

McLean Citizens Association



One Hundred Years and Counting

MCA COMMITTEE, LIAISON AND REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS December 2014 – February 2015

Word From the President

The McLean Citizens Association (MCA) is a non-profit association that has served since 1914 as the unofficial town council for the 31,000+ households in the greater McLean area. MCA provides a forum in which all McLean residents can discuss ways to resolve community problems and countywide issues affecting the area.

The MCA Board of Directors meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the McLean Community Center at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise announced. MCA President, Sally Horn, can be reached at: 703-442-6601 and s-horn@verizon.net.

McLean Citizens Association
PO Box 273
McLean, VA 22101
www.mcleancitizens.org

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As the McLean Citizens Association enters our 101st year, we will continue our role as your voice on issues that matter to our McLean community. This means we will continue to focus on the pressing issues facing our community, and offer programs to inform local citizens.

As discussed in the reports that follow, the MCA committees have been very active on a number of fronts. The MCA also recently sponsored several informational programs:

- In December 2014, the MCA hosted a Conversation with Dr. Karen Garza, the Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent, in which she acknowledged the need to address McLean's large class sizes.*
- On February 18th, the MCA sponsored our annual winter membership meeting, with four informative presentations by the McLean Community Foundation, the McLean Trees Foundation, the Safe Community Coalition, and the World Police & Fire games.*
- On March 11th, the MCA co-sponsored, along with Dranesville Supervisor John Foust and School Board Member Janie Strauss, a forum to discuss the FY 2016 Advertised budgets for the School System and the County. Featured were Fairfax County Deputy Director of Management and Budget Joe Mondoro and Fairfax County School System Assistant Superintendent for Financial Services Kristen Michael.*

Looking to the future, we will be hosting the following programs:

- On March 24th, we will co-host a meeting to discuss how residents and County staff can work to help preserve McLean's established neighborhood tree canopy. Our co-*

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP! If you haven't renewed your MCA membership, please see the renewal form at the end of this newsletter.

sponsors include Supervisor Foust, the Fairfax County Tree Commission, the Virginia Cooperative Extension and the McLean Trees Foundation.

- On April 29th, we will sponsor, in collaboration with Supervisor Foust, an informational town hall on the County staff proposal to revise the County's Noise Ordinance to permit higher noise levels for longer periods of time per day. Many of you have expressed concern about this proposal and this will be your opportunity to hear what the County staff now is considering and to express your concerns and offer alternatives.

- On May 27th, our Annual meeting will feature a briefing by the McLean Community Center's leadership on the plans for reno-vating the 50-year old Center and meeting the community's needs and desires in the future.



3 Sally K. Horn, MCA President

In commemoration of MCA's Centennial celebration last year, we are offering an MCA T-shirt for sale at \$15 each (see picture below), sales tax included. We would like for the T-shirts to be available at McLean Day on May 16, so time is short for placing your order.

Please let Armand Weiss, Membership Committee Chairman, know how many shirts you would like and in what sizes (e-mail: aiboss@aol.com; phone: 703-241-0333; address: 6516 Truman Lane, Falls Church, VA 22043).



COMMITTEE REPORTS

All MCA members are welcome to attend Committee meetings and to contact the Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs listed below should they wish further information. Members can find more information about MCA Committee activities at www.mcleancitizens.org. All meetings mentioned below are at the McLean Community Center, unless otherwise announced.

Budget and Taxation Committee (B&T)

Committee Chair – Dale Stein (dmstein@umich.edu)

Meetings – Third Monday of each month at 7:30 PM

The Budget and Taxation Committee monitors Fairfax County's spending and taxing policies, including the County's Annual Budget, researches financial issues, and develops resolutions for consideration by the MCA Board of Directors.

The Committee currently is focused on reviewing the County's Advertised Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, which runs from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The Advertised Budget

proposes amounts for tax revenue (mainly real estate, personal property, and sales taxes) and for spending for the Fairfax County Public School System (FCPS) and County services, including public safety, health and welfare, and other services. The Fairfax Board of Supervisors is seeking feedback from County residents on the Advertised Budget, including at several informational meetings and public hearings. The Board will adopt the budget on April 28, 2015. The B & T Committee will be drafting one or more resolutions regarding the Budget for consideration by MCA's Board of Directors in April.

The Advertised Budget assumes incoming FY 2016 General Fund receipts (revenues) of \$3.18 billion and \$3.18 billion in disbursements to the FCPS (52.8%) and County programs (47.2%). This represents an increase of 2.61% or \$97 million from the FY 2015 Adopted Budget Plan. The additional spending is allocated mainly to the County's transfer to the public schools (\$66.67 million), employee compensation (\$44.24 million), and Human Services programs (\$10.28 million).

The Advertised Budget maintains the current real estate tax rate of \$1.09 per \$100 of assessed value. However, since the average increase in residential assessments (value) countywide for FY 2016 is 3.39 percent, the amount of real estate taxes that the typical household will pay will increase \$185 on average.

Initially, there was a \$14 million gap between the transfer to the FCPS proposed in the County's Advertised Budget and the school system's budget request. That gap has narrowed as a result of the state's decision to increase its transfers to the FCPS. According to information from the School Board, there are several cost drivers which affect its funding requirements, including growing student enrollment, changing student demographics, and compensation increases for employees. The Advertised budget addresses these drivers and also would include resources for full-day Mondays in the elementary schools, implementation of later high school start times, and reductions in large elementary class sizes.

With support from the B & T Committee, the MCA sponsored an informational meeting on the County and public school budgets with Joe Mondoro, Deputy Director of Management and Budget for Fairfax County, and Kristen Michael, Assistant Superintendent of Financial Services for the Fairfax County Public Schools, on Wednesday, March 11, 2015 at the McLean Community Center.

Education and Youth Committee (E&Y)

Committee Chair – Ted Alexander (tedbusiness1@verizon.net)

Vice-Chair – Louise Epstein (lkepstein@gmail.com)

Meetings – Third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The Education & Youth Committee focuses on issues affecting local schools and youth recreational activities. The Committee has recently expanded substantially, with dozens of MCA members asking to be on the Committee's distribution list.

The E & Y Committee prepared a resolution, which the MCA Board of Directors adopted at its January 2015 meeting, to strengthen the audit capabilities of the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS). This has been a matter of longstanding concern for the MCA, which passed a resolution in the Fall of 2012 also seeking improvement of the auditing function. Since the 2012 resolution, there has been some incremental progress, but more remains to be done. The new resolution urged the school system to add two community appointees to the FCPS audit committee, remove the three non-voting managers who serve on the audit committee, and strengthen the performance audit of the FCPS. The resolution appeared to be timely and may have had some effect, as a school representative announced at the January 28, 2015 Audit Committee meeting that some responsive actions would be taken. The resolution has been posted on the MCA website, www.mcleancitizens.org.

The E & Y Committee also continues to work on student wellness issues, and met with Chief Academic Officer Kim Dockery in January to discuss changes in state Standards of Learning requirements, ways to reduce high school diploma requirements without changing state law requirements, FCPS homework guidelines, and the relationship of all of the above to student stress. This theme continued with a presentation by the Safe Community Coalition at the MCA-sponsored general meeting on February 18, 2015.

The process of developing the annual MCA budget resolution also started, with a joint committee meeting on February 23, hosted by, and attended by members of, the E & Y Committee, the B & T Committee, the Environment, Parks & Recreation Committee, and additional members of the Executive Board. During that joint meeting, the Committee agreed to move forward with a separate resolution on class size, subsequently adopted by the MCA Board of Directors on March 4, which recommended changes to reduce the current wide range of class sizes among schools in FCPS. At the request of the Dranesville District School Board Representative, Jane Strauss, the E & Y Committee also held an extra meeting on February 25 to discuss class sizes, staffing formulas and related budget issues.

Environment, Parks, and Recreation Committee (EP&R)

Committee Co-chairs – Frank Crandall (frank.b.crandall@gmail.com)
Merrily Pierce (for_transit@aol.com)

Meetings – Third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m.

The EP&R Committee works within the MCA to participate in and advocate for a balanced approach to protect McLean's natural resources including streams, river banks, wooded areas and individual trees in our parks, neighborhoods, and the McLean Central Business District. We also promote provision of active recreational facilities and adequate funding for maintenance of the county's recreational facilities and natural areas. Most of the Committee's work in the last year has involved activity in and planning for Fairfax County Parks in the McLean area.

On February 4, 2015, the MCA Board of Directors approved a resolution recommended by the EP& R Committee in support of the fee increases proposed by the National Park Service for Great Falls and the C & O Canal National Historical Park, and a similar resolution endorsing fee increases proposed by the county's Park Authority. The proposed fee increases are a direct response to the need to fund park facilities and operations in light of Federal and local budget reductions. The MCA has historically supported area parks, and the resolution is available on the MCA webpage, www.mcleancitizens.org.

On February 23, the Park Authority announced that they had hired Aimee Long Vosper as their new Chief of Business Development. We are considering inviting the new Chief to a future EP&R Committee Meeting.

The Committee's February meeting took place on February 18 in conjunction with the County's update on the Dead Run Stream Segments 2/3 Restoration. A number of nearby residents who live along Elizabeth Drive attended the meeting and some expressed concerns about potential tree removal. Committee members have been working closely with the County on this project, and the County has advised that it is revising the project based upon comments at the meeting. We will post a link to the County's presentation on the MCA webpage. The County plans to schedule a field visit once it completes a revised plan.

The EP & R Committee anticipates holding a meeting with Turkey Run Road residents and Supervisor Foust's office regarding a by-right development application to build 4 homes on over 6 acres adjacent to National Park Service land. The Committee is concerned about the loss of mature trees on this site, and will work to ensure the maximum tree protection. We are grateful that tree commissioner, Bob Vickers, has taken the time to walk the site.

With the support of the EP&R Committee, the MCA, along with Supervisor Foust, the Tree Commission, Virginia Cooperative Extension, and the McLean Trees Foundation will be co-sponsoring a forum focused on Protecting Neighborhood Tree Cover, to be held on March 24 at the McLean Community Center. The Forum is being held in response to community concerns about accelerating tree removal in area communities, especially inside the Beltway, in response to specific issues raised by the residents of Old Chesterbrook Woods and their neighbors.

Membership Committee (M)

Committee Chair – Armand Weiss (aiboss@aol.com)

Vice-Chair – Patrick Smaldore (patricksmaldore@rocketmail.com)

Meetings – First Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. (unless otherwise announced)

The Membership Committee has initiated a number of efforts to increase the number of MCA members. We are pleased to report that paid membership continues to grow steadily and, as of February 2015, MCA has 514 paid members.

The main activities during the past three months have been:

1. The Committee is responsible for setting up and manning MCA's booth at the annual McLean Day (Saturday, May 16). Plans are going well. The Committee is in the process of developing a poster to encourage membership in the MCA that we anticipate will be on display at McLean Day.

2. As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, in celebration of MCA's Centennial this year, we are offering a special MCA T-Shirt for only \$15.

3. The Committee is updating the MCA website to make it more useful and readable.

Reminder: Dues (\$15 per person) for 2015 should be sent in as soon as possible. See the attached membership application or go online to pay at our website: www.mcleancitizens.org.

We invite MCA members to join our Committee.

Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Committee

Committee Chair – Mark Zetts (zetts@attglobal.net)

Vice-Chair – John Schaefer (johnr.schaeffer@att.net)

Meetings – Last Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The P & Z Committee reviews all McLean area land use permit applications that are scheduled to be heard by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors (Rezoning, Special Exceptions and 2232 Reviews) or by the Board of Zoning Appeals (Special Permits and Variances) and represents the MCA during the public hearing process on those applications. The Committee also reviews proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance and the Comprehensive Plans for McLean and Tysons.

From December 2014 through February 2015, the P&Z Committee reviewed 8 land use cases and recommended resolutions that were adopted by the MCA Board on the three cases that were ready for public hearing. All committee resolutions can be found on the MCA webpage: <http://mcleancitizens.org/pz.asp>

Bryan – Special Exception for Cluster Development, SE 2014-DR-057

Mr. Stephen Bryan owns a 5.6-acre property located at 1318 Rockland Terrace, generally situated in an area between Potomac School Road and Ranleigh Road, south of the Clearview Manor and Dolley Madison Estates communities. This property, zoned R-1 and currently developed with a 2-story single-family residence, has been in the Bryan family for many years. The applicant is seeking a Special Exception (SE) permit for cluster development that would allow the construction of 3 new single-family detached dwellings.

These homes could be built by-right, however the applicant is requesting cluster subdivision layout in order to preserve more of the property's open space and environmentally sensitive features near Pimmit Run. Of the 5.6 acres, 2.6 acres would be subdivided into 4 lots and the

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remaining 2.87 acres would be owned by the HOA and protected by a conservation easement. Within this protected area, the developer would install 68 trees and 244 shrubs as supplemental plantings. The developer is further proposing to construct a trail from the entrance of the subdivision down to Pimmit Run. The case is scheduled for public hearing on March 19, 2015. On February 4, the MCA Board of Directors adopted a P & Z sponsored resolution recommending approval of the SE.

Sunrise Senior Living – Special Exception for an Assisted Living Facility

Sunrise Senior Living (SSL) is proposing to construct a 40,000 square foot, 73 unit/90-bed assisted living facility at 1988 Kirby Road. The 3.7-acre property, situated at the intersection of Kirby Road and Westmoreland Street, is in the R-3 residential district and is currently developed with a church. The proposed use would include both assisted living and care for the memory impaired.

The applicant came to P&Z in April for a courtesy briefing and has met multiple times with the neighboring communities who have expressed opposition to such a development in a residential neighborhood. SSL filed an SE permit application with Fairfax County in October, which was formally accepted in November. The applicant returned to P&Z committee on November 24 and with a large community turnout it was standing room-only. After getting feedback from county staff the applicant presented some plan modifications, again with a good turnout from the community. The applicant's proposal has the following features:

- The proposed resident mix would be 50% assisted living and 50% memory impaired. This requires a larger staff and Sunrise is proposing a maximum day shift of 25 employees.
- At County staff's request, the number of parking spaces was increased from 44 to 55.
- The proposed maximum height of the two story building is 40'.
- The proposal provides for a single ingress/egress access on Kirby Road directly across from the entrance to the L'Ambiance subdivision. However, at the request of L'Ambiance, the developer is evaluating the possibility of having a second ingress/egress on Westmoreland Street. This arrangement would have to be approved by FC DOT and VDOT. Traffic is a universal concern at this intersection given the heavy congestion that occurs twice a day at Longfellow Middle School.
- The current plan shows a 100-foot treed buffer between the facility and the property lines of the Crosswoods subdivision to the west. Sunrise is considering placing this buffer area under a conservation easement. Given the grade of the property and the flooding that occurs near Poole Lane during heavy storm events, stormwater management is key concern of the community and the P & Z Committee.
- The developer proposes to provide sidewalks, a trail and bike lane. While it is not yet fully known what transportation improvements the application would provide, the developer has so far agreed to construct sidewalks, a trail and bike lanes.

Members of the community have sent e-mails to the Committee stating their opposition to the proposed assisted living facility and many expressed their opposition and/or concerns at the meeting. The concerns cited were the intensity of the use, neighborhood compatibility, the size and mass of the structure and the morning, afternoon and evening traffic congestion at this intersection. One El Nido resident pointed out the facility would be isolated and not close to retail.

The applicant will be returning to P&Z on either March 31 or April 28 and will bring full-size plans for the landscaping, stormwater management and planned transportation improvements for Kirby Road and Westmoreland Street.

Lewinsville Senior Center – Special Exception Amendment SEA 94-D-002

The Lewinsville Senior Center, located at 1609 Great Falls Street, is a county-owned facility that operates under a SE approved in 1994. The current uses at the facility are:

- Day care for 80 adults
- Day care for 210 children
- Senior center for 80 adults
- A 22-unit independent living facility for the elderly
- An athletic field supporting both soccer and softball

In 2004, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved an SE to develop a 40,000 square foot assisted living facility on the property that would provide 60 units for the elderly. The planned location of the facility is parking lot that fronts on Great Falls Street.

However by 2014, it became apparent to county officials that an assisted living facility would not be developed due to financial difficulties, so the county is seeking to modify the language of the SE to permit the development of an independent living facility (ILF) for the elderly. The ILF would incorporate the existing 22 independent units while adding 60 new units for a total of 82 units. The size of the ILF would be 77,000 square feet, an increase over the 59,000 square feet for the approved, but never-built, assisted living facility. The height of the ILF structure would be two stories. Over multiple phases of construction, the existing structure would be demolished and 4 new buildings constructed. During certain phases of construction, the existing day care and IFL uses would be temporarily relocated.

The SEA proposes to maintain the existing senior center, the day care for 80 adult and 210 children and the athletic field, although the amount of play area would be considerably reduced and would only support a U13 child soccer field. The field would be U13-regulation size, naturally turfed and unlighted. The area with the softball diamond would be converted to a stormwater detention pond. While the applicant had proposed a large, extended retention dry-pond to buffer stormwater runoff, at the request of Supervisor Foust, the developer reduced the size of the pond and added an underground vault near Evers Drive that would empty into the existing storm sewer under Evers Drive. This change would provide an area for a children's

playground to be constructed and provided by others, not the applicant, and it would be made accessible for public use.

At the February 4 MCA Board meeting, the Board approved a resolution opposing the Special Exception amendment unless three conditions were met.

1. Effective measures are taken to minimize the potential for overflow parking and the impacts of off-site parking on the surrounding community.
2. A dedicated, center left-turn lane is provided on Great Falls Street for entry into the subject property.
3. The stormwater management facilities are placed underground to maximize the recreational area.

The resolution further resolves that the county should assess the demand for baseball diamonds and identify properties for the construction of new fields. The Board of Supervisors held a public hearing on this SEA on February 17. The county strengthened the development condition language concerning on-site parking and there is a planned center lane on Great Falls Street for left-hand turns. Regarding the stormwater management, no changes were made.

Proposed Independent Living Building Elevations



INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING - SOUTH ELEVATION



INDEPENDENT SENIOR LIVING - WEST ELEVATION

Source: Fairfax County Lewinsville Center Redevelopment Informational Meeting-9/16/2014

West Falls Church Transit Station Area – Comp. Plan Amendment PA 2013-II-M1

As part of the settlement between Fairfax County and the Falls Church Water Utility, 38.4 acres in Fairfax County were annexed by the City of Falls Church in January 2014. The affected area is in the West Falls Church Transit Station Area, although 8 small parcels located in the Jefferson Planning district were also included in the annexation. Subsequently, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors authorized county staff to amend the Comprehensive Plan map and text to reflect the boundary changes and to make editorial changes. The Plan amendment does not propose any increase in density or land use although it does reduce the potential number of new dwelling units by 538 units due to the loss of developable land. The editorial changes to the Plan, in part, reflect the development of the Villages at West Falls Church and the Pavilion Condominium Tract. On February 4, the MCA Board of Directors adopted a resolution promoted by the P & Z Committee supporting the approval of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment. On February 12, the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the Plan Amendment to the Board of Supervisor who will hear the case on March 15.

Mt. Daniel Elementary School Expansion - 2232 Review

Mt Daniel Elementary School is located at 2328 North Oak Street in Falls Church. Built in 1951, it is operated by the Falls Church City Public Schools (FCCPS) system, however the 7.31-acre property lies within Fairfax County. Mt. Daniel elementary includes kindergarten and first grade education and FCCPS is proposing to increase the number of classrooms from 14 to 36. This would permit them to later transfer the second grade from Jefferson Elementary to Mt Daniel so that by 2018 the student body would double from 400 to 792 students. The larger number of staff would necessitate increasing the number of parking spaces from 65 to 110.

Because the property is in Fairfax County and FCCPS is expanding a public facility, it necessitates a 2232 Review. The P&Z Committee received numerous e-mails from the surrounding community expressing concern over the location and extent of the expansion. P&Z committee members shared these concerns as the expansion represents a huge increase in intensity. Moreover, the school is limited to a single ingress/egress on North Oak Street, a street only 26 feet wide. The narrowness of the street raises concerns about the ability of fire engines to access the site with cars parked on both sides of the street. The MCA requested a vehicle trip count be done on North Oak in the first week of September 2014 in preparation of the 2322 application filing, however the trip count wasn't conducted until February, a less than optimum time to conduct such a study. FCCPS had proposed that their buses drop-off and pickup students at 2321 Highland Avenue and have the students walk about 300 feet along a pedestrian trail to the school building, however this proposal was later dropped.

The plans also include a gymnasium which would see active use at night, further increasing the intensity of use. Given the topographical prominence of the school property, stormwater management is also a concern of the landowners to the south and east with the concomitant increase of impervious surface. Fairfax County staff is still evaluating traffic impacts, stormwater management and the transitional screening. P&Z will invite FCCPS back to apprise us of their latest changes in March. A Planning Commission public hearing has not yet been scheduled.

Fairfax County Noise Ordinance Amendment

Fairfax County is amending its Noise Ordinance. County staff have been working on a draft amendment since April 2014, and they published a third draft on January 29, 2015 that will be advertised in March for a Board of Supervisors public hearing in May. The Noise Ordinance is Chapter 108.1 of the Fairfax County Code and amendments do not go before the Planning Commission, only the Board of Supervisors. The staff report states that Fairfax County is becoming more urban and with urbanization comes higher levels of noise and the draft Ordinance seeks to accommodate these higher noise levels with a secondary objective of making the Ordinance easier to enforce.

Committee members discussed these proposed changes at our January and February meeting and felt that our stable, low-density, suburban McLean neighborhoods are not urbanizing and the purpose of the Noise Ordinance should be to protect the peace and quiet and enjoyment of our properties.

The amendment seeks to regulate impulse noise, generally defined a brief, sub-second burst of noise such as a pile driver, discharging a weapon or loud impacts from construction activity. The proposed limits are 100 dBA and 80 dBA during the day and night respectively. The existing ordinance sets 55 dBA as the maximum level for any noise source in a residential area. Impulse noise aside, the amendment proposes a daytime maximum level of 60 dBA for residential areas, 65 dBA for mixed-use and commercial areas and 72 dBA for industrial districts. Whereas the existing ordinance sets a maximum noise level of 55 dBA, it also limits the level of noise by frequency band, because higher frequency noise is more irritating. To make enforcement easier, the amended ordinance drops the measurement of noise by frequency. Of particular concern, the amendment would allow up to 72 dBA noise levels from Activities on School and Recreational Grounds in residential districts which includes the allowance of amplified noise through mounted loud speakers. Yet another area of concern to our community is that the amendment proposes to exempt transit facilities, such as the West Fall Church Metro Maintenance Yard, from any maximum daytime noise limit. The draft amendment and other background materials can be found on the county webpage: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/noiseordinance/>

On April 29th, MCA will sponsor, in collaboration with Supervisor Foust, an informational town hall on the County staff proposal to revise the County's Noise Ordinance at the McLean Community Center. Please come.

Transportation Committee (T)

Committee Co-chairs – Jim Phelps (james.s.phelps@cox.net)
Jim Robertson (jim@ann-jim.com)

Meetings – Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

The Transportation Committee follows the progress of major transportation initiatives that impact the McLean area; listens to concerns of area residents and neighborhoods to identify

problem intersections and other safety related issues on local streets and roadways, including pedestrian and bicycle issues; works with local governmental officials to develop solutions to traffic issues; and prepares resolutions for MCA Board consideration.

Aircraft Noise:

The Committee invited representatives from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) to attend the February 10th committee meeting to discuss the noise from airplane flights over McLean. Mr. Mike Jeck, Manager of the aptly-named MWAA Noise Office, provided a discussion of the operations at Reagan National, focusing on aircraft arrivals and departures both north and south. He described the intricacies of the flight process, with particular emphasis on the need to avoid what is known as the P56 area just north of the airport (the White House, Capitol, Supreme Court and surrounding area) that requires an immediate left turn after takeoff to the north and then following a line generally over the Potomac River, using predetermined procedures set by the FAA. Unfortunately, the lines are necessarily straight and the river is not, resulting in over flight of some land areas on the west side of the river, such as Arlington and McLean. The same is true for landings to the south, which also result in over flights of McLean. The southbound landing flights are more of a nuisance, as they are at a lower altitude, are more visible and the resulting noise is more noticeable because of the lower altitude that brings them closer to the residences.

Committee members asked questions and outlined the concerns of McLean residents that result from FAA standard practices, mainly the generation of frequent noise, particularly during landings to the south, and especially for those living within about one mile of the river. Mr. Jeck recognized these concerns, but did not offer any immediate solutions. The MWAA Noise Office has attempted to minimize the impact of airplane noise on McLean and other affected areas in Northern Virginia, DC, and Maryland by meeting with local and FAA officials and airline representatives to relay constituent concerns. In some cases, the Noise Office has had success in getting routes altered and guidance given to pilots so that they “fly over the river” to reduce the noise impact. However, he emphasized that it is impossible to eliminate plane noise altogether, and that there is no penalty for violating noise restrictions so MWAA has limited ability to compel change other than by making requests.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Jeck suggested a follow up briefing, as a means of informing Mclean citizens of planned near-term changes to the procedures that would, hopefully, maximize “over-water” time and ameliorate the disturbing noise. This would be through a second meeting with the Committee and he would invite some others to join, including airline pilots, which would provide the opportunity to address the issues and points that Committee members believed would be the most productive. Mr. Jeck suggested that this meeting could be followed by an MCA-sponsored meeting with a broader McLean audience, such as the meetings that took place last year with State and County Transportation officials.

The bottom line is that, as with all airports, airplanes make noise and it is incumbent on the managers and operators to adopt procedures that minimize the impact on surrounding communities.

Silver Line Noise:

The Committee met on November 18th and discussed the “wheel squeal” created by the Silver Line trains as they pass between East Falls Church and McLean. Mark Zetts showed a Power Point presentation on the subject, depicting noise from the rail yard and the tracks along the connector road and on the curve leading into and out of the McLean Station. While no solutions were presented, it was agreed that further discussions will be necessary in order to acquire some relief for neighboring communities. We anticipate future meetings with Fairfax County and Metro officials on the matter. A meeting with WMATA is planned for March 2015.

Tysons Liaison Committee (TL)

Committee Chair – Rob Jackson (rhjackson10@verizon.net)

Meetings – the third Thursday of most months at 7:30 pm.

The MCA’s TL Committee, which works with interested organizations and individuals from neighboring communities, as part of the Greater Tysons Concerned Citizens (“GTCC”) organization, has recently become more active.

The GTCC, which uses consensus decision-making, adopted a revised Mission and Focus statement on January 15, 2015, which provides as follows:

We have a vested interest in Tysons’ success. Our Mission and Focus are to monitor Tysons Comprehensive Plan implementation and its amendments, as Tysons redevelops, and to advocate and to collaborate with other stakeholders to protect the interests and concerns of surrounding communities. The major, but not exclusive, areas of interest and concern are:

- Transportation;
- Adequate infrastructure and public facilities;
- Land use and rezoning;
- Parks and recreation;
- Financing; and
- Schools.

The Group has also identified subject matters for which it will invite outside speakers for the rest of the fiscal year.

The first speaker was Michael Caplin, executive director of the Tysons Partnership, an association of Tysons landowners, developers, business tenants and residents of Tysons. The MCA is an associate member of the Partnership, as is the Town of Vienna. Mr. Caplin gave a presentation to the Committee on February 19, 2015, with information about new construction of buildings and public facilities, along with the plans for both over the next few years. Members asked a number of questions and expressed concern over the need to time new construction with adequate public facilities.

REPORTS FROM LIAISONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Liaison to the McLean Community Center Board of Governors

MCA Liaison to the McLean Community Center Board of Governors – Patrick Smaldore (patricksmaldore@rocketmail.com)

The Liaison attends the McLean Community Center (MCC) Board of Governors meetings, MCC Development Committee meetings, and MCC Finance Committee meetings, and reports to the MCA.

Based on the success of last year's program where 15 McLean citizens completed Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), the McLean Community Center (MCC) has decided to include in its 2015 Fall Program Guide another CERT course offering. Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) trains residents on coordinating and helping with rescue services in neighborhoods affected by a natural or man-made disaster. Look for further information in the Fall 2015 McLean Community Center (MCC) Program Guide, which will be coming out in August.

Public Safety Liaisons

MCA Public Safety Liaisons – Patrick Smaldore (patricksmaldore@rocketmail.com)
Alan Caldwell (acaldwell9114@gmail.com)

The Liaisons represent the MCA in meetings with: Police, Fire and Rescue, Public Safety Communications, Emergency Management, Public Health, and Public Affairs, organize public safety-related events, and prepare recommendations for MCA Board consideration. They continue to develop strong partnerships between Fairfax County Public Safety agencies, MCA Committees, and the MCA membership.

On February 25th, the MCA hosted panel presentations from the McLean PD District Station discussing an increase of Crime in Tysons by Lt. Charles Riddle who heads the Tysons Urban Team (TUT). Lt. Riddle emphasized that there is an increasing emphasis on "Proactive Policing," which has established an on-site presence in the Tysons Corner Mall, allowing the TUT to develop collaborative working relationships with the Tysons Business Community that

they serve. The second set of panel presentations by McLean police officer Patrick Lucas and Auxiliary Police Officer Don Schuler discussed police relationships with the Community, the Government, and the commercial sectors within the MCA area. Topics they discussed included building partnerships, information sharing, and community participation in regards to preventing and solving crimes.

McLean Revitalization Corporation Representative

MCA Representative to the McLean Revitalization Corporation – Roshan Baddi Carter (roshan.carter@longandfoster.com)

The McLean Revitalization Corporation (MRC) promotes the social and economic vitality of the McLean Community Business Center (CBC). The MRC Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month. For more information, go to <http://www.mcleanvision.org>.

In February, the MRC Board met with representatives from the County to investigate the legal framework for the Business Improvement District (BID) in the CBC. MRC is also establishing a retail committee consisting of a few merchants to help with raising awareness in the community. In order for a process like BID to move forward, significant public support is required. The picture is dire in terms of any other source of funding from the County for maintenance and improvements in the CBC.

The design for the pedestrian median section of the Gateway Signs project on Old Dominion and McLean Drive is completed and will be sent for approval to VDOT. The landscape design uses shrubs and plants instead of grass on the median.

The installation of other Gateway Signs at points of entry to the CBC is pending as VDOT installation permit requires indemnifications for VDOT against any future claims related to the signs.

McLean Planning Committee Representative

MCA Representative to the McLean Planning Committee – Jim Turner (turnmilljct@gmail.com)

The McLean Planning Committee (MPC) works with the community to develop and represent an evolving vision for the McLean Community Business Center (CBC). The MPC guides the planning process to ensure it aligns with the vision and serves as a representative forum for discussion, decision making and consensus building. The MPC is composed of four representatives from each of four local constituent groups: The MCA, the Greater McLean Chamber of Commerce, the McLean Commercial Landowners Association and representatives from surrounding citizens homeowner associations (neighborhoods that directly abut the McLean Commercial Revitalization District.)

The MPC works closely with the office of the Dranesville District Supervisor, the Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment, and other County agencies to advocate conformance with the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan, zoning ordinances, the McLean CBC Design Standards, and County revitalization goals.

The MPC will continue its almost four-year engagement in the JBG development of the property at the intersection of Elm Street and Fleetwood Road into the early construction phase which is scheduled to commence in the next few months. The project is a mixed-use development consisting of a multi-story residential building with approximately 125 Condo units where a surface parking lot now sits and additional retail space in the existing office tower facing Elm Street. This development features underground parking for the residential and commercial buildings, a terrace, a public plaza adjacent to the office tower, and construction of ground floor retail.

The Ashby (WRIT) project which involved additional residential construction and retail concentration along Beverly Road has been indefinitely delayed. Further, there has been no recent progress on the plan to redevelop the center of the South Village of McLean (the Giant Shopping Center and nearby shopping areas) into a Main Street for McLean.

Several notable past projects that MPC has worked on include the renovation of the Giant and Solona Village Shopping Centers, the Exxon station, and development of the Staybridge Inn, and the Palladium.



MCA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

ANNUAL DUES – \$15.00 per member/\$30 per couple

Please make your check payable to MCA and mail it with this invoice to McLean Citizens Association, P.O. Box 273, McLean, VA 22101-0273. Or, to pay by PayPal, log into PayPal, designate mcamembership@gmail.com as the “To” email address, and include in your email all of the information requested below (name, address, email, HOA/CA, email and committee preference, and issues of concern) so we can properly register your household.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION LEGIBLY

Member Name(s): _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Home Address: _____

Homeowner/Condo/Civic Association (if any): _____

Email address(es): _____

Total number of members ____ Total payment @ \$15 per member _____

Important Note: To reduce mailing costs and improve communications, MCA has switched to email for most communications, including our newsletters and meeting notices. We promise to use email judiciously and not to inundate you. Please check here if you do not have an email account or only wish to receive MCA communications by post. _____

Please indicate if you are interested in joining a MCA committee (not required for membership):

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| _____ Budget & Taxation | _____ Transportation |
| _____ Education & Youth | _____ Public Safety Liaison |
| _____ Environment, Parks & Recreation | _____ Seniors Advisory Council Liaison |
| _____ Membership | _____ Tysons Liaison |
| _____ Planning & Zoning | |

I/We would like the MCA to investigate the following issue(s): _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT!

Your information will not be shared with or distributed to other organizations

We also urge you to support the McLean Community Foundation, the charitable arm of the MCA. To support the MCF, or to learn more about this organization, please visit its website: www.mcleancommunityfoundation.org.