Force-Nov 20**).

The committee also received handouts (1) from the Office for Children, a November addition to the October report to MVCCA on "School/Reading Readiness Programs," and (2) from the Program Manager for Opportunity Neighborhood-Mount Vernon, a map for this pilot program to be explored in our Jan. 6 meeting.

Chief action item was discussion, drafting, and unanimous approval for a Resolution to be considered jointly with the Education Committee, in order to present it jointly for consideration of the MVCCA General Council on Dec. 17: *[HHS/EDU] Resolution 2014 J-04, Building Blocks for School Readiness in FY 2016 and Beyond*.

This Resolution is based upon the MVCCA Resolution approved unanimously in September 2013 (cited in Whereas 2) and upon consideration of fall 2014 reports to the MVCCA requested from the Fairfax County Office for Children (see below, **Investing in Early Childhood**).

The next HHS Committee meeting will be held jointly with the Education Committee, on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 7:30 PM, at South County Center—Room 221 A/B, 8350 Richmond Highway. Focus will be on the pilot program **Opportunity Neighborhood – Mount Vernon** (more below).

AFFORDABLE & WORKFORCE HOUSING

Ongoing development activity includes four Public/Private Partnership projects, one of which—redevelopment of North Hill—is expected to come under public review very soon. The developer selection process is completed, with a plan for more than 350 units, a mix of sizes "for sale" and "for rent." Other P&P plans are for 270 affordable apartments near the Government Center, redevelopment of 935 units of Crescent Apartments in Hunter Mill District; and construction of 82 senior independent residences at Lewisville in Dranesville District.

The County is working to update its "Strategic Plan to Facilitate the Economic Success of Fairfax County," initiated in 2011. In doing so, it will focus on four fundamental areas: People, Places, Employment and Governance. Part of the discussion is concern over the large surplus of office space sitting vacant. Consideration is being given to redeveloping part of this surplus into residences, for economic benefit. At the same time, availability of adequate affordable housing is a key part of this review process. Our plan is to get a briefing on this issue from the County at a future meeting.

Committee Reports

Meanwhile, the Fairfax County Affordable Housing Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet Dec. 19, 9:30 AM to noon, at the Fairfax County Government Center, Conf. Rooms 2&3. Newly appointed Director of the FC Dept. of Housing and Community Development Kurt Creager is working on FY16 budgeting and strategic planning with retiring Director Paula Sampson.

A good source on current issues re affordable and workforce housing is the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance (nvaha.org).

SOUTH COUNTY TASK FORCE, NOV 20

On November 20, 1-3 p.m., the South County Task Force for Human Services, convened by Anne Andrews, welcomed and received reports Inova Mount Vernon Hospital CEO Deborah Addo and Deputy County Executive for Human Services Pat Harrison, who introduced Kurt Creager, newly appointed Director of Fairfax County's Dept. of Housing and Community Development (transitioning until January with retiring director Paula Sampson). The afternoon was packed with newsworthy announcements and thoughtful response to questions on complex issues.

Here are highlights:

- Addo announced the new Tower is now open and serving patients, with the dedication/naming to take place Dec. 9. Next comes expansion and redesign of emergency services, from 19 to 35 bays, with many improvements such as better ability to isolate infectious patients. She addressed questions on (1) a new advisory council of former patients and their families (part of the quest for continuous improvement), (2) the effect of competition in urgent and "emergency" services (only Inova offers 24/7 service at both Lorton and IMVH, so both locations are more than meeting goals and looking ahead to expansion), and (3) the future of behavioral health at IMVH (the psychiatric-licensed 30-bed unit will stay, though the type of patient/ services available will be considered under a new Behavioral Health director).
- Creager is experienced in mixed-income development in varied environments. He welcomes HUD "flexibility" on "whatever is not mandated by Congress," such as voucher policies that encourage rather than punish those who can earn more.
- Harrison, in dialogue with health and human services directors present, alerted participants to upcoming actions: (1) In December, the BOS will approve the County's Legislative Agenda (for the next Commonwealth biennial budget) and is expected to attach a Human Services "issue paper;" (2) the Human Services System is developing a 5-year needs/ resources plan addressing complex public/private issues, such as integration of services at the new Merrifield facility; and (3) the Interagency Human Services and Public Schools Behavioral Health Work Group has outlined a strategy, to address the serious gap in "mid-tier" services for youth, that will begin with an Office for Systems of Care and appointment of James Gillespie as Director.

INVESTING IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

The jointly proposed Resolution on sustaining County investment in School Readiness builds on the detailed and carefully researched MVCCA Resolution approved unanimously in September 2013 (referenced in Whereas 2), which identified needs for programs available to families with children from birth to age 5. This MVCCA position resonated widely with other advocacy countywide. The FC Office for Children reports to MVCCA that the resulting FY 2015 County investment of \$750 thousand is being allocated strategically, to increase both quality and capacity in an array of effective community and school-based initiatives that reach children in many settings, as reported in the November *Record*. A second OFC report to MVCCA has added information on County efforts to assist families with children on the waiting list for Early Head Start and Head Start, many residing in neighborhoods that will feed into elementary schools in our area. These Fall 2014 OFC reports to MVCCA are now combined and posted on the HHS Page of the MVCCA web site, under "Finding Information," linked as [School/ Reading Readiness Programs](#). The difficult fiscal outlook described by the County Executive makes it urgent that these critical investments be sustained and protected from reductions in FY 2016 and beyond.

OPPORTUNITY NEIGHBORHOOD—MOUNT VERNON

On Tuesday January 6, two MVCCA Committees, Education and Health and Human Services, will meet with Opportunity Neighborhood—Mount Vernon Program Manager Kristen Brennan, our invited guest resource. A web page for this pilot initiative is hosted by United Community Ministries, www.ucmagency.org. Meeting agenda and additional resources on opportunities for Community Engagement will be e-mailed to committee representatives in advance of the meeting, which is open to the public. Please invite neighbors with an interest in helping all our children and youth succeed!

Members, please plan to participate or send an authorized alternate voting representative when you cannot be present. Your association may notify the MVCCA Secretary and the Committee Chair via e-mail, in advance, of an alternate's name, e-mail and phone contact info. Thank you!

PLANNING & ZONING

Next meeting Monday January 5, 2015, 7:30PM, Mount Vernon Government Center.

Committee Reports

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Public Safety Committee of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations conducted its monthly meeting on December 4, 2014 in the Mount Vernon Center Community Meeting Room #3. The meeting began at 7:30 PM with the following communities represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Mount Vernon Civic Association, Mount Zephyr, New Gum Springs, Southwood, and Westgrove.

There was no guest speaker for the meeting.

Old Business:

Minutes of the November meeting had not been distributed electronically, so paper copies were made for the members present. The November and December minutes will be emailed to all committee members.

New Business:

The committee discussed four topics: what was done well in 2014, what was not done well in 2014, what should be done in 2015, and what should be avoided in 2015.

The guest speakers were clearly considered an item well done in 2014, and something to continue in 2015. General categories for guest speakers include police, fire and rescue, emergency medical services, and emergency management. Some suggestions for future guest speakers include Red Cross, police helicopter operations, Park Police, and Metro Transit Police.

The committee discussed several areas where interest overlaps with other committees, including school security (especially school lockdowns and shelter-in-place situations), traffic safety, and the interface between emergency medical services and area hospitals.

One item that was troublesome in 2014 was schedule conflicts between the Public Safety Committee and the MVCCA Board, generally due to avoiding holidays. The committee will generally avoid rescheduling around holidays in 2015, and as a result the January meeting will be cancelled since it falls on New Years Day.

There was a brief discussion of telephone solicitation for police-oriented charities. Members expressed suspicion that such solicitations are often fraudulent.

The committee discussed the necessity of distributing information to the associations, especially the police blotter and the Crime Prevention Officer's "Information and Tips" emails.

Members expressed concern about the "flash mob" phenomenon and the difficulty of monitoring social media for indications of such events.

The only item the committee is in favor of avoiding in the future is police oversight boards, which was the subject addressed by the October guest speaker.

The Transportation Committee has requested the Public Safety Committee's assistance in determining what information is collected and reported when the FCPD clears a motor vehicle accident. There is concern that some information is not being forwarded to the VDOT database. MPO Urps, the Crime Prevention Officer, has been contacted about this subject, and he has directed the question to the Traffic Safety Officer, PFC Buckholtz.

There was discussion of an obsolete sign for a church event on the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, and also a commercial vehicle with expired Arizona plates that has been parked for some time on a frontage road. There was also discussion on the laws restricting overnight parking of commercial vehicles.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

The January meeting, previously scheduled for January 1, 2015, has been cancelled due to the holiday.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 7:30 PM in the Mount Vernon Government Center in Community Meeting Room #3.

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Committee chaired by Catherine Voorhees met in the library of Whitman Middle School on December 1, 2014 beginning at 7:30pm. Attendees at the meeting were the MV Vernon Transportation and Planning Commissioners, and 15 civic associations: Hollin Hall Village; Huntington; Marlan Forest; Montebello; Mount Vernon Manor; Mount Zephyr; Riverside Gardens; Riverwood; Southwood; Stratford on the Potomac, Section IV; Waynewood; Wellington Heights; Westgrove; Williamsburg Manor North and Woodley Hills.

Public Hearings

The committee discussed two public meetings that will occur this month:

1. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) held a public hearing presenting potential improvements to North Kings Highway in the Penn Daw Community Business Center on December 3, 2014 at the Mount Eagle Elementary School (6116 North Kings Highway) from 6:30pm to 8:30pm with the presentation at 7pm. The Chair attended this meeting, which was well attended by the residents of School Street, which the County is proposing to disallow left-turns coming out of School Street so the 450 residents

Committee Reports

that live off of School Street would have to turn right and make a U-turn in front of Poag Drive and then double back. The 100+ residents vocally objected to the proposals that took away one of the two exits of their development. Supervisor McKay tried to assure the residents that their opposition was being heard, but many felt that the improvement designs over the past 2 years continued a problem that residents had brought up at public meetings.

The Transportation Committee did not like any of the 4 options that FCDOT proposed at the last meeting on June 24, 2014 and recommended keeping the current traffic pattern, which the General Council adopted in July 2014. Since the Fast Eddies redevelopment site is off the table for now and in view of the Lee District resident's oppositions, the Transportation Committee would still support the no-build with proffers options as the General Council adopted in July 2014.

2. A Pardon Our Dust Public Information Meeting on the Route One Improvement Project will be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 from 6-8pm at the South County Government Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, Virginia.

The Route One Improvements Project includes the addition of a 3.68-mile lane on the north and southbound sides of Route 1 between Telegraph Road and Mount Vernon Memorial Highway in the Fort Belvoir area. For more information, log on to <http://rte1ftbelvoir.com/>.

OLD BUSINESS

A) Jeff Todd Way (formerly Mulligan Road) and Pole Road - According to Robert Morris of Federal Highway Administration, road construction should be substantially complete as of the Thanksgiving break. He did note that there may be some landscaping amenities that need to be finished and punch list work but the road should be mostly complete. However, in view of the head-on collision at the end of October/beginning of November, the intersection of Pole Road and Jeff Todd Way is not the best. The Chair was not able to find reports of that accident, but several members of the MVCCA Board were aware of the accident. The Chair did find a traffic alert issued by a newspaper that an accident occurred on September 22, 2014 and that the south lanes were blocked at this intersection. In addition, another accident occurred in the beginning of December. It appears that accidents on our roadways do not make it into police reports as the Chair was unable to find police reports on these traffic incidents, as well as some recent accidents on Fort Hunt Road. Is an organization tasked with monitoring accidents on our roadways?

A member of the Transportation Committee is also on the MMVCA Public Safety Committee and he asked the Public Safety Chair: When the Fairfax County Police Department is on the scene of a traffic accident, what do the police report and to whom (what

agency) is the report sent, if any. This is especially important since VDOT monitors police reported accidents to determine if traffic signals are warranted.

The FHWA does not undertake traffic light warrant studies. Although Robert Morris indicated that traffic counts could begin now as Jeff Todd Road is substantially complete. He did say that the Oct/Nov. accident was the result of a car traveling too fast (above the posted speed limit of 35 mph). He also agreed that the line of sight for cars entering Jeff Todd Way from Pole Road was not ideal.

B) There was concern over the painted arrows on the Woodlawn Stable side of the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and Richmond Highway intersection. However, prior to the construction, there was a no right turn on red sign that did not permit right turns at the intersection. The current signal timing allows a longer time traffic wanting to go straight and turn right than the left turn only traffic lights. Accordingly, it appears that VDOT and FHWA did the best to enable traffic flow at the intersection.

Adjourn

The Transportation Committee will meet on January 5, 2014 at 7:30pm in the library of the Walt Whitman Middle School on Parkers Lane.

SFDC

At the November SFDC meeting, the Board voted to send a letter of support for the MVCCA Resolutions on the Route 1 Multi-Modal study. A new site for the MV Transit Center on Route 1 has been proposed by County staff, and a decision should be made in the near future. The 2015 Business Roundtable Speaker Series will kick off in March, with topics announced prior to that time.

There was a presentation at the October meeting from Arcadia Farm, National Restaurant Group and the National Trust for Historic Preservation on plans for Woodlawn Plantation. Pam Hess of Arcadia will make that presentation to the MVCCA at the December 17th meeting.

The SFDC now has 2 new board members:

- Becky Todd, Member at Large
- Chris Soule, Lee District Rep.

FAIRFAX FEDERATION

The Fairfax Federation's Association Members met on Nov 20th.

The members received an excellent presentation about public safety and emergency management.

They discussed and then passed 2 resolutions both of which have an impact on the MV District.

Resolution #1: Stop the Counties Insecticide Spraying to kill the native Cankerworm (AKA the inch worm) . This resolution directs the County to stop/terminate their spraying program immediately. It passed with a vote of 25 to 5.

Resolution #2: Funding for the Rt 1 Multi-modal Transportation Analysis Phase 2 study. This resolution supported obtaining State funding for the phase 2 study. It was similar to the resolution that MVCCA members passed at our Nov General Council meeting. The resolution passed unanimously.

The January 15th Fairfax Federation Membership meeting will focus on the 2015 World Wide Police and Fire Olympics. These Olympics will be hosted by the County and bring participants to our area from all over the world. The Federation will be addressing how to get involved by supporting volunteer programs of various types. The meeting will take place at the Mason District Government Center Offices 6507 Columbia Pike at 7:30 PM.

The Fairfax Federation membership now has 10 MV district association members.

Katherine Ward
MVCCA Rep to the Fairfax Federation of Citizen Associations

JOINT RESOLUTION

Resolution J-2014-03B as passed, with comments added from the November General Council Meeting.

J-2014-03B: PHASING OF CONSTRUCTION FOR ROUTE 1 HYBRID OPTION

- 1. WHEREAS**, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations has previously expressed its strong support of the hybrid option preferred by the Route 1 Multi-Modal Alternatives Analysis (Route 1 Study) in MVCCA Resolution J-2014-02A;
- 2. WHEREAS**, construction of the "preferred option" is proposed to take place in four successive phases over 35 years: Phases I – III, widening of Route 1 proceeding from North to South from 2024 to 2035, and Phase IV, extension of the Yellow Line, starting in 2040;
- 3. WHEREAS**, existing, planned and reasonably foreseeable increased traffic demand will not permit a delay in remedial actions until 2024;
- 4. WHEREAS**, the Fort Belvoir Master Plan indicates a further increase of 24,000 employees, totaling 56,000 employees by 2030, and will necessitate the Metro/transit option sooner than 2040 as currently planned;
- 5. WHEREAS**, delay of land acquisition in the southern portion of Route 1, where prices are relatively low, will make acquisition more costly;
- 6. WHEREAS**, land acquisition in the Beacon Hill/Hybla Valley area will prove to be very costly;
- 7. WHEREAS**, Metro construction in the Beacon Hill/Hybla Valley area will make the widening of Route 1 in that area less critical;
- 8. WHEREAS**, Metro construction, as a separate project, does not depend on the planned widening of Route 1 for Bus Rapid Transit, and therefore can proceed concurrently with and independent of such roadway construction;
- 9. WHEREAS**, Metro construction can be divided into two phases, with a lower cost to Beacon Hill, where a considerable amount of underground excavation already exists and where land-acquisition is limited to the placement of a Metro station entrance, and a subsequent higher cost to Hybla Valley;
- 10. WHEREAS**, the current text of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan does not appropriately account for the recent significant population increases and supporting commercial and institutional development (e.g., Inova) in southern Fairfax County, the massive

Resolutions

JOINT RESOLUTION EDUCATION HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

redevelopment and repurposing of Fort Belvoir (Hospital, USAR headquarters etc.) along with immediately adjacent supporting properties, and the ever increasing draw of tourism in the area, and thus does not reflect the existing population and traffic density required for a Metro extension;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) asks the Board of Supervisors to expeditiously modify, with citizen input, the current Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan for the Route 1 corridor's full 15 mile length;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan and decisions about Metro extension should fully account for the substantial Fort Belvoir increase in commuters, Inova and military hospital users, tourists, and other traffic to help meet the density requirements for a Metro extension;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, 2040 is far too long to wait to start Phase IV, the extension of the Yellow Line;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the MVCCA requests the Fairfax County members of the Virginia Senate and House of Delegates to take immediate action to:

- a. Obtain State funding within the current 6-Year Plan to initiate planning, engineering and acquisition of right-of-way along Route 1 within the County, by applying the appropriate new prioritization standards;
- b. Urge a revision of the construction phases to start widening Highway 1 in the South where it is less expensive and move northward to ultimately meet the Metro construction moving southward;
- c. Decouple Phase IV of the plan from the highway construction phases and seek immediate funding for the lower cost extension to Beacon Hill;
- d. Provide adequate State funding for all highway construction phases and the Metro extension project during the next 6-Year Plan, with completion of both projects targeted for no later than the implementation of the Fort Belvoir employment expansion.

END: RESOLUTION J-2014-03B

HHS/EDU-2014-J04: BUILDING BLOCKS FOR SCHOOL READINESS IN FY 2016 AND BEYOND

1. WHEREAS The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) continues to recognize that equal opportunity for early childhood education in combination with safe quality care is essential for the School Readiness, well being and success of all our children and for the stability of working families; and

2. WHEREAS MVCCA has recommended strategic actions and investments for FY 2015 and beyond, to sustain and grow effective programs that support School Readiness for all children now eligible, from birth to kindergarten age, including those on waiting lists for Early Head Start and Head Start (see Joint Resolution 2013 EDU/HHS-J-01 "Re Early Childhood Education and Care," unanimously approved by the MVCCA in September 2013); and

3. WHEREAS MVCCA acknowledges extensive collaborative work taking place among Fairfax County and Public Schools (FCPS) services (a) to provide training and curricular support for parents and caregivers in the spectrum of early childhood settings—from family day care to child care centers—and (b) to expand capacity in such programs as Early Head Start, Head Start, pre-K classrooms, and the summer Bridge to Kindergarten program in elementary schools, as described in Office for Children reports to MVCCA (see *MVCCA Record*, Nov. and Dec. 2014 Health and Human Services Reports); and

4. WHEREAS the Board of Supervisors (BOS) included \$750 thousand in the County's FY 2015 Budget Plan to increase investment in programs that support School Readiness, so that this year both County human services and public schools are allocating funds to strengthen and expand effective programs in a variety of settings while the County awaits a decision on two federal grant applications, one a County proposal to serve 56 additional babies and toddlers in Early Head Start programs, the other part of a Virginia proposal for Preschool Development funds:

A. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations urges the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to continue to invest in effective programs that contribute to the stability of working families and provide opportunity for early education in a range of settings, thereby contributing to School Readiness; and the MVCCA urges the BOS to prevent cuts in the budget plan for FY 2016 and beyond that would undermine equal opportunity for early childhood education and School Readiness.

END: RESOLUTION HHS/EDU-2014-J04

Resolutions

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

E&R-2014-03: OPPOSING FALL CANKERWORM SPRAYING

1. WHEREAS, Fairfax County maintains an insecticide spraying program to reduce populations of a native insect, the Fall Cankerworm *Alsophila pometaria* (commonly referred to as "inchworm");

2. WHEREAS, in 2014 and 2013, Fairfax County sprayed approximately 2,200 acres and 1,965 acres, respectively, in the County with a commercial application of the bacterial insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk);

3. WHEREAS, more than 70% of the 2014 insecticide treatment areas are located in the Mount Vernon District of Fairfax County;

4. WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the cankerworm suppression program is "to minimize tree mortality", but the County does not monitor tree mortality, and so has no direct measure of either the need for or the effectiveness of its spraying program, and no evidence of tree mortality specifically caused by Fall Cankerworm;

5. WHEREAS, the Fall Cankerworm (inchworm) is a native moth caterpillar that has irruptions (population increases) every few years as part of its natural population dynamics; there are natural forces that keep these irruptions in check, including predatory insects and birds;

6. WHEREAS, Fairfax County's trees face multiple threats, including clearing for development and expansion of roads, non-native forest pests, invasive plant species, unmanaged deer populations, air and water pollution, and the warming and extreme weather of changing climate patterns;

7. WHEREAS, the native Fall Cankerworm is part of the larger local web of life and has co-evolved and is mutually dependent with the trees and plants, birds, insects, and other organisms native to the eastern deciduous forest ecosystem;

8. WHEREAS, the Fall Cankerworm (inchworm) is an important food source for wildlife including migrating and breeding birds in Fairfax County; spraying occurs in spring, an especially critical period when many birds are migrating through Fairfax County or raising their young;

9. WHEREAS, this spraying program is lethal to all species of butterflies and moths present in their caterpillar stage in the sprayed areas (not just the Fall Cankerworm) and thus could be an important contributing factor to the declines in local butterfly and moth populations, along with the songbirds and other wildlife that depend on this caterpillar as an important food source;

10. WHEREAS, according to the American Bird Conservancy, National Audubon Society, North American Butterfly Association,

and conservationists nationwide it is widely published that many migrating and resident native birds, and many butterfly and moth species along the Eastern Seaboard are declining;

11. WHEREAS, the County does not monitor impacts of the spraying on native butterfly and moth species or on birds, and so cannot say whether spraying contributes to declines in beneficial butterfly species and to observed steep declines in migratory and resident native birds in our area;

12. WHEREAS, other wildlife that rely on caterpillars as a food source (such as bats, beetles, and frogs) are also in trouble, and some, such as the Eastern Red Bat, are moth specialists;

13. WHEREAS, Ashley Kennedy, a trained entomologist, testified at the May 22, 2014 Board of Supervisors budget hearing against the continuation of this program, having consulted with more than one dozen similarly trained entomologists from institutions around the country, all of whom agree that the significantly negative impact of this program on native birds, butterflies (including our state butterfly, the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail), and moths does not justify the focus of this program on the killing of one native species of caterpillar, just because the inchworms may be "bothersome" to a relatively few County residents;

14. WHEREAS, continuous and repeated spraying typically results in an unnatural pesticide dependence (known as the "pesticide treadmill") and negatively impacts the overall biodiversity needed to support tree health;

15. WHEREAS, the Fall Cankerworm does not bite or sting, and poses no threat to human health or safety;

16. WHEREAS, any "nuisance" caused by the appearance of the Fall Cankerworm does not justify the costs, damage to wildlife and risks of insecticide spraying program;

17. WHEREAS, alternative, less destructive approaches are available to manage nuisance-related concerns, including education and community outreach on the importance of the Fall Cankerworm to our urban ecosystem and the value of a diverse mix of native tree species in resisting damage from Fall Cankerworm outbreaks, along with increased promotion of tree banding as an option for citizens who wish to control the Fall Cankerworm; only a fraction of the annual spraying cost would be needed to develop and distribute these materials to County residents;

18. WHEREAS, concerns about its impacts on wildlife have led the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, Friends of Dyke Marsh, Friends of Huntley Meadows Park, Friends of Mason Neck State Park, Friends of Little Hunting Creek, Friends of Meadowood, Center for Biological Diversity, North American Butterfly Association, and Northern Virginia Bird Club to oppose the spraying program and to offer to assist Fairfax County in developing more

Resolutions From the Co-Chairs (cont.)

balanced communications materials, including alternatives to insecticide spraying.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) recommends that:

- (a) The Fairfax County immediately discontinue the Fall Cankerworm insecticide spraying program;
- (b) The County should undertake a program to monitor tree mortality, to better understand sources and magnitudes of threats to urban trees;
- (c) The County should convene a group of experts including foresters, ornithologists, and entomologists to assess and prioritize the major threats to the forests of Fairfax County, and to devise comprehensive approaches to address them and to protect and restore biodiversity;
- (d) The County should acknowledge that forests and woodlands are more than trees, and should redefine and broaden the mission of the Forest Pest Branch to cover *forest health*, focused on the health of the forest ecosystem, not just the trees, and should direct the agency to address the full range of threats to the forests and woodlands of Fairfax County, including non-native invasive plants;
- (e) The County should promote more benign methods for residents to control Fall Cankerworms that do not require insecticide spraying;
- (f) The County should use the direct budgetary savings from ending the Fall Cankerworm spraying program for the control of non native, invasive forest pests and plants.

END: RESOLUTION E&R-2014-03

Sense of the Council on the Annual Gala and Awards

The MVCCA Board wants to know your opinion on how the annual Gala and granting of awards should happen. As presented at the November General meeting, the three options being considered are:

- 1) No more Gala and no more Citizen of the Year award, Organization of the Year Award, and Student of the Year award.
- 2) The three awards continue but will be presented as part of the June General meeting, which will start an hour earlier for the presentation of the awards. Assuming the venue and budget support it, light refreshments will be offered. The annual Gala will be discontinued.
- 3) Gala and awards ceremony continue as in the past - dinner and ceremony on a Saturday evening, most likely in late June for 2015.

Ballots were available when you picked up your Association voting card for this meeting. Note that we are asking for you to indicate your first choice plus your second choice, if any. There is also room to write in a different option or suggestion. If you do a write-in, please identify yourself in case we need to follow-up with you.

Treasurer's Report

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc.

Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Period to Date Compared to Fiscal Budget
30 November 2014

(Amounts are rounded to nearest dollar)

	Current Month	Total Fiscal Period To Date	Fiscal Budget	Budget Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Cash Receipts:				
Dues - Current Members	-	3,018	\$ 3,000	\$ 18
Dues - New Members	54	126	54	72
Gala Receipts (including donations)	-	2,705	4,700	(1,995)
MM Interest Receipts	1	8	2	6
Total Cash Receipts	55	5,857	7,756	(1,899)
Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):				
Administrative	-	279	300	21
Gala	-	1,537	3,550	2,013
Insurance	-	811	773	(38)
Outreach/Town Hall Meeting	-	-	850	850
Record Production	150	1,155	1,483	328
Student of the Year Stipend/Award	-	600	500	(100)
Web Site	-	-	300	300
Total Cash Disbursements	150	4,381	7,756	3,375
Net Budget remaining to spend				\$ 1,475
Receipts In Excess (less than) Disbursements	(95)	1,475	-	
Total Cash at Beginning of Period	12,451	10,880	10,880	
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 12,355	\$ 12,355	\$ 10,880	

End of Period Cash Balances by Account (less outstanding checks):

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 2,346	
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	10,009	
Total Cash	\$ 12,355	Respectfully Submitted, Stephen Markman, Treasurer December 4, 2014

Notes:

The financial statements use the cash basis of accounting except as noted on the face of the statement.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, December 17th, 8:00 p.m.
Mount Vernon Government Center
Parkers Lane, Alexandria

AGENDA

Call to Order

- Approval of Agenda
- 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

- Election for Co-chair position
- Member Association Representatives' Time
- Mount Vernon Supervisor Time
- Other Elected Representatives and Public Time

Adjournment

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Board—Jan 8, 7:30 pm, MVGC Supvrs Conf Rm

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	2/4	7:30	MVGC	Voorhees
COAF	TBD			<i>open</i>
*EDU	1/6	7:30	SCC/Rm. 221/AB	Harbeck
E&R	1/7	7:15	MVGC, Rm. 3	Ledec
*HHS	1/6	7:30	SCC/Rm. 221/AB	Cleveland
PL/Z	1/5	7:30	MVGC	Pohorylo
PS	2/6	7:30	MVGC, Rm. 3	McDonald
TRAN	1/5	7:30	WWMS/Library	Voorhees

*Joint EDU/HHS Meeting

*The Record is published monthly except August by the
Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations,
P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203.*