



Mount Vernon  
Council  
of Citizens'  
Associations

# Record

*Together we make a difference*

Volume LI, No. 5, May 2018

## FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

### ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Elections will take place at the May General Council meeting on May 23 at 8:00 p.m. See the nominee biographies in the box to the right. Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

### A FAREWELL TO FRANK J CIHAK

Mount Vernon lost a great citizen when Frank passed away on April 19. He was very active in the MVCCA Transportation Committee and was credited with saving the commuter rush hour 11Y bus route that travels to this day along the George Washington Parkway into DC. Frank also hosted a Military History lecture series at the Hollin Hall Senior Center among other valued activities for his community.

## NOMINEE BIOGRAPHIES

**Earl Flanagan** has served this community for many years. He recently retired as Mount Vernon District Planning Commissioner, a position he held for 12 years. He has served as the Transportation Chair of the MVCCA and as a Co-Chair. Earl knows what's going on and wants to offer the MVCCA members and our district his wealth of knowledge as a Co-Chair.

**Judy Harbeck** is a member of the Mount Vernon Civic Association and has lived in the Mount Vernon District with her family for nearly 40 years. A graduate of Purdue University and Cornell Law School, Judy practiced multi-district aviation and business law for more than 25 years. In "retirement" she has served as Chair of MVCCA's Education Committee, as an MVCCA Board member and as a Co-chair. She has also been MVCCA's representative to the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, and served as Budget Chair and a member of its Education Committee.

**John Ribble** has lived in Mount Vernon since 1966. He and his wife live in Riverside Gardens, where he has been President of the Association four times. John was Co-Chair of the Mount Vernon Visionary Task Force, an officer on the Fairfax County Council of the Arts, and is a past president of the Belle Haven Country Club. He has served on the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals, and is currently the Chairman.

## MVCCA BOARD

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SFDC	Ellen Young ..... rep.sfdc@mvcca.org
FCFCA	Pete Sitnik .....rep.fairfaxfederation@mvcca.org

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# Council Minutes

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## MVCCA GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

At Mt Vernon Government Center Community Room

**PRESIDING:** Co-Chair Katherine Ward

**ATTENDING:** Committee Chairs: Cathy Ledec (E&R), Pete Sitnik (Federation and Transportation), Gretchen Walzl (P&Z), Judy Harbeck (Education), Ellen Young (SFDC), Dean Sherick (Public Safety)

**Voting Representatives from:** Belle View Condominium, Belle Haven Terrace Civic Association, Collingwood-on-the-Potomac, Engleside Civic Association, Hollin Hall Civic Association, Civic Association of Hollin Hills, Huntington Community Association, Montebello Condominium, Mount Vernon Civic Association, Mount Zephyr Citizens Association, Pavilions at Huntington Metro, Riverside Gardens Citizens Association, Riverwood Home Owners Association, Stratford Landing Citizens Association, Wellington Civic Association, Williamsburg Manor North Citizens Association, Woodlawn Manor.

**Elected and Appointed Officials & Staff:** Dan Storck, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Mount Vernon District; Cathy Ledec, Fairfax County Tree Commission, Mount Vernon District; Earl Flanagan, Mount Vernon Planning Commissioner.

The meeting was officially called to order at 8:11 PM following a special presentation and reception honoring retiring Mount Vernon District's Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan for his many years of dedicated years of service and friendship to our district.

THE AGENDA was approved.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES of the March General Council Meeting held on 3/28/18 were approved

TREASURER'S REPORT for the period ending March 31, 2018 was accepted as published in the March Record.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS;

**Budget & Finance:** No April meeting.

**EDU:** As published in the Record. Judy Harbeck, committee chair, testified on behalf of the committee regarding the budget.

**E&R:** As written in the Record. The Chair noted the upcoming VDOT public hearing on road widening, public invited and encouraged to attend.

**P&Z:** No April meeting.

**Pub. Safety:** As published in the Record.

**Trans:** As published in the Record.

**Federation:** As published in the Record. Chair Pete Sitnik reported the Federations full support of undergrounding of utilities as part of the EMBARK project.

**SFDC:** As published in the Record. Economic Summit held and was again a successful event. Discussion held regarding the decline of brick and mortar retail with the increased use of online shopping.

### CO-CHAIRS REPORT

Voting for the new board members will take place at the May 23, 2018 meeting. Nominations from the floor are strongly encouraged. Please consider being a part of a group who has done great things our community and continues to influence and be a voice on your behalf.

Gretchen Walzl will be the new PZ chair and was welcomed back to the MVCCA. She had been a previous Co-Chair and PZ acting Chair.

### RESOLUTIONS

**E&R Resolution,** as published in the Record. Motion to accept and seconded was followed by a discussion regarding the widening of Richmond Highways impact on wild life, the lack of trash traps being installed and how that will impact wildlife and water quality. Resolution amended and passed 17-0.

**MEMBER TIME:** nothing to report

### SUPERVISOR TIME

- Introduced new citizen's advisory group for the BRT. All meetings will be posted, open to the public and the members will keep the MVCCA informed of actions being taken.
- Public meeting to be held regarding the use of the Mount Vernon Recreation Center. County seeking input from the community regarding athletic facilities and current use.
- Farmers Market to begin May 2, 2018 in the Sherwood Hall Library parking lot.
- Mount Vernon District to add 20 new police officers.
- Celebration to honor the dedication and friendship of Earl Flanagan to be held at Mount Vernon Government Center on May 1, 2018.
- Questions and discussion held regarding the Huntington Metro garage. Request from neighbors to write a letter to WAMATA on the condition and request an official response. Sup. Stork will write a letter and report on the response.
- Commended the Boy Scout Troop who contributed to the beautification of the Mount Vernon Government Center. Approximately 80 scouts assisted with the planting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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# Committee Reports

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## Committee Reports

### BUDGET AND FINANCE

The B&F Committee's next meeting is tbd.

### EDUCATION

The regular May meeting of the Education Committee was postponed to May 21, 2018, 7:30 p.m., Whitman MS library. Dr. Francisco Duran, new head of instruction and equity for FCPS, is the scheduled speaker. Minutes will appear in the June 2018 Record.

The date and speaker for the June meeting has not been decided.

### ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

The Environment and Recreation Committee (E&R) met on May 2, 2018 at 7.15pm. Community representatives included Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View Condominium, Collingwood-on-the-Potomac, Engleside, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Mount Zephyr, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Tauxemont, Wellington Civic, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor (non-voting), and Woodlawn Manor. Representatives from Stanley Martin Companies, LLC; Bean Kinney & Korman P.C.; Land Design and Consultants; TNT Environmental; Landmark Atlantic; and County staff as noted below along with two additional guests. Also present was E&R Chair who also serves as Tree Commissioner for the Mount Vernon District.

**Announcements:** (1) Representatives from Fort Belvoir were invited but did not attend tonight's E&R meeting. There will be an Open House on May 16, 2018 at the South County Government Center at 7pm on an Environmental Impact Statement related to a set of Fort Belvoir projects that may impact the 100-year flood plain of Accotink Creek. The EIS has not yet been posted on the Fort Belvoir Web site, once posted E&R chair will distribute this to committee members. The public comment period closes on May 21, 2018; (2) Reminder of the VDOT public comment period on the project in design phase to widen Richmond Highway between Jeff Todd Way and Napper Road. This public comment period closes on May 4, 2018. Committee members are offered the opportunity to submit public comments on either or both of these projects.

**8800 Richmond Highway:** Before beginning this presentation several disclosures of conflict of interest were brought forward from Mark Viani, MVCCA Co-chair who has been working on this project through his employer Bean Kinney & Korman, P.C, Pete Sitnik – his family is the property owner and he is also MVCCA Transportation Committee Chair, and John Thillman, former MVCCA Co-chair who is a contracted consultant on this project.

Minutes from prior E&R meetings on this property are here: [http://www.mvcca.org/record/record\\_2015-04.pdf](http://www.mvcca.org/record/record_2015-04.pdf) and [http://www.mvcca.org/record/record\\_2015-05.pdf](http://www.mvcca.org/record/record_2015-05.pdf).

We welcomed Matthew Roberts of Bean, Kinney & Korman, P.C. and other members of the development team from the organizations listed above. This property is zoned C8; along the Richmond Highway frontage and the west side of the property is zoned R2, this will be combined and re-zoned to PDH-8. A rezoning application will be prepared and a Special Exception for disturbance to the Resource Protection Area and flood plain. The applicant proposes 43 townhomes (reduced from 49) to bring a residential face with disposable income to this area of Richmond Highway. There will also be an on-site tot lot of ~1.28 acres and ~3 acres that the applicant is proposing be dedicated to the Fairfax County Park Authority. Including the property owner's prior contribution of ~17 acres to the FCPA this brings the total donation to the FCPA to 20 acres. The neighboring communities that were present at the meeting expressed their strong support for the project.

The town homes will be brick and stone and front-loaded (driveways and entrances in the front). Parcel A along the edge of the water will be dedicated to the FCPA. Along Richmond Highway 55 feet will be dedicated to VDOT for the Richmond Highway widening project which will result in a larger and taller bridge (~10 feet taller) span. There will be an interconnected network of internal streets and sidewalks within the development.

The Comp Plan calls for this property to remain as open space. The property is entirely within an Environment Quality Corridor and a Resource Protection Area; it is also mostly in the flood plain except for the southeast corner along the Richmond Highway frontage. In the 1940s, Fairfax County granted a permit for an amusement park on the property. The area to be developed is impervious filled with pavement, macadam, and foundation footers resulting from this use. VDOT also used this site for rubble and debris storage.

While the Fairfax County staff report is not yet available, E&R had the benefit of a memo from Fairfax County staff that succinctly explained the Comp Plan policy guidance with regard to residential development in Environment Quality Corridors, Resource Protection Areas, and floodplains. Staff recommend concentrating the development on the C8 portion of the site.

Points made during the ensuring discussion of this proposed project included:

(1) Positive elements to this proposed project were highlighted. These include a 50-foot planted buffer with native species (coordinated with County Staff) that would be established along the edge of Dogue Creek, along with the installation of storm water management where there is none currently. Impervious surfaces would be reduced from 3.9 acres to 2.1 acres, a 46% net reduction.

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Water quality improvements would result from reducing phosphorus runoff from the currently 9 to an estimated 4.6 lbs./year, due to storm water management on the property where there is none currently. The storm water culvert that passes through the property will be removed. The expected net encroachment into the RPA has been reduced through planning to 3.96 acres. Trees on the back of the site that are non-native will be removed and natives will be planted to re-establish forest layers. Mr. Roberts noted that plantings will be monitored by the developer through to bond release (1 year after construction is completed).

(2) Flooding impacts for flooding this site with the proposed townhome development? With the planned ~41,000 cubic feet of fill, the developed area of the site would no longer be in the floodplain. The shortest distance of a concrete slab to the 100-year floodplain would be 5 feet. The future VDOT widening of Richmond Highway will also be installing a bridge that is larger and ~10 feet higher than the current bridge, which will also change the hydrology of the area. Specifics of this are not yet known but should be examined.

(3) Currently there is debris in Dogue Creek that is slowing down the flow of water. The applicant noted that the removal of this debris and the opening up of the culverts of Dogue creek (water flow is currently restricted by two pipes) will likely lower water level at the project site by one foot. The floodplain study did not look at the downstream impacts of removing this debris; this should be examined.

(4) Consideration of Alternatives: A committee member asked about other options were investigated for the property? The applicant states in their materials that the planned option for open space was not feasible. A committee member noted that Virginia has generous provisions for tax credits. Mr. Roberts noted that these are beneficial for large properties though the committee member noted that they had used this system for their 0.25 acre property. This property has hosted revenue-generating businesses for many years and donating the property entirely to the FCPA is not considered by the landowner to be a financially viable option.

(5) If the site were entirely dedicated to the FCPA, would the cleanup of the site remain undone? The property owner noted that the FCPA has not improved the property already donated though this is the nature of a floodplain and important environmental/ecosystem services are being provided to the larger community including cleaning and slowing down water flows, filtering out pollutants from the air and water and more. The property owner noted that they had been seeking out a developer for some time to clean up the site. This developer has agreed to the environmental clean-up. A committee member noted that the baseline for measuring the net environmental benefit should be an already cleaned up site.

(6) Another member asked whether VDOT has been approached for this property as a possible mitigation site for the Richmond

Highway road widening project? This seems like an opportunity that should be explored. In this instance the property could possibly be purchased by VDOT.

(7) A committee member noted that the proposed project appears to be a typical town home community spread out across the site and asked whether this proposal provides the "minimum required to afford relief"?

(8) Another committee member asked about reducing the footprint and building up instead of sprawling out? This could follow examples already in our district of parking on the lower few levels with residential above this. Going up would require more steel rather than wood construction practices, making the construction more expensive.

(9) A committee member asked if there are any toxic materials on the site; none were found.

(10) A committee member asked what are the extraordinary circumstances and net environmental benefits of the project? Mr. Roberts responded that the concrete and other impervious surfaces will be reduced from 3.9 to 2.1 acres (46% reduction), soil compaction will be resolved, stormwater management will be oversized, 50-foot RPA buffer will be planted, thousands of stems will be planted. This is currently a non-functioning EQC.

(11) Another committee member noted that in the staff memo from September 2017, staff say that "some flexibility to achieve other development goals may be necessary and appropriate given the degraded nature of the EQC/RPA areas and the opportunity the site presents for restoration."

(12) A committee member noted that the current tidal influence reaches just before the Mount Vernon Memorial highway. With Climate Change and related sea level rise has this impact been factored in? A team member noted that more clarity is needed regarding how much the sea level rise will be and County staff are assessing this. They have factored in twice the need to offset flooding impacts which should be adequate to cover this impact.

(13) A committee member asked the developer, since they would be coming to our June meeting, to respond to the points raised in the September 2017 staff memo.

The chair thanked all committee members for the lively discussion and noted that we look forward to hearing back with responses to the points in the staff memo. E&R Chair noted that the Fairfax County staff will be presenting at the June 6, 2018 meeting. The public hearings have been set for Planning Commission on July 19, 2018 and Board of Supervisors on September 25, 2018. We thanked the team for sharing insights on the project and look forward to more details on June 6, 2018 with the Fairfax County Staff presentation.

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**Huntington Levee Update:** We welcomed Michael Druher, PE of Fairfax County's Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, the project lead on the Huntington Levee project. In providing an update on the project, he brought a number of design images that showed various stages of the project. He noted that the pump station will be located nearby the Riverside Apartments property. The Levee itself will vary from 6 to 8 feet high, with trails on top of the levee. Fairfax County Park Authority has designated the trails and park area as closed after dark; no lighting will be provided. Work on the piping and storm sewers at the end of Fenwick Drive is to begin this week. There will be a low-flow pump station and a high flow pump station (under construction at this time). The pump stations will be surrounded by fencing and transitional screening. The pumps are on order and will be delivered to the site this summer. Once the pumps are on site, construction can be done to close up the levee. Four pumps will move 46,000 gallons/minute. There will be a backup generator to power these. The project removed some public facilities and, as an offset for this, a new playground was installed at Farrington Park. The Huntington Community has been very pleased with this. Mr. Druher spoke positively of the contractor working for the county, in that errors were corrected promptly. They encountered a substantial amount of construction debris in the soil; this needed to be removed.

Since the project began no encounters with nesting wildlife have been noted. The work being done appears to be far enough away from Cameron Run, such that it is not adversely impacting spawning fish. Trail connections will be made with properties to the east and west along Cameron Run. Plantings have been reviewed by technical experts on staff and will include low growing native grasses that are low maintenance and will only need mowing twice a year. A committee member asked about minimizing mowing during bird nesting season. The Huntington Community Association (HCA) representative recommended providing these dates to the staff. Further the HCA rep shared with E&R their very positive experiences working with Mr. Druher and other members of the Huntington Levee staff team. The next public meeting with an update will be on June 6, 2018 at 6:30-8pm in the Huntington Community Center, 5751 Liberty Drive, Alexandria, VA.

**Woodlawn Fire Station:** Mr. Druher is also the project lead for the Woodlawn Fire station project. A Comprehensive Plan Map change is in process, with recommendations from the April 18, 2018 Planning Commission Public Hearing on record here with the staff report: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/plan-amendments/woodlawn-fire-station>. The next step for this project is the public hearing for the Board of Supervisors on May 15, 2018 at 4:30 pm. Committee members asked questions about reducing the environmental impact of this public facility. A high water table may limit options for storm water management on the site, especially in the parking lot area. We heard that more details on this will be available soon; a number of options are being considered. Strengthening the roof structure for future solar installation is also being considered. Recommendations were also

made regarding the use of downward-directed lighting and bird-friendly architecture, including the use of non-reflective surfaces (Mount Vernon District is entirely in the Atlantic Migratory Flyway). Ensuring good transitional screening (with native plantings) to minimize adverse impacts from this 2-story structure in a residential community should be included where possible.

With no further business the committee meeting was adjourned.

Our next meeting will be *June 6, 2018 at 7.15pm at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA.*

Future E&R meetings: Jul. 11, 2018 (rescheduled from July 4); Aug. – no meeting; Sep. 5, 2018; Oct. 3, 2018; Nov. 7, 2018; Dec. 5, 2018.

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### PLANNING & ZONING

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The Planning and Zoning Committee of the MVCCA conducted its monthly meeting on May 7, 2018 in the Mount Vernon Governmental Center Community Meeting Room #1. The meeting began at 7:34 p.m. with the following communities represented: Huntington Community Association, Belle View Condominium, Tauxemont, Mt. Zephyr, Engleside CA, Wellington CA, Woodlawn Manor CA, Gum Springs, and Huntington Club Condominium.

The Planning and Zoning Committee held a joint meeting with Transportation regarding the property located at 8800 Richmond Highway. Please see their minutes for that segment. After much discussion, it is noted however, is that the P&Z committee approve of the project.

Additionally P&Z heard a presentation from Mr. Frank Stearns for the property located at Lafayette Centre, 1300-1301 Lafayette Drive in Hollin Hall Village. They have applied for a rezoning from C-2 to a C-5. They have asked to waive several of the requirements of a C-5, such as size of the structure and setbacks. A 40,000 sq ft property is established as a C-5. They have 20,332 sq ft. Setbacks for a C-5 are 400 ft and they have 50 ft. They are not changing the building, parking or surrounding area except to add additional plantings for screening on Ft. Hunt Road. Additionally they also applied for a waiver for stormwater management as there is no measurable existing stormwater from this site. A resolution on this property was voted on and passed in committee. The resolution is in this edition of the MVCCA Record.

Committee approved moving our July meeting to July 9 to accommodate the holiday. Our next meeting will be held on June 4 in the Mount Vernon Governmental Center Community Meeting Room.

Adjourned 8:25 p.m.

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# Committee Reports

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## PUBLIC SAFETY

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Association's Public Safety Committee meeting was held on Thursday, May 3, 2018 in the Mount Vernon Government Center. The meeting began at 7:35 p.m. with the following associations represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hall, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon Civic, Potomac Valley River Bend, Riverside Estates, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor, and Wellington Estates.

Our guest speakers for the meeting were Susan Jones, Branch Chief of the Fairfax County Consumer Affairs and Allison Fitch, Coordinator for Adult Protective Services Financial Exploitation Unit.

Ms. Jones advised the members that the Consumer Services Division has a consumer specialist available by telephone at 703-222-8435 on Monday – Friday during regular business hours to assist with inquiries and complaints. Online information provides a database of companies <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cableconsumer/csd/consumercomplaint/History.aspx> which can be searched for complaint history. Also available online is a listing of professional licenses which have been issued by Fairfax County. Consumer Services is part of the Silver Shield Anti-Scam Campaign to protect older adults.

Ms. Fitch is a social worker who works from the South County Government Center where she investigates financial exploitation. She is a member of the Financial Exploitation Prevention Task Force which is comprised of Fairfax County Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Postal Inspectors and other agencies who are jointly working to prevent the theft of individual resources through scams and fraud.

The following topics were addressed during the presentation:

### Telephone Solicitors and Scams

- The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) will not call you to request any personal information or tell you that you need to send them money. The IRS will contact you through the mail so never provide any personal identifying information to unknown individuals.
- Grandparents have been targeted to send money to assist grandchildren who report being in some sort of trouble. Often sufficient information is provided which leads the grandparent to believe the situation is real but it is not. Always verify information with other family members before committing to providing assistance.
- Telephone calls are being made in order to record your voice saying "Yes" which can then be used to pursue other fraudulent endeavors.
- Remember that you don't need to answer the telephone when it rings and be especially cautious when your caller ID

provides a number which is not familiar. You can put your telephone numbers on the Do Not Call list which may help in reducing some of these calls.

### Door-To-Door Solicitors

- Fairfax County requires individuals who sell goods or services door-to-door to have a solicitors license. This requirement includes building contractors, tree work, driveway sealing, cable services, security alarm services and more. The license is required to be carried and available for inspection when the person is engaged in door-to-door sales.
- Licenses are not required for charities but the organization is provided a letter from Consumer Services as proof of the legitimacy of the group. Charities register through the Virginia Department of Agriculture.
- It is important to remember that you do not have to answer your door when someone knocks. You can ask the solicitor to see their license and if they don't have one, you are asked to call the non-emergency number (703-691-2131) to report the violation. [You will be asked to provide a general description of the person, their direction of travel and any other pertinent information which would assist in locating and identifying the person by police as soliciting without a license is a criminal act.]
- You can post a "No Solicitors" sign on your residence which is to be honored by solicitors.

### Online Scams

- A variety of different online scams are being used to take advantage of individuals. Online dating can prove to be extremely costly as an individual can be told lots of good things which make them feel good and want to continue with the relationship but may be told sad stories which can be fixed if only the target provides some money.
- Always be sure that any online purchases are conducted on secure web sites with HTTPS.
- Computer virus scams can be used to steal personal identifiable information.

### Ways to Protect Yourself

- Utilize a cross-cut shredding machine to destroy any documents or materials
- Maintain copies of the contents of your wallet or purse
- Regularly check your credit rating utilizing the various credit services
- New Medicare cards are being distributed so be sure to destroy your old card when you get the new one.
- Watch out for your neighbors as older adults living on their own are often the target of scams.
- The Virginia Home Solicitation Sales Act may be of assistance if purchases or services are made from door-to-door solicitors.

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A question and answer period was conducted and a variety of handout materials were provided to assist the attendees become more aware of scams and how to better protect themselves. The committee thanked the presenters for their time and sharing of information.

### Other Business – Information Sharing

- The Board of Supervisors has approved new signs to be posted on Potomac Avenue in the Belleview neighborhood indicating a "\$200 Additional Fine for Speeding" will be imposed.
- An Interim Fire Chief has been appointed for the Fire and Rescue Department. Assistant Chief John Caussin will be the acting chief until the selection of a new chief is made.
- An item in Supervisor Storck's April information packet was a letter from various Virginia General Assembly representatives who serve Fairfax County recommending that the county add an ordinance which prohibits the carrying of a loaded rifle or shotgun in vehicles. While a wide variety of laws come into play if the firearm is actually removed and used, this one act does not appear to be addressed by County code.
- Upcoming events, including the Preparedness Awareness Weekend at Gum Springs Community Center, two shredding events and Surviving an Active Shooter class, were included on the agenda handout.
- The June 7 meeting is planned to be a tour of the Emergency Operations Center and we need to have 20 people for the tour so contact your friends and neighbors to see if they may want to join us for this informative event.

No other business items were raised for the committee to discuss so the meeting adjured at 8:45 p.m.

**The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at a location to be announced later.**

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## TRANSPORTATION

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The MVCCA Transportation Committee met in joint session with the Planning and Zoning Committee at 7:00 p.m. on the evening of May 7, 2018 in the Community Rooms of the Mount Vernon Governmental Center on Parkers Lane to hear an update on the planned 8800 Richmond Highway Towne House project. Then Transportation met separately to 9:30 p.m. The joint session was called to order by Planning and Zoning Chairman Gretchen Walzl. Participating in the meeting were: MVCCA Council Co-Chair Katherine Ward; Allison Richter, VDOT Transportation and Land Use Director for Arlington and Fairfax Counties; Matthew Roberts of Bean Kinney and other corporate and legal representatives of the proposed development at 8800 Richmond Highway; and members of the Planning and Zoning Committee. Transportation

representatives of the following citizens' associations were in attendance: Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View, Hollin Hall, Huntington, Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Zephyr, Waynewood, Wellington, West Grove, Williamsburg Manor, and Woodlawn Manor.

Matthew Roberts of Bean Kinney gave us an update on the 8800 Richmond Highway project that had first been briefed to the Transportation Committee on May 4, 2015. This residential town house development on the west side of the Richmond Highway along Dogue Creek between the IMP Building and Sacramento Center is now being moved forward in the approval process and is intended to go before the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors in the next few months. As presently conceived this project would provide for 43 townhomes on 3.96 acres of the 8.14 acre site. 151 parking spaces would be provided including two-car garages on the lower floor of each unit. The remainder of the site would remain accessible green space. Access to Richmond Highway would be right-in, right-out only. Residences in this development are calculated to generate 128 vehicular movements per day. The unique challenges of this development stem from its location within the 100-year Dogue Creek flood plain, a Resource Protection Area and an Environmental Quality Corridor and the fact that the property has long been used for a range of industrial and commercial uses including hosting an amusement park that included a working steam locomotive with sightseeing cars that ran on a 1.5 mile loop, spoils storage for Richmond Highway resurfacing, firewood and mulch storage, and boat service and repair. The willingness of the developers to fund accommodation of these challenges is welcomed by neighbors and is seen as providing the leverage needed to gain the needed approvals.

The question and answer period that followed Matthew Roberts' presentation brought out a number of points: All townhomes built will be a minimum of five feet above the 100-year flood plain. The 55-foot frontage along Richmond Highway will accommodate planned widening of the highway and VDOT's planned 11-foot higher redesign of the bridge over Dogue Creek. Current on-site storm water management is practically nonexistent and will upon completion of the project meet or exceed today's high standards. While the developers are required to resolve flood plain elevation, and to be reduce the pollutant burden of waters draining from the site, they are not required to control water velocity leaving the property along Dogue Creek or its impact downstream on the east side of Richmond Highway. Even though these townhomes are of wood frame construction, the developers are not required to install a sprinkler system. After this briefing and the associated questions and answers, the Transportation and Planning and Zoning Committees separated into their own meeting spaces.

The eleven members of the Transportation Committee in attendance, with Chairman Sitnik recusing himself because he has an ownership position in the project, voted to support the 8800 Richmond Highway project as proposed by a vote of 10 to 0. After hearing that the Planning and Zoning Committee had voted its

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support. A second vote was taken to add our voice to P&Z's by joining in a joint Planning and Zoning—Transportation Resolution. That vote also passed 10 to 0.

Allison Richter, VDOT Transportation and Land Use Director for Arlington and Fairfax Counties, joined us and lead an intense discussion on safety along the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway and more generally on how to get the most effective responses from responsible government agencies. The intensity of concern stemmed from a recent accident when a middle school-age jogger in a cross walk was hit by one car and then run over by a second. While concern has been rising over the volume of traffic, speed, and lack of discipline of drivers along this older highway in our area, this accident triggered action and a demand to look at this entire road for ways to make it safer. Participants in the discussion were concise, passionate, and determined in their suggestions to put in more marked crosswalks particularly at the Washington Mill Elementary School, to install flashing pedestrian crossing signs, fix poor sight lines, remark the incorrectly marked intersection with Jeff Todd Way at Richmond Highway, lower the speed limit, and add more enforcement. It was pointed out that while the two-lane Mount Vernon Memorial Highway has a 45 mph speed limit, Jeff Todd Way, with four lanes, few residences and less traffic has lower speed limits. Ms. Richter responded with advice about communicating with VDOT, FCDOT and the Fairfax County Public Schools to allow them to work together to solve our problems. While these organizations work together, they each have their individual prerogatives depending on the specific concern being addressed. When asked about a request for a marked cross walk that took eight months to succeed, she responded that the VDOT traffic engineers have serious work to do to insure that the requested location is safe in terms of sight lines and other factors. She suggested that we craft our requests in terms of the problems we need to solve rather than simply specifying a list of changes we want to have made.

The discussion then moved to deep concerns over steady increases in commuter traffic volume throughout the Mount Vernon area. Traffic streams through any apparent short cut through our neighborhoods. Afternoon and evening traffic is particularly dense radiating back from the intersections of Richmond Highway and, Fort Hunt Road. In the morning the congestion seems to affect access points to the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Jeff Todd Way, the Fairfax County Parkway and other ways to get to the National Geospatial Agency just west of I-95. One of our attendees explained that the National Geospatial Agency had consolidated its several locations to move some 5,000 personnel to that location and many had come from locations in Maryland where they had their homes. While we tend to blame growth of employment at Fort Belvoir for much of our congestion, the larger issue, one that exceeds the mission of this committee, is inadequate housing closer to centers of employment in our area.

Katherine Ward asked about VDOT's role in repaving deteriorating neighborhood and through streets. Ms. Richter said that paving

jobs are now being planned a year out, so they are working on 2019. VDOT builds a priority going from zero to 100 with the zero representing roads so poor they are almost dirt tracks, and the 100's being just paved. Funding is the sore point. Contractor pricing and availability are also factors. Traffic volume also counts in terms of priority.

We thanked Ms. Richter for her willingness to join us in this discussion and moved on to the discussion of Transportation Committee resolution 2018-03, Supporting Improved Safety for Drivers, Pedestrians and Bicycles along the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway. While the basic text was deemed acceptable, a number of our members felt strongly that particular points deserved emphasis in the form of a list to accompany the resolution. Since the MVCCA Council was scheduled to meet on the evening of May 8, it was agreed that, if the list could be prepared in time, it would be included and the resolution could go to this meeting of the Council. If it didn't come together in time, it would go to the next Council Meeting. The Committee voted on this resolution and it was passed with 11 votes for and none against.

Jack Coulter of Williamsburg Manor North C.A. reported on the mystery of the bollards installed on Sherwood Hall Lane at the intersection with Middy. There is often a car parked behind the bollards and the rumor was that they marked some sort of private parking spot. Actually, the bollards went up after the bicycle and parking lanes were installed because drivers heading north on Sherwood Hall and turning left at that intersection across busy southbound lanes often had to wait so long that drivers wanting to continue north on Sherwood Hall were passing the driver waiting by cutting into the bicycle and parking lanes.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has approved the installation of signs saying "\$200 Additional Fine for Speeding" under the Residential Traffic Administration Program. These will go up on Potomac Avenue between Belle Haven Road and Belle View Road. (BOS Brief, May 2, 2018) This initiative was never seen by the Transportation Committee. Beware!

Katherine Ward let us know that Michael Shor regrets that will no longer be our Transportation Advisory Committee representative because of health issues.

We shared remembrances of Frank J. Cihak, a long-time member of the Transportation Committee who passed away on April 19. His life of community service was an inspiration to us all.

The Northern Virginia Transit Authority (NVTA) is deciding where to spend over \$1 billion of our tax dollars over the next six years. NVTA is holding public meetings for input to narrow down their project list and both Richmond Highway widening improvements and bus rapid transit are at risk! Tuesday, Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center on Parkers Lane.



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## Committee Minutes

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The next Transportation Committee meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2018 in the Community Rooms at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center on Parkers Lane.

Subsequent Transportation Committee meetings are scheduled for July 9, (August no scheduled meeting), September 10, October 1, November 5 and December 3, all starting at 7:00 p.m.

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### FAIRFAX FEDERATION

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- The latest Federation Board meeting, Thursday, 19 April, 7:30 p.m. Location: Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Preparation for COY event and membership meetings. Prep budget for membership review.
- The last Federation Member Meeting: Thursday, 26 April 2018, March 2018, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dunn Loring Center, Dunn Loring. **Report from Richmond:** Senator Barbara Favola, Senate District 31 provided her views on the 2018 General Assembly session and answered our questions. Two items of interest were:
  1. Action on city/county tax authority equalization was deferred but will be studied.
  2. While dedicated funding for Metro was approved in the amount of \$154M annually, about 2/3's of the money is diverted from the current funding stream for Northern Virginia transportation projects. An effort to offset the diversion by \$30M by imposing several new taxes in Northern Virginia failed.
- Legislation: Of the 11 Federation Legislative Issues, bills addressing 6 made it out of committee onto to the House or Senate floor. 2 were passed into legislation and 2 were postponed for consideration next year.
- Short-term rentals/lodging: The Federation's testified on May 3, 2018 to the Planning Commission on proposed short-term lodging zoning rules. More information: Zoning Commission website: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning-zoning/zoning/short-term-property-rentals>.

#### Ongoing:

- Federation Officer Nominations are ongoing. ALL interested in serving should step forward.
- The Federation is actively writing a resolution on C-PACE and on May 2 met with and discussed C-PACE with the Mount Vernon/Lee Chamber of Commerce.

#### Upcoming meetings & events:

- FC & Northern Virginia Transportation Authority (NVTa) public meetings & hearings. **TELL THE NVTa TO FUND RICHMOND HIGHWAY WIDENING & BRT!**  
**May 9:** Wednesday, May 9, 7:00 p.m., at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center, 2511 Parkers Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306.

**May 10:** NVTa Open House & Public Hearing: Thursday, May 10, 2018, 3040 Williams Avenue, S 200, Fairfax. Starts at 5:30 p.m. & Public Hearing starts after a 7 p.m. presentation.

**May 17:** Thursday, May 17, 7:00pm at the Fairfax County Government Center, Rooms 9/10, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22030.

- **May 17:** Next Federation Member Meeting: May 17, Public Safety, Restorative Justice & Alternative Accountability Program with multiple agencies, Election of Officers, Approval of Federation Budget. Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003.
- **May 24:** Next Federation Board meeting: May 24, Dunn Loring Center, Room 108, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027.
- **June 19:** Federation will give short-term lodging testimony before the Board of Supervisors.

**More information:** All things related to the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (FEDERATION/FED) can be found on the Federations Website ([www.fairfaxfederation.org](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org)).

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### SFDC

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We have completed our office move to the South County Center, 8350 Richmond Highway. All else remains the same.

At the May 16 meeting, the board will be discussing the NVTa meeting and the threat to Richmond Highway funding. I'll have a full report at the GC meeting on Wednesday, May 23.

# Committee Resolutions

Proposed MVCCA P&Z Resolution 2018-01

**MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION  
(MVCCA) PLANNING & ZONING COMMITTEE RESOLUTION  
P&Z-2018-01:  
LAFAYETTE CENTER, 1300-1302 LAFAYETTE DRIVE**

1. **WHEREAS**, owner of property located at 1300-1302 Lafayette Drive in Hollin Hall Village has applied for a zoning change from C-2 to a C-5;
2. **WHEREAS**, C-5 requires a 40,000 sq. ft. lot area and this property has 20, 332 sq. ft. and a C-5 requires at 200 ft. setback and this property has a 50 ft. setback;
3. **WHEREAS**, the proposed rezoning will not change the existing development or nature of the property and further the building has not changed since its initial approval;
4. **WHEREAS**, the proposed rezoning of the subject parcel is in compliance with the adopted comprehensive plan;
5. **WHEREAS**, owner wishes to provide opportunities for person services establishments;
6. **WHEREAS**, property owner has also applied for a waiver for stormwater management as there is no measurable existing stormwater from this site;
7. **WHEREAS**, site is located within the Resource Management Area;
8. **WHEREAS**, site will include additional native plantings along Ft. Hunt Road as an additional site buffer;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that planting choices have been offered for the site to support a buffer screening.

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the MVCCA P&Z Committee does support proposed zoning change from C-2 to C-5.

**END: PROPOSED RESOLUTION 2018-01 (P&Z)**

## FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

(continued from page 1)

### FAIRFAX COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CENTER

Join the Public Safety Committee on a tour of the Fairfax County Emergency Management Center on June 7. Carpool departs the Mount Vernon Governmental Center at 6:30 p.m., and the tour runs from 7—9 p.m. Contact [chair.ps@mvcca.org](mailto:chair.ps@mvcca.org) to get on the list to attend.

### LEARN ABOUT THE ZONING CHANGES THAT WILL IMPACT YOU

Monday, June 4, 2018 at South County High School, 8501 Silverbrook Road, Lorton

The Open Houses will provide an opportunity to get information about upcoming Zoning Ordinance Amendments and speak one-on-one with staff about zoning issues. Additional information regarding this Open House can be found at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicaffairs/learn-about-proposed-zoning-changes-may-affect-your-neighborhood-2018-zoning-open-houses>

# Treasurer's Report

## Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc.

Treasurer's Report, Current Month and Fiscal Year to Date Compared to Annual Budget  
Periods Ending April 30, 2018

(Amounts are rounded to nearest dollar)

	April	Total July 1 to April 30	Annual Budget	Budget Variance To spend or Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b><u>Cash Receipts (including deposits in-transit):</u></b>				
Dues - Current Members	\$ 52	\$ 2,835	\$ 3,300	
Dues - Collected in 2015-16 Fiscal Year <sup>3</sup>	-	54	-	
Money Market Interest	1	8	10	
Total Cash Receipts	53	2,897	3,310	(413)
<b><u>Cash Disbursements (including outstanding checks):</u></b>				
Administrative	-	164	300	136
Insurance premium	-	835	835	-
Outreach/Town Hall Meets	102	102	500	398
"Record" Production	310	910	1,390	480
Web Site	452	526	900	374
Total Cash Disbursements	864	2,537	3,925	1,388
<b><u>Net Budget-Receipts in Excess(less than) Disbursements</u></b>	(811)	360	(615)	\$ 975
<b><u>Other sources/changes in cash</u></b>				
Cash at Beginning of Period	12,933	11,816	11,816	Note 2
Plus - 2018-2019 Dues collected in current fiscal year	102	102	-	Note 4
Dues - Collected in 2016-17 for 2017-18 Fiscal Year	-	(54)	-	Note 3
Total Cash at End of Period	\$ 12,224	\$ 12,224	\$ 11,201	

**End of Period Cash Balances by Account (adjusted for outstanding items):**

Burke & Herbert - Checking	\$ 2,181
Burke & Herbert - Money Market	10,043
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$ 12,224</b>

Respectfully  
Submitted,  
Stephen Markman,  
Treasurer  
May 8, 2018

**Notes:**

- 1 This financial statement uses the cash basis of accounting except as noted on the face of the statement.
- 2 The "Annual Budget" and "Total" columns reflect actual Beginning of Period cash as of July 1, 2017.
- 3 Note dues collected in 2016-17 fiscal year for 2017-18 fiscal year are included in "Cash Receipts" above; therefore, must be deducted from "Cash at Beginning of Period".
- 4 Dues that are currently collected for the next fiscal-year are separated from budgeted transactions but are included in the cash balances reported.

### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

**Wednesday, May 23, 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 of new Executive Officers
- Member Association Time
- Mount Vernon Supervisor Time
- Other Elected Officials and Public Time

**Adjournment**

### COMMITTEE CALENDAR

**MVCCA Council—May 23, 8:00 p.m., MVGC Comm. Room**  
**MVCCA Board—June 12, 7:30 p.m., MVGC Comm. Rm 3**

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
BUDG	TBD	7:00	TBD	<i>open</i>
EDU	5/21	7:30	WWMS Library	Harbeck
E&R	6/6	7:15	MVGC Comm Rm	Ledec
PL/Z	6/4	7:00	MVGC Comm Rm	Walzl
PS	6/7	7:30	TBD	Sherick
TRAN	6/4	7:00	MVGC Comm Rm	Sitnik

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