Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations

Record

Volume XLVII, No. 4, April 2015

FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

SELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The two Co-Chair appointed members of the Nominating Committee (Karen Pohorylo and Ellen Young) were reappointed. The three GC-elected members of last year's Nominating Committee are Rob Maher, Mark Viani, and Heidi Burkhardt. Co-Chair Harbeck asked for additional nominations from the floor; there were none. The GC voted 13 in favor, with none opposed, to reappoint Maher, Viani, and Burkhardt.

MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	David Dale	703-340-7971
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MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

March 25, 2015 at Mount Vernon Government Center

PRESIDING: Co-chair Judy Harbeck.

ATTENDING: Co-Chair Rea, Treasurer Markman, Secretary Martin, Committee Chairs David Voorhees, Cathy Ledec, Louise Cleveland, and Representatives Ellen Young and Katherine Ward.

Voting Representatives from Belle View Condos, Collingwood on the Potomac, Fairfax Residents' Association, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Montebello, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon Manor, Newington Forest, Pavilions at Huntington Metro, Riverside Estates, Stratford on the Potomac, Stratford Landing, Wellington, Wellington Heights, and Westgrove.

Elected and Appointed Officials and staff: Dan Storck, School Board member, and Brett Kenney, Chief Aide to Supervisor Hyland

THE AGENDA as published in the Record was adopted.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT was received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Committee reports from B&F, EDUC, HHS, P&Z, TRANS are as published in the Record. Co-chair Harbeck asked for volunteers to chair the Consumer Affairs Committee, which is still without a chair.

SFDC REPORT: Northern VA Transportation Authority is seeking public input on its two-year funding program for transportation projects. A public hearing was held March 25, and comments are due April 12. Route 1 widening is on the borderline of priority projects, so citizen input is important. The BOS is to take up the issue of car title lenders, and possibly changing zoning definitions to exclude them.

FAIRFAX FEDERATION REPORT: Fairfax Federation passed a budget resolution seeking to restore school funding, library posi-

tions, and adopt a meals tax, plastic bag tax, and increased BPOL tax to increase revenue. Supervisor Hyland is to be recognized.

CO-CHAIRS' REPORT ON BOARD ACTIONS. E&R-2015-03 Support for Request of Residents of Mt Vernon Civic Association to Delay/Suspend further In-fill Development in their Immediate Area until Flooding Problems Can Be Resolved was sent to Supervisor Hyland before being voted on by the GC, due to the need for immediate action preceding a March 20 deadline for comments.

SELECTION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The two Co-Chair appointed members of the Nominating Committee (Karen Pohorylo and Ellen Young) were reappointed. The three GC-elected members of last year's Nominating Committee are Rob Maher, Mark Viani, and Heidi Burkhardt. Co-Chair Harbeck asked for additional nominations from the floor; there were none. The GC voted 13 in favor, with none opposed, to reappoint Maher, Viani, and Burkhardt.

RESOLUTIONS

E&R-2015-03 Support for Request of Residents of Mt Vernon Civic Association to Delay/Suspend further In-fill Development in their Immediate Area until Flooding Problems Can Be Resolved. The motion was introduced, and a vote to call the question was defeated with 2 in favor and 11 opposed. Brett Kenney reported that the Route 1 culvert restricts drainage channel, and that the county is not approving the proposed subdivision until the floodplain delineation is finished and submitted to FEMA. The resolution was passed with 15 in favor and 0 opposed.

EDU-2015-02 School Funding in the FY2016 County Advertised Budget was passed with 15 in favor and 0 opposed.

HHS-2015-02 Fairfax County Planning for Human Services, FY 2016 and Beyond was passed with 15 in favor and 0 opposed.

B&F-2015-01 MVCCA Recommendations on the Fairfax County FY 2016 Budget Plan, as Advertised was passed with 14 in favor and 1 opposed.

MOUNT VERNON SUPERVISOR TIME

Brett Kenney advised the group :

1. On road bike lanes from Parkers Lane to Collingwood are being considered, and a public hearing was held.
2. New storm drainage ordinance could require detention on site, or developers could pay credits to improve drainage elsewhere. County staff has been taking a hard line on requiring on-site detention, and developers are pushing back.
3. North Hill task force will meet April 1.
4. There has been a change in interpretation of the BPOL tax by the courts that restricts it.

Members asked about the implementation of stormwater plans, and the request for a Comp Plan Amendment for the Woodlawn CBC. In response to a question about a trail along the Mount Vernon Hwy, Kenney noted that the Potomac Heritage trail has priority.

OTHER ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES AND PUBLIC TIME

School Board member Dan Storck spoke briefly about the stresses on the school budget caused by population change and growth. He noted that poor kids cost 50% more to educate, and that there has been an increase from 20% to 28% in the proportion of free and reduced meal kids.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Martin, Secretary.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 1, 2015 at 7:30 pm

There was no meeting for April 1.

The next meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee will be at 7:30pm on May 6, 2015 at the Mount Vernon Government Center.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

There are no meeting minutes this month.

EDUCATION

The MVCCA Education Committee met on April 1, 2015, at 8pm in Community Room 2 at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center. The usual meeting place, Whitman Middle School, was not available due to Spring Break and members were notified by email and by signage of the change of venue. Associations represented were Mount Zephyr, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor North and Collingwood Springs. Co-chair Harbeck acted as liaison.

The committee discussed a draft resolution suggesting that a new elementary school should be built on the "Pinewoods Lake" site and boundaries adjusted along both sides of Route 1 in order to make neighborhood schools available to morel students and reduce the number of students bused out of their neighborhoods and across Route 1. Lacking a quorum, the committee discussed the issues only in general, but those present agreed that disadvantaged children, in particular, deserve the benefits of neighborhood

schools including a sense of student and community ownership, potential wrap-around community services, and easier interchange among parents, students, staff and local residents. Letting students go to school closer to home would also relieve overcrowding in east side schools. The members recognized that the west side schools would see further increases in low income and ESOL populations but felt that this problem is outweighed by the benefits of neighborhood schools assuming adequate resources are directed.

The committee also discussed generally an effort to standardize grading policies in FCPS middle and high schools. While the grading scale is standard, schools have different policies on, for example, retaking tests, handling of overdue or unacceptable homework or projects, and whether scoring should start at "zero" or at "fifty" for failed or missing work.

Members agreed that policies should not differ between schools but had a number of concerns.

As mentioned, some schools essentially place a floor of 50% on graded material, including that not turned in at all. The reasoning is that struggling students who have received a few "zeros" in a class may simply give up because the deficit is too great to make up to a passing grade and drop out or find their road to graduation highly compromised. Members noted that, while one could assume that students aiming for college would still make strong efforts because they are looking for the best grade possible, not merely to pass, that may not always be the case and teens are adept at "gaming the system" and, often, looking for the easy way to the detriment of good study habits and work ethic. As one member put it, what is the incentive for studying for a test if you can make it up with no penalty for a better grade? And how much pressure does that put on kids to constantly redo or makeup work in the search for an "A"?

Members had similar concerns about retaking tests and handing in late or unacceptable homework and projects. While the primary goal is learning the subject and doing the work, learning to keep to a schedule, organize time and follow instructions is also critical: there are often no make-ups in the real world. Moreover, a too relaxed policy creates a burden for teachers who would have to juggle work coming in at all different times, create multiple test forms to avoid cheating, prepare new classwork while following up on missing assignments, and the like. And, it seems unfair to students who do keep up, prepare for tests and hand in assignments on time. At least, there should be a "penalty" for late or retaken work perhaps in the form of a ceiling on the final mark; most remember from their school years that if such dispensation was available the grade would adjust downward based on the timing.

Members also opined that perhaps honors, AP and IB classes should have a stricter standard in that students should be subject to removal to general education classes if they are consistently late with work or do poor work. This prospect might be a stronger incentive for many than a reduced class grade. Students self-select for placement in these classes and should be prepared to put forth greater effort and keep up with material.

One member also noted that, while it is essential to try to encourage students who may have many obstacles to performing at their highest capability, isn't this a bit like "social promotion" or an assumption that some students can't be expected to perform?

The Committee will follow he development of a uniform grading policy and, of course, issues of boundaries, construction and enrollment.

Next meeting: 8pm, May 6, 2015, Whitman Middle School library

ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The E&R committee met 1 Apr. 2015, at 7.15 p.m. Attending were Cathy Ledec (chair), Belle View Condominiums, Collingwood-on-the-Potomac, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Riverside Estates, Stratford Landing, Wellington Heights.

We welcomed Scott M. Herrick, Founder and President and John Thillman, Vice President, Landmark Atlantic Holdings, LLC (LAH). Mr. Thillman presented material about a development project of great interest to LAH at 8800 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, Virginia. They have put in a contract to purchase and develop this property with a contingency clause that includes Fairfax County approving the rezoning request, and other exception applications.

As background for us, John described his background so we would understand better where his background lends itself to a project done well from the perspective of the environmental impact. This project will require that the Developer work in partnership with FC staff in Planning and Zoning, Department of Public Works, Stormwater Management (stream restoration) and the Fairfax County Park Authority (Pole Road Park is immediately adjacent to 8800 Richmond Highway).

One strategy that can be pursued for redevelopment and revitalization of the Richmond Highway corridor in Mt. Vernon District should include attracting higher end retail. In order for this to happen more disposable income is needed, and this requires higher end residential. Mr. Thillman's approach with this project focuses on creating a sense of place, a residential destination that appears to be missing from other properties in this area especially along the west side of Richmond Highway. The partnership between Arcadia Food and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, located nearby at the Woodlawn Plantation is an organization working towards these same goals. This property is located near Fort Belvoir and other large employers.

Development has its challenges and this site seems to have more challenges than most. Since 1947 this property is family owned. Once upon a time there was an amusement park on this site (1947 – 1960s) and in the 1960's it was used by the state and county as a spoil site for Richmond Highway construction. Currently there is a fully functional welding shop, boat repair and storage, and miscellaneous construction equipment storage. The property area closest to Richmond Highway is zoned as C8, with the western side of the property zoned R2. In order for this project to be developed into the town home community a certain number of townhomes will be constructed. Fairfax County Staff will need to effect the change to the Comprehensive Plan approved in P&Z Resolution 2014-02 that recommended a change that adds residential as an option. Mr. Thillman shared pictures of the current site conditions pointing out the impervious surfaces, construction debris, automobiles parked directly next to the stream bank likely dripping environmental contaminants into the stream. Condition of the site was shown which includes impervious surfaces. Photos of the stream were also shared from a heavy rain (4 day) period in March 2025. The stream is filled with pieces of concrete that are contaminating the water – these need to be removed. Storm water from this property flows directly into the stream.

The Park Authority Property here (Pole Road Park) is a hidden gem. It is not visible from Richmond Highway. There could be significant upside potential with this park if 8800 Richmond Highway is developed in an environmentally sound and conservation-oriented manner. If a genuine partnership between the developer and the Fairfax County Park Authority could be formed, then Pole Road Park could become a beautiful community park with interpretive trails that could connect people to nature.

LAH is proposing to clean up 8800 Richmond Highway by removing the welding shop, boat repair and storage, on-site storage of waste soil and other dumped, contaminated soils, wood chipping operation; cleaning up the concrete, macadam and other impervious soils within the floodplain; and stopping the site from continuing to pollute. This could be done through a carefully defined and legally binding partnership with the Fairfax County Dept. of Public Works, Environmental Services and the Fairfax County Park Authority to clean up and restore the streambed, establish a hard riparian buffer to the streambed and FCPA pond, set aside areas with native trees for saving and protection in perpetuity, and restore the overall environmental integrity of the site.

On this 8 acre site LAH will likely propose developing about 4 acres, which will necessitate filling in 1.5 acres of the flood plain. This will result in 3 up to 4 inches higher water level in the FCPA pond. Specific details on how many units, and how much fill will be needed have not yet been defined yet. Soil studies are being conducted to determine if any contaminants are present that would need to be removed. Hydrological studies are also underway.

Upon approval of the site plan, site clean-up, delineation of permanent tree save areas and other fencing to protect these areas would be installed. Removal of the concrete footings in the Flood Plain which is now all concrete or other impervious surfaces would be done next, followed by the restoration of the riparian buffer/filter area along the stream bed. This would involve carrying out the stream restoration, identifying and demarcating tree save areas and planting with native species to restore where needed, preparing the site for construction and avoiding the designated environmentally sensitive areas. Any on-site waste material would be removed recycled where possible.

It was suggested by a Committee member that the latest and best technologies for environmental improvements be considered. This includes pervious concrete, porous pavers, cisterns, and other storm water management techniques be implemented. If the project were to build within the Flood Plain or in an RPA, it will be important to require strong environmental mitigation measures that would produce a net gain from an environmental standpoint.

LAH will seek future support of the MVCCA E&R, P&Z and Transportation Committees for this project since much of the site is an RPA and largely covered with impervious surfaces left over from the amusement park days. Rezoning of the property will be needed, and other special exception applications may be needed. It is anticipated that this developer will return to our committee for the June 2015 meeting.

No Resolutions this month.

Next meeting: 6 May 2015 at 7:15pm, Mt. Vernon Government Center.
Invited Speaker: Chris Mueller, Ecologist II, DPWES, Maintenance and Stormwater Management Division,
Topic: Planting in stormwater detention areas.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

On Tuesday, April 7, the MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee (HHS) met at the South County Center, in order to consider how best to focus the work of the committee during the next six months, which include the start of a new fiscal year, for both Fairfax County (FY16) and the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (FY15).

Participating were HHS Committee members authorized to represent the following six MVCCA member associations: Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Potomac Valley-River Bend, Stratford Landing, Stratford-on-the-Potomac-IV, and Newington Forest. This month, the committee again welcomes a new member, and everyone looks forward to receiving more ideas and comments, by e-mail, from active members not able to come on April 7 (representing Hollin Glen, Sulgrave Manor, Tauxemont, and Westgrove). The committee welcomes comments, also, from all who share MVCCA's

commitment to sustaining and strengthening the public and private network of essential human services that must be available for all, in our growing and changing southeastern area of the County. HHS Chair Louise Cleveland chaired the meeting.

The Chair's Report began with thanks to the committee for their dedication, during the past 3 months, in shaping the detailed draft resolution that was approved, unanimously, exactly as presented in the March 2015 *MVCCA RECORD,* at the General Council meeting on March 25. This is now **MVCCA Resolution (HHS) 2015-7: "Fairfax County Planning for Human Services, FY 2016 and Beyond"**

In the hearings on the proposed Fairfax County multi-year budget plan, the MVCCA spokesperson—the Chair for the MVCCA Budget and Finance Committee—presents to the Board of Supervisors a package of three Resolutions in response—on Education, Human Services, and the proposed Plan as a whole. Since the HHS Chair is scheduled to testify as an individual, among a number of speakers for human services, she will focus on shared themes in the MVCCA Resolution and the countywide Human Services Council's Letter to the BOS, (1) recognizing the value of proven programs in prevention and early intervention, (2) calling for restoration of funds for highly effective programs proposed for elimination, such as Healthy Families Fairfax and others identified by MVCCA, and (3) urging BOS action now to agree on *how* (not "whether") to diversify and increase County revenues, in order to fund strategic investments in the public services that provide the foundation for equitable growth.

PLANNING A FRESH START

This spring the HHS Committee takes a fresh look at both emerging needs and potential resources, in our area. As Louise Cleveland plans to retire, by June 30, 2015, from her role as HHS Chair (since September 2000), committee members are seeking to identify younger potential community volunteers able to make time in their busy lives to meet with others, learn more about the growth and diversity in the local area, and ask the questions that reveal potential resources. The Committee wants an update, soon, from the Fairfax County Prevention Manager, on the status of programs in our area as well as online.

Actions at this meeting included selection of concerns that deserve attention during the next six months, with several members choosing one, in order to report at upcoming meetings on informational resources and potential for community engagement in solutions. These are described below, under the six interconnected goals or "result areas" used by the County's Human Services System to define and measure their core activities.

- **Sustainable Housing** – John Jeszensky's monthly report on housing described the March meeting of the County's Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, which introduced an all-new leadership team (including a new chair and a new FC Director of Housing and Community Development) that embraces potential opportunities through public-private partnerships, for example to redevelop North Hill, located in Mount Vernon, as mixed-income affordable homes with a 20-acre park.
- **Healthy People** – The implementation of recommendations from a multi-agency task force, for improving access for Youth Behavioral Health Services, should begin in early FY16, a development long-awaited in the Mount Vernon/Lee area.
- **Successful Children and Youth –** MVCCA and others have called for increased County investment in quality Early Childhood Care and Education, so the committee will track progress in reducing wait lists of families and children eligible for HeadStart placement and for sliding-scale fees for care. Anticipated very rapid growth in the under-five age group may attract local applicants for childcare in homes or a center.
- **Positive Living for Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities –** As boomers move into their sixties, the pool of active volunteers should be a growing resource. Will Mount Vernon attract both young families and those interested in aging in place? The committee will report on potential "village" solutions for organized exchanges of volunteer services – starting with transportation.
- **Economic Self-Sufficiency** – See "Trends" data, under Resources.
- **Connecting Individuals** – The committee seeks "best practice" ideas that connect local neighborhoods and communities: keep reporting your ideas and success stories.

APRIL OPPORTUNITIES

The chair reminded members of two opportunities to participate in highly informative local events in April, as described previously in the March HHS Report:

- **Wednesday, April 22, 1-3 PM, South County Task Force for Human Services** meets at South County Center, Room 221 A/B/C, inviting Virginia legislative representatives for our southeastern area of Mount Vernon-Lee and the Richmond Highway Corridor to update us on state actions with impact here. To add your e-mail address for announcements of upcoming meetings (and any scheduling changes), contact Convener Anne A. Andrews, anneaandrews494@gmail.com.
- **Thursday, April 30, 1-9 PM, NEXUS Annual Conference,** *"Caring Together—Building Resilience and Better Brain-ways among the Young,"* convenes at the Virginia Hills Center, 6520 Diana Lane, Alexandria 22310. This *free* event, which includes dinner, requires registration: hold the date and contact (for further agenda info) Lainge Bailey, 703-660-2327, laingebailey@earthlink.net.

RESOURCES

New and updated County resources for finding services and for understanding complex policy choices appear regularly on the County web site. This month, search "Human Services Council" to find:

- Human Services Council's Letter to the Board of Supervisor's on the multi-year budget plan

- A new updated "Trends and Emerging Needs Impacting the Fairfax County Human Services System – January 15, 2015" (PDF, 39 pages)

NEXT MEETINGS
The MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee will meet at the South County Center, 7:30 to 9 PM, on Tuesday, May 5 and June 2. Please plan for your neighborhood association to be represented, as we (1) explore how MVCCA actions may contribute to community awareness of the public and private network of human services in our area and (2) identify both growing needs and potential resources for response.

PLANNING & ZONING

Planning & Zoning Minutes 04/06/2015

Member Attendance: Mike Frank; Mount Zephyr, Mark Viani; Collingwood on the Potomac, Katherine Ward; Wellington Civic Association, Burt Kronstedt; Hollin Hills, Cathy Ledec; Pavilions at Huntington Metro, John Joyce; Huntington Club Condominium, L Pascoe; Montebello, Alix Kaufmann; Collingwood Springs, Ray Novitske; Huntington, Leah Chapla; Stratford Landing, Martin Tillett; Spring Bank, Brent Christ; Collingwood on the Potomac, Don Martin; Hollin Hall Village Civic Association, Richard Cauthers; Riverside Estates, Sam Wood; Villamay, Karan Cerutti; Mount Vernon Civic Association, Wayne Wisynwski; Waynewood, Sarah Williamson; Wellington Heights, Eleanor Quigley; Wellington Heights, Heidi Burkhardt; Belle View Condo Association, Mary Evans; Collingwood Springs

Guest Attendance: Janalee Spinberg; Huntington Club Condominiums, David Dale; MVCCA Co-Chair/Woodlawn Terrace, John Thillmann; Landmark Atlantic, J.Holt; Chaney Enterprises, Jeff Slagle; Chaney Enterprises, Erica Biser; Chaney Enterprises, Kyle Murray; Chaney Enterprises, Jack Voga; Dewberry, Janice Cena; Dewberry, Sara Mariska; Walsh Colucci, William Brinley; SBCA; Earl Flanagan; Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner, Michael Banzhaf; Chaney Enterprises

Presentation, Special Exception for a Concrete Batching Plant

This presentation was for information only. Ginger Bay, L.L.C., (the "Applicant") seeks approval of a Special Exception ("SE") to permit construction of a concrete batching plant with accessory maintenance and office uses. The 5.42 acre parcel identified on the Fairfax County Tax Map as #107-4((1))-62A (the "Property") with a street address of 9520 Gunston Cove Road, Lorton, Virginia, is located in the Mt. Vernon District and is zoned I-6, Heavy Industrial. Section 5-601 of the Zoning Ordinance states the purpose and intent of the I-6 Heavy Industrial District is as follows:

"The I-6 District is established to provide areas for heavy industrial activities with minimum performance standards where the uses may require that some noise, vibration and other environmental pollutants must be tolerated, and where the traffic to and from the district may be intensive. The district is intended for use by the largest manufacturing operations, heavy equipment, construction and fuel yards, major transportation terminals and other basic industrial activities required in an urban economy."

The Applicant plans to develop the concrete batching plant with accessory maintenance and office facilities as a Category 5 Special Exception Use under Section 5-604 of the Zoning Ordinance on approximately 4.04 acres of the Property consistent with the Special Exception Plat prepared by Dewberry dated February 2015 (the "SE Plat"). The SE Plat illustrates an office of approximately 1,600 square feet, a concrete plant of approximately 6,600 square feet, an aggregate storage area, a washout area, and a truck parking area. The proposed use complies with required setbacks and buffer yard requirements and locates on-site all required storm water management and best management practices detention facilities. The Property is served by public sewer and water facilities and abuts a paved public road, State Route 600, Gunston Cove Road.

Some questions included truck traffic trips; 94 trips per day on Lorton Road, dust control management, and storm water management. The South County Federation is reviewing this application, and has concerns with the view shed of the proposed plant from surrounding communities, among many other concerns. Currently, there are two concrete batching plants in the South County area, with one being out of business. The applicant stated the company gives 10% of it's' bottom line revenue to surrounding communities. They did not specify terms.

The MVCCA P&Z Committee will further discuss how to proceed with this application, if at all, and the P&Z Chair is doing research, with the help of county staff, on the necessity of this type of operation in the county. The South County Federation Land Use Chair will be consulted on the Federation's position as well.

Presentation, Landmark Atlantic for 8800 Richmond Highway

John Thillmann, Vice-President of Landmark Atlantic gave a PowerPoint proposal to the P&Z Committee and the E&R Committee separately. The intention is to add market rate residential to the property, while improving this environmental sensitive area. The presentation can be viewed at mvcca.org, Planning & Zoning, under 4/06/2015 meeting information.

Landmark Atlantic will be giving the presentation to the Transportation Committee in May. The intention of these three separate meetings is to solicit feedback from the community, and come back when plans are ready to be reviewed.

Presentation, Walsh Colucci for Novus Residences

Sara Mariska; Walsh Colucci gave a PowerPoint proposal, can be viewed at mvcca.org, Planning & Zoning, under 4/06/2015 meeting information, for the option to develop 375 dwelling units.

The proposed development is located on the east side of Richmond Highway south of Shields Avenue to Fairview Drive located within the Penn Daw Community Business Center. The applicant has been working closely with the Spring Bank Community.

The P&Z Committee supported a resolution, 16-0, of support for a concurrent Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Rezoning Action necessary for this project. The applicant's suggested Comprehensive Plan Amendment can be viewed at mvcca.org, Planning & Zoning, under 4/06/2015 meeting information.

New Alexandria March Presentation Update

The New Alexandria Community approved unanimously the proposal for an addition to an existing single family dwelling located at 6415 15th Street, Alexandria, VA 22307, at their March 30, 2015 community meeting. The applicant was required to obtain a Special Exception, SE-2014-MV-071, due to the addition cost being more than 50% of the current dwellings value.

New Alexandria requested that the P&Z Committee draft a resolution of support. Since the committee supported the application in March, the committee approved a resolution of support, 11-0, which required emergency action by the MVCCA Board of Directors due to the April 16, 2015 Planning Commission date. The board approved the emergency action at the April 9, 2015 board meeting. The resolution is published in the April Record for review.

ExteNet Presentation in May for a 140 DAS Network Within the Mount Vernon District

The Telecommunications Subcommittee drafted a resolution in 2011, which was approved by the General Council, that DAS, (Distributed Antenna System), is the preferred method for cell phone coverage over monopoles within the Mount Vernon District. This resolution can be viewed at mvcca.org, Planning & Zoning, under 4-06-2015 meeting information.

The P&Z Committee revived the Telecommunications Subcommittee to look over the ExteNet proposal, since the applicant has requested feedback from the community on the proposed locations and what the DAS nodes could look like. The Telecommunications Subcommittee will be meeting with the applicant on April 27, 2015, 7:30PM, at the Mount Vernon Government Center to review the proposed locations and discuss the desired look of the DAS nodes.

Volunteers signed up after the P&Z Committee Meeting, and Mark Viani is chairing the subcommittee. The subcommittee will report back to the P&Z Committee on the May 5, 2015 meeting. The applicant will also be at the P&Z Committee meeting on May 5, 2015. As so far, the subcommittee is a body of 10 people, some of which participated in the 2010 Telecommunications Subcommittee. If you are interested in participating in the subcommittee, contact Karen Pohorylo at kpohorylo@msn.com by April 24, 2015.

Next P&Z Meeting will be May 4, 2015, 7:30PM, Mount Vernon Government Center.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Public Safety Committee of the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations conducted its monthly meeting on April 2, 2015 in the Mount Vernon Center Community Meeting Room #3. The meeting began at 7:30 PM with the following communities represented: Hollin Hills, New Gum Springs, Potomac Valley River Bend, Riverside Estates, Southwood, and Westgrove.

This was a joint meeting between the Public Safety Committee and the Transportation Committee.

The guest speaker for the meeting was MPO Richard McEachin, Fairfax County Police Department Liaison to the Virginia Department of Transportation. His position is unique: FCPD is the only jurisdiction in Virginia that has a dedicated liaison with VDOT.

One of the issues for this discussion was adding traffic signals to dangerous intersections. Adding a traffic control device is a decision made by the VDOT traffic engineers, and is based on a set of approximately nine "warrants," or factors, such as traffic counts, accidents, and so forth, that indicate a new device is called for. Even though these are all objective measurements, the decision to install a new control is based on engineering judgment, not an automatic numerical formula.

Counting traffic accidents at the VDOT level is based on the FR-300 accident report form. To be reported, an accident must either involve an injury or at least $1500 damage. If an accident meets this threshold, it will be assigned a Case Number and the FR-300 will be submitted by FCPD to VDOT. Accidents that do not meet the threshold will only be recorded at the county level, using the Event Number, which is automatically generated by Dispatch.

The FR-300 forms are electronically handled inside FCPD, but there is currently no automatic link from there to the TREDS (Traffic Records Electronic Data System) database, so VDOT must manually enter the data. The events that are recorded only by FCPD and not forwarded to VDOT can be queried for only the most recent 90 days. Older events can be accessed by an FCPD Crime Analyst.

Committee members pointed out that they have observed several collisions per month at the intersection of Fort Hunt Road and Paul Spring Road, but that these are not indicated in the VDOT database. MPO McEachin was surprised to hear that there was such a serious discrepancy, and said that he would look into that issue.

FCPD has a county-level Operations Support Bureau that contains Traffic Safety and the Motorcycle unit. Motorcycle officers are directed, normally in pairs, to points in the County as required. Each Police District has at least one Traffic Enforcement Officer. The Mount Vernon District's TEO is Seth Masterson.

Traffic enforcement on private property, such as parking lots and private roads are something of a gray area. FCPD will handle serious incidents, such as injury accidents and hit-and-run collisions, but do not generally get involved in routine traffic enforcement on private property.

Radar trailers are generally positioned in locations where there is a perceived problem, or where there has been a recent change, such as a new speed limit. While the trailers are marked "Speed Enforced by Radar," the trailers themselves do not have cameras to issue tickets. However, some trailers may also have motorcycle officers nearby to issue tickets.

In some cases speed limits have been changed due to political pressure, such as Old Mill Road changing from 35 to 25 MPH.

The question was asked if the officers really do have a quota of tickets to write. Indeed they do, but the FCPD standard is 100 per month, which is so easily met that there is no pressure to write an unusual number of tickets at the end of the month. The question was also asked if there are any attempts to bribe an officer to avoid a ticket. MPO McEachin said that in his 21 years on the force he has never personally encountered any.

Some roads have overlapping jurisdictions, such as the George Washington Parkway. The Park Police handle traffic enforcement there, but FCPD will assist with responses to crimes or other serious incidents.

Questions were raised about specific locations such as the intersection of Fort Hunt Road and Paul Spring Road. Any change to that intersection would incur major expense. In addition to a new traffic signal, reengineering the intersection might have serious impact to the nearby property such as the swimming pool. Another troublesome intersection is Sherwood Hall and Fordson, due to recently-added bicycle lanes and a lack of with school crosswalks. MPO McEachin will meet with VDOT engineers and they will walk the intersection together.

Committee members asked about the new high-tech drivers licenses, and whether they still can be faked. They can be, mainly by putting a new photo onto an existing license, but the fakes are harder to make and easier to detect. People impersonating police were also discussed. Such incidents do not generally last very long, but it was also noted that the incidents get more coverage in the news than do the times that impersonators get caught.

Parking enforcement is separate from traffic enforcement. Parking in the bicycle lanes (for example, on Sherwood Hall) is only allowed where it is clearly marked; parking on top of a marked bicycle lane is a violation. Long-term parking of commercial trucks and trailers near US-1 and Sacramento is also a violation, but since there is less of an immediate safety and traffic-flow issue there, enforcement is a lower priority.

In addition to radar trailers, there are also data collection radars that can be attached to existing fixtures such as signs. These devices collect large amounts of useful data, such as vehicle counts, high-low-average speeds, and so forth. Officer Masterson, the Mount Vernon Traffic Enforcement Officer, may be able to coordinate access to the data.

It was suggested that Public Safety and Transportation have another joint meeting in June with Officer Masterson as the guest speaker.

After MPO McEachin concluded his remarks, there was discussion of the construction projects on US 1. There was a thirty-year gap, from 1984 to 2014, in which improvements to US 1 were essentially halted due to a combination of funding and political issues.

Old Business:

The committee briefly discussed recent news about the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission. As currently established, the commission will be temporary, probably through this fall. Funding for a permanent commission would be troublesome, and the overall opinion of the Public Safety Committee remains that such a permanent commission would not be useful. One possible suggestion is that members of the current ad hoc commission be offered training on the FCPD interactive video "shoot-don't-shoot" system if possible.

New Business:

One member of the Public Safety Committee attended a League of Women Voters meeting on March 22 at Pohick Regional Library on domestic violence, suicide, and gun control.

It was suggested that Captain Day, Mount Vernon District Commander, be invited as guest speaker for May.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:21 PM.

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

TRANSPORTATION

The Transportation Committee met jointly with the Public Safety Committee on April 2, 2015 beginning at 7:30pm. Transportation committee attendees at the meeting were the MV Vernon Transportation and Planning Commissioners, and 5 civic associations: Hollin Hall Village; New Gum Springs; Southwood; Waynewood and Woodley Hills.

Guest Speaker - MPO Richard McEachin,Fairfax County Police Department VDOT Liaison Officer/Traffic Division

Officer McEachin works with VDOT traffic engineering to assist with highway safety issues including installation of stop signs, or new signs, striping of the road and traffic light issues (e.g, timing and installation of a new light).

Civic Associations or elected officials submit a request for a new traffic light, a stop sign, etc. to VDOT. The VDOT traffic engineers need to resolve about 9 to 11 warrants before approving the request. Officer McEachin works with VDOT traffic engineering to collect data concerning the number of accidents, injuries and/or fatalities at an intersection or along a stretch of road. Officer McEachin will work with civic associations to collect this type of data. While VDOT Traffic Engineering has parameters for determining when additional striping, guard rails, traffic lights or signs are beneficial, VDOT engineering can also use their judgement.

FCPD Autp Accident Data Collection - When in an automobile accident on a VDOT road or a parking lot, if the amount of damage is more than $1,500.00 or there is an injury, the police should be called as that is the threshold required by Virginia law to report an accident. Depending upon the severity of the accident or the location, dial 911 or the non-emergency number (703-691-3121).

The Dispatcher will assign the call an Event Number and an officer will be dispatched. While each jurisdiction in Fairfax County has at least one traffic enforcement officer, the officer responding may not be a traffic enforcement officer. If there is no injuries and in the judgement of the responding officer, the amount of damage is less than $1500.00, the officer does not have to file a report. However, the Event Number establishes that the Event occurred and if it turns out a party was injured, one can amend the Event Number to include the injury and it should become a case number.

The case number reports are sent to VDOT and become part of the Virginia Traffic Records Electronic Data System (TREDS), which automates and centralizes statewide crash information. While the highway safety community is provided with timely, accurate, secure and accessible crash data, the publicly available TREDS data can be found at http://www.dmv.state.va.us/safety/crash_data/mapping/#/2013 . However, the most recent data available is for the 2013 year. If you need more recent information, contact the FCPD and request a Traffic Crash Report.

Traffic Crash (Accident) Reports
Who is entitled to copies of crash reports?

- Driver and Passengers involved in the crash
- Injured persons/pedestrians/bicyclists involved in the crash
- Property/Vehicle owners
- Attorneys and/or insurance agents representing the driver or property owner

Here, in the Mount Vernon District, our Traffic Enforcement Officer is Seth Masterson. Officer Masterson is another resource who would be helpful in crunching numbers for VDOT and reviewing a traffic scene for safety issues.

OLD BUSINESS

1. March 31, 2015 NVTA Town Hall Meeting re Fairfax County projects.
Project 8S - Napper Rd to Mount Vernon Memorial Highway South widening is on the cusp.

Senator Adam Ebbin who is the Va senate rep on the NVTA commented that more people attended our Town Hall than the Regional Hearing. The South County presentation had about twice as many attendees as the regional hearing. The meeting lasted an hour longer than the regional hearing. Steve Hunt of The Mount Vernon Voice was taking notes and should have an article out. One gentleman was around when construction stopped on Route 1 in 1984 for transportation projects out in western Fairfax County. He noted that we have been promised this widening for 30 years. However, why must the project be "shovel-ready" in order to get funded? All of the Fairfax County NVTA projects are in western Fairfax. Why?
According to Tom Biesdany director of FCDOt, the project was applied for NVTA funds prior to the Multi-modal study being complete. Thus, it was considered a road widening project only. The good news is that NVTA has put up $9 million for the required Environmental Impact Statement and preliminary design. Fairfax County has applied for an additional $4 million for engineering design work. And Fairfax County will be using local money (30%) from the transportation taxes to fund widening of US Route 1 to 6 lanes to the Occoquan (two stages).

2. March 23, 2015 Bike Trail Meeting re: repaving of Mt. Vernon Roads with on-road bike paths and sharrows (shared bike/car lanes). VDOT will be repaving a number of roads in our area this summer: Fordson Rd., Hinson Farm Rd, Parkers Lane/Collingwood Road, Quander Road and Beacon Hill Road/Belle View Blvd.

Adjourn

The Transportation Committee will meet on May 4, 2015 at 7:30pm in the library of the Walt Whitman Middle School on Parkers Lane. Our guest speaker will be John Thillmann representing the team developing 8800 Richmond Highway.

Committee Reports

SFDC

SFDC continues to support the widening of Route 1 between Mount Vernon Highway and Napper Rd, so that the entire corridor will be a consistent 6 lanes. This project is currently being considered for funding (it's "on the bubble") by NVTA.

The next Business Roundtable will be on May 7, at the Holiday Inn Express on Route 1, from 8:30 am to 10:00. The topic is "Social Media Part 2". Reservations may be made on our website, www.sfdc.org.

The next meeting is April 15.

FAIRFAX FEDERATION

The Federation budget committee representative testified at the County Budget Hearings. Most of what they supported mirror the MVCCA budget resolutions.

The upcoming membership meeting April 16 will host David Versel. Guest speaker to discuss land use in the county and how land use polices relate to financial forecast trends and fiscal challenges. See the April Federation Newsletter for details and location.

The Fairfax Federation's Annual awards banquet is May 3rd. Supervisor Hyland and others will be honored. The MVCCA nominated Supervisor Hyland for this Award of Achievement. Details are on the Fairfax Federation website.

Resolutions

PLANNING & ZONING

P&Z-2015-01:
RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SE-2014-MV-071

1. **WHEREAS,** the applicant proposes to add an addition to a single family dwelling located at 6415 15th Street, Alexandria, VA 22307;

2. **WHEREAS,** the proposed addition is over 50% of the value of the home, which requires a Special Exception Permit;

3. **WHEREAS,** the proposed addition is located within a floodplain, and the proposed foundation work accounts for this by installing a grating system around the foundation that allows water that rises over 6" to flow under the addition;

4. **WHEREAS,** the applicant's representative, Dave Vogt, met with the New Alexandria Civic Association, (NACA), on March, 31, 2015;

5. **WHEREAS,** the NACA supported SE-2014-MV-071 by a 14-0 vote at the NACA meeting;

6. **WHEREAS,** the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Association, (MVCCA), Planning & Zoning Committee approved SE-2014-MV-071 at the March 2, 2015 meeting;

A. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the Mount Vernon Council of Citizen's Association supports the NACA position and SE-2014-MV-071;

B. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the MVCCA requests that the applicant consider the installation of onsite storm water mitigation, to include the use of rain barrels at all gutter outflows and a rain garden inside the property line along the rear boundary to help minimize the impact of increased storm water flow due to the addition of 800+ sq. feet of impervious surface to this flood plain property.

(This Resolution was approved as an emergency action item by the MVCCA Board of Directors on April 9, 2015 due to the Planning Commission date of April 16, 2015)

END: RESOLUTION P&Z-2015-01

P&Z-2015-02: SUPPORT FOR OUT OF TURN CONCURRENT PLAN AMENDMENT AND REZONING ACTION FOR TAX MAP 83-3 ((1)) 18-20
CORNER OF RICHMOND HIGHWAY AND FAIRVIEW DRIVE (REFERENCE: APR 9-IV-26MV)

1. **WHEREAS:** The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations (MVCCA) continues to support the redevelopment and enhancements of Richmond Highway Corridor;

2. **WHEREAS:** MVCCA representatives participated in the 2009-2010 South County Area Plan Review (APR) Mount Vernon (MV) Task Force;

3. **WHEREAS:** The 2009-2010 APR MV APR Task Force and the County Staff recommended that 83-3((1))-18-20, consisting of 5.24 acres, has redeveloped potential through a concurrent Plan Amendment and rezoning;

4. **WHEREAS:** The Planning Commission (7/28/2010) and the Board of Supervisors (9/28/2010) also approved the redevelopment of this property through a Concurrent Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Rezoning action;

5. **WHEREAS:** NOVUS Residential (Cafritz) has a contract to purchase subject property with the intent to redevelop it and have been working closely with the neighboring community of Spring Bank;

6. **WHEREAS:** The Spring Bank Community supports redevelopment and a concurrent amendment and rezoning process;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the MVCCA asks Supervisor Hyland to expeditiously support a Concurrent Out of Turn Plan Amendment and Rezoning action for the property identified by tax map 83-3((1)) 18-20.

END: RESOLUTION P&Z-2015-02

TRANSPORTATION

TRAN-2015-01: PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE BRIDGES OVER DOGUE CREEK AT US 1

1. **WHEREAS,** for over two decades, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations has brought to Fairfax County staff's attention the need for at least one pedestrian/bicyclist bridge over Dogue Creek between McDonald's and the hotels on the other side of the creek on US Route 1;

2. **WHEREAS,** there is a sidewalk from Route 235 S to Dogue Creek and a sidewalk/frontage road from Cooper Road from the North to Dogue Creek, but pedestrians, bicyclist and parents with strollers are forced to walk adjacent a travel lane on US Route 1 to cross Dogue Creek;

3. **WHEREAS,** the Board of Supervisor recently approved the widening of US Route 1 from Mount Vernon Memorial Highway (Route 235 S) to Napper Road with the $1.4 billion in transportation project priorities over the next 6-years (January 28, 2015);

4. **WHEREAS,** the approved widening of US Route 1 according to its accompanying Remarks/Scope "would include pedestrian and bicycle facilities";

5. **WHEREAS,** pedestrian traffic has increased between the newly constructed hotel and McDonald's on the east side of US Route 1 and those pedestrians do not have a choice but to enter US Route 1 to cross Dogue Creek which is even more hazardous in the evening as the crossing is dark;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations requests Supervisor Hyland to instruct Fairfax County staff to initiate action for the installation of an interim pedestrian bridge while we are waiting for the approved widening of this section of US Route 1 and also to improve the lighting for pedestrians crossing Dogue Creek.

END: RESOLUTION TRAN-2015-01

Treasurer's Report

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc.
Treasurer's Report
Current Month and Fiscal Period-to-Date[2] Compared to Budget
31 March 2015

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephen Markman, Treasurer
April 9, 2015

(Amounts are rounded to nearest dollar)

	Current Month	January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015	Enacted[3] Budget	Budget Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Cash Receipts:				
Dues - Current Members	$ 55	$ 3,649	$ 3,000	$ 649
Dues - New Members	-	126	54	72
Gala Receipts (including donations)	-	2,705	4,700	(1,995)
MM Interest Receipts	-	11	2	9
Total Cash Receipts	55	6,491	7,756	(1,266)
Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):				
Administrative	10	330	300	(30)
Gala	-	1,537	3,550	2,013
Insurance	-	1,646	773 [3]	(873)
Outreach/Town Hall Meeting	-	-	850	850
Record Production	300	1,675	1,483 [3]	(192)
Student of the Year Stipend/Award	-	600	500	(100)
Web Site	-	-	300	300
Total Cash Disbursements	310	5,787	7,756	1,969
Net Budget remaining to spend				$ 703
Receipts In Excess (less than) Disbursements	(255)	703	-	
Total Cash at Beginning of Period	11,838	10,880	10,880	
Total Cash at End of Period	$ 11,583	$ 11,583	$ 10,880	

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

Burke & Herbert - Checking	$ 1,570
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	10,012
Total Cash	$ 11,583

Notes:
1. The Treasurer's report uses the cash basis of accounting except as noted on the face of the statement.
2. The Council in 2014 changed its year from a calendar year to a fiscal year ending June 30. Thus the initial fiscal period is the eighteen months ending June 30, 2015.
3. The budget enacted for the twelve months in 2014 (calendar year) is extended to apply to the eighteen month fiscal period without dollar modification. Treasurer is responsible to alert the Council to any significant overruns to the Enacted Budget. Overruns for Record Production and Insurance have received Council approval.

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, April 22nd, 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
- Member Association Representatives' Time
- Mount Vernon Supervisor Time
- Other Elected Representatives and Public Time

Adjournment

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Board—May 14, 7:30 pm, MVGC Supvrs Conf Rm

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	5/6	7:30	MVGC	D. Voorhees
COAF	TBD			*open*
EDU	5/6	8:00	WWMS/Library	Harbeck
E&R	5/6	7:15	MVGC, Rm. 3	Ledec
HHS	5/5	7:30	SCC/Rm. 221/AB	Cleveland
PL/Z	5/4	7:30	MVGC	Pohorylo
PS	5/7	7:30	MVGC, Rm. 3	McDonald
TRAN	5/4	7:30	WWMS/Library	C. Voorhees

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