

**McLean Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting**

Final Minutes, September 6, 2006

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers (6)

Tom Brock	President	Present
Rob Jackson	First Vice President	Present
Jim Turner	Second Vice President	Present
William Denk	Treasurer	Present
Mark Zetts	Corresponding Secretary	Present
Desmond B. O'Rourke	Recording Secretary	Present

DIRECTORS REPRESENTING NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS (20)

John Adams	Georgetown Pike & Potomac River Assoc.	Present
Ted Alexander	Westberry HOA	Present
Brian Blood	Evermay Community Association	Present
Donald Borcharding	Brookhaven/Forest Villa Association	Absent
Germaine Broussard	McLean Commons	Present
Steve DelBianco	Franklin Area Citizens Association; FCFCA	Absent
Darren Ewing	Pimmit Hills Citizens Association	Present
Louis Freeman	McLean House North Council	Present
Lynn Bays Fuechsel	McLean County Estates	Absent (Excused)
Jane Greenstein	Chesterford Community Association	Present
Patricia Marks	Stoneleigh Residents Association	Absent
Michelle Meehan	Greenway Heights Civic Association	Present
Robert (Bob) Philipp	Shouse Village Community Association	Present
James A. Robertson	Evans Mill Pond Owners Association	Present
Ed Saperstein	Glen Haven Farms	Present
John Schaefer	McLean Broyhill Estates	Present
Bill Stephens	Chesterbrook Woods Citizens Association	Present
Susan Turner	Summerwood	Present
Paul Wieland	McLean Hamlet Citizens Association	Present
Stephanie Weisbroth	West McLean Citizens Association	Absent (Excused)

AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS (14)

Robin Bates	Present
Mike Clancy	Present
Chris Cole	Present
Frank Crandall	Present
Dan DuVal	Present
Donald Finberg	Present
Lawrence Glick	Absent
Stephen Keller	Present
Margaret Malone	Present
Chris Monek	Present
Dale Murad	Present
Bob Nagel	Absent (Excused)
Merrily Pierce	Present
Wade Smith	Present

Guests whose presence was recorded by signing in or being introduced:

Barbara Bodson
 Liz Rothrock
 Aranya Tomseth
 Brian Trompeter

Resident
 Resident
 The Connection
 Sun Gazette

CALL TO ORDER

President Brock called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. at McLean Community Center, Community Hall (sections B & C). He verified that there was a quorum and reminded the directors to sign in.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Brock announced that McLean Citizens Foundation has made funding flyers available to the meeting. The Fall Grant Cycle will end October 1st. Applications must be postmarked by that date. Funding criteria can be found at the MCF web site: www.mcleancitizensfoundation.net.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the MCA meeting of July 5 were taken as read and were approved as written.

TREASURER'S REPORT

September 6, 2006

Checking Account

Beginning Balance - August 31, 2006				11,314.37
Add:	7/31/2006	Interest		21.79
	8/31/2006	Interest		20.26
	9/2/2006	Deposit	Dues	765.00
Total - Adds				807.05
Deduct:		Check#		
	8/5/2006		Supplement to CD Deposit	915.00
	9/2/2006	#1017	State Corp Council Reg.	35.00
	9/2/2006	#1018	Lettercom - 2nd Mailing	482.14
Total - Deducts				1,432.14
Ending Balance - July 3, 2006	3-Sep-06			10,689.28
Certificates of Deposit**				
3000102773	APY 4.89%		5 mos - matures 12/30/06	5,000.00
3000102774	APY 4.5%		9 mos - matures 12/2/06	4,000.00
3000103064	APY 4.75%		10 mos-matures 4/12/07	5,000.00
				14,000.00
Net Worth				24,689.28

Checking account and certificates of deposit are at 1st Service Bank in McLean.

** CD values shown as face amount at initiation.

Respectfully submitted,
 William J. Denk
 Treasurer

REPORT OF PRESIDENT / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Brock reported that the Executive Committee had met before the Directors' meeting. He entered for the record a letter from him to Governor Kaine concerning the Dulles Metro project and the Governor's reply. Governor Kaine has since decided to build the Dulles extension above ground. President Brock made special mention of the work of Chris Monek and Bill Byrnes in this single most important decision to have been considered by the MCA. President Brock was glad that MCA was one among the few public bodies to have made representations in the matter.

STANDING COMMITTEES

BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

Report on Meetings Held July 18, 2006 and August 15, 2006 MCA Budget and Taxation Committee Chris Monek, Chair

Actions Taken:

- Drafted questions (attached) regarding transportation funding for Northern Virginia and submitted the questions to Delegate Vincent Callahan on July 31, 2006.
- Invited Delegate Callahan to meet with the B and T Committee at an upcoming meeting. He accepted and is now scheduled to meet with the B and T Committee on Tuesday, September 19, 2006 at 7:30 PM.
- Reviewed a draft resolution and a draft letter dated August 15, 2006 to Governor Kaine and Secretary of Transportation Pierce Homer prepared by the MCA Transportation Committee wherein MCA in the respective pieces would voice its support for the large-bore tunnel alternative for the proposed Metro rail Project through Tyson's Corner.

After its review of the drafts, the B and T Committee concluded it would be advisable to raise points related to major financial issues associated with a deep tunnel option and to recommend inclusion of those points in the proposed letter to the Governor. On August 17, 2006, Rob Jackson submitted the Committee's points to the MCA Executive Committee for consideration.

- Reviewed a draft resolution proposed by the MCA Environment, Parks and Recreation Committee on proposed funding of \$10 Million in the 2006 to use for the installation of synthetic turf on athletic fields in Fairfax County.
- Decided to review at the September 19 meeting, the full \$150 Million bond proposal. The committee will then decide whether to offer a recommendation on support or non-support of the bond issue for consideration at the October MCA Board meeting.
- Consistent with prior MCA positions, the Committee drafted a letter for transmittal to Fairfax County Board Chairman Connolly asking for inclusion in the County's 2007 legislative agenda a request for Fairfax County authorization to establish an Office of Financial Management with the authority to include county schools. For maximum impact, the Committee decided to send the letter to Chairman Connolly after the Labor Day holiday.
- Reviewed the launch of the Examiner Citizen Action Network at the request of MCA President Brock. The Network includes a listing of the Fairfax County workforce in alpha order and lists current salary information for each individual. The Committee decided it's best use is as a research source or reference.

Questions attached to this report were forwarded to Delegate Vince Callahan. He will attend B&T meeting to be held on September 19 when the full \$150 million Bond proposal will be reviewed.

EDUCATION AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

No report.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

President Brock withheld consideration of the Langley Exxon Resolution until the October meeting due to unresolved issues at the request of one of the parties. Co-Chair Jim Robertson acceded.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No resolution.

ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

McLean Citizens Association Resolution Opposing Request for Stream Valley Trail Waiver July 19, 2006

WHEREAS, Land Design Consultants has filed a request to waive (Waiver #1563-WTL-002-1) the construction of a stream valley trail as required by Chapter 101-2-2 (10) of the Fairfax County Code and Section 8-0200 of the Public Facilities Manual; and

WHEREAS, this trail, which would lie adjacent to Scotts Run, has long been shown as a missing critical segment on the Fairfax County Master Trails Plan; and

WHEREAS, statements in the application justifying the request are erroneous and applicant has failed to provide compelling reasons for not constructing the stream valley trail; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the McLean Citizens Association strongly opposes this application and urgently requests that it be denied forthwith.

Distribution:
Supervisor Joan Dubois
Rosemary Ryan

Jimmie Jenkins, Director, DPWES
James Patteson, Director, Land Development Services, DPWES
Bruce Nassimbeni, Director, Site Review, LDS, DPWES
Sheng Leu, DPZ

Attachment:
Request for Waiver #1563-WTL-002-1

Frank Crandall presented the Resolution. Due to the time constraints, consensus had been reached through e-mails among the EP&R Committee and the subsequent approval of the Executive Board.

McLean Citizens Association
Resolution Regarding the Proposed Plans to Install Synthetic Turf
on Athletic Fields in Fairfax County
September 6, 2006

Whereas, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted on June 5, 2006, to place a \$150 million bond proposal on the November 7, 2006 ballot that, among other things, designates \$10 million to be used to convert grass rectangular fields to synthetic turf fields in Fairfax County parks; and

Whereas, officials of the Fairfax County Park Authority (FCPA) indicate that there is County-wide need for many additional rectangular athletic fields; and

Whereas, the FCPA has determined that replacing grass fields with synthetic turf is a viable alternative that will provide significantly increased field usage; and

Whereas, an increased inventory of fields converted to synthetic turf could have the auspicious effect of reducing pressure on the FCPA to develop new fields, allowing more undeveloped acreage and park land to be preserved in its natural state, a form of open space which the FCPA's Needs Assessment Survey showed that Fairfax County citizens value more highly than any other; and

Whereas, many families in McLean and Fairfax County use rectangular athletic fields on a frequent and regular basis and support plans to convert athletic fields to synthetic turf; and

Whereas, the conversion of natural grass fields to synthetic turf lengthens the present March-to-November playing season to 365 days per year, with as few as eight hours of down time per day; and

Whereas, such a substantial increase in field usage could change the basic character of a park, dramatically affecting the quality of life of residents who live near parks with an athletic field that has been converted to synthetic turf; and

Whereas, increases in field usage could also place stress on a park's infrastructure, requiring upgrades to a park's amenities (parking spaces, spectator seating, buffer zones, restroom facilities, playground equipment, and waste receptacles); and

Whereas, as more athletic fields are converted to synthetic turf, a number of potentially serious questions arise regarding the safety of users, especially children, and the long-term impact on the environment (see attached); and

Whereas, despite the fact that public hearings are required before field lighting can be added to a park's facilities -- an addition that, like artificial turf, can have significant effects on park usage and the quality of life in surrounding neighborhoods -- there is no requirement for the FCPA to formally solicit or accommodate citizen input regarding a decision to install synthetic turf on any athletic field in any County park; and

Whereas, plans to replace grass fields with synthetic turf playing surfaces appear to the FCPA to be a reasonable compromise that addresses both the needs of those who want more rectangular athletic fields and those who are opposed to converting more open land to athletic fields; now therefore

Be it resolved, that the McLean Citizens Association supports the designation of \$10 million in the bond issue to be used to convert grass rectangular fields to synthetic turf fields in Fairfax County

parks, provided that the FCPA holds a public hearing before converting any field to synthetic turf, and provided that the FCPA initiates and continues studies that address MCA concerns on issues related to the safety of users and short- and long-term impacts on the environment.

Be it further resolved, the McLean Citizens Association strongly and urgently recommends that the FCPA be required to obtain citizen input through public hearing to any proposed conversion to, or new installation of, synthetic turf on any athletic field in any Fairfax County park, in order to address such issues as changes in infrastructure, traffic and parking, environmental factors, restroom facilities, lighting, and other issues that affect both the utility of the field and the quality of life in the surrounding neighborhoods; and

Be it further and finally resolved, that the McLean Citizens Association strongly and urgently recommends that the FCPA be required to monitor and study on an ongoing basis the impact of synthetic turf on the safety of users and the short- and long-term effects of the materials used in the installation and maintenance of synthetic turf fields on the environment and to report promptly to the public the results of all studies.

Attachment: Abbreviated Report: Research Results Regarding Synthetic Turf Impacts on Safety to Athletes and to the Environment

Distribution:

Supervisor Joan DuBois
Board of Supervisors
Kevin Fay, Dranesville Representative, FCPA Board
Each FCPA Board Member
Michael Kane, Director, FCPA
West Lewinsville Heights Citizens Association
Lewinsville Coalition

**Abbreviated Report: Research Results
Regarding Synthetic Turf Impacts on Safety to Athletes
and on the Environment
July 23, 2006**

This brief report was developed through many hours of intense research by several members of the McLean Citizens Association who have become increasingly concerned about the potential impact on safety and the environment of synthetic turf athletic fields. Authoritative sources are listed herein and can be made available upon request to Mr. Jack Hannon, member of the Mclean Citizens Association.

As more synthetic turf fields are built, the safety of athletes and the impact of synthetic turf on surrounding communities and on the environment are in question. These issues are generating debate and concern in local communities and among those responsible for synthetic turf athletic fields including professional, amateur, educational, and recreational organizations, among athletes including professional soccer players and their unions, and among [scientists](#) in the United States as well as in other countries.

The following are among the topics and concerns that are being examined:

- A number of studies have proven that synthetic turf fields can rapidly become much hotter than the ambient air temperature, or much hotter than the surface of a natural grass field (synthetic turf can exceed 125 degrees Fahrenheit on a sunny day in hot weather, and can reach temperatures of 170 degrees if unirrigated).²⁻⁴

- Fields with synthetic turf contain granular rubber infill that has been shown to leach heavy metals, volatile organic compounds, and other substances into ground water.⁵⁻¹²
- Studies have shown an association between synthetic turf abrasion burns and the development of an increasingly common and extraordinarily dangerous infection (*Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus* or MRSA) that must be treated rapidly.¹⁴⁻¹⁵

Independent, long-term scientific evaluations of injury data relating to synthetic turf versus natural grass are not available, and what little information that is known is contradictory. There is growing agreement that studies must continue. Officials who are responsible for decisions regarding synthetic turf athletic fields, and those who are responsible for the safety of athletes and especially children agree that more data must be gathered about how synthetic turf affects the health of those who are regularly exposed to it. Those same officials also share concerns with scientists about the near- and long-term impact of synthetic turf on the environment. Common sense and prudence dictate that studies must continue and that study results must be made available to decision-makers and to the public.

Sources:

¹ "Elephant has left the room' at McLean park," by Beverly Crawford, Times Community Newspapers, March 23, 2006.

² "Synthetic Surface Heat Studies," by Drs. C. Frank William and Gilbert E. Pulley, Brigham Young University, c. 2003.

³ "If you can't take the heat....," by Dr Dave Minner, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Iowa State University, c. 2005

⁴ "Evaluation of Playing Surface Characteristics of Various In-Filled Systems," by Andrew S. McNitt and Dianne Petrunak, Pennsylvania State University, c.2005.

⁵ "The Myth of Rubberized Landscapes," by Linda Chalker-Scott, Ph.D., Washington State University.

⁶ "Used Tire Monofill, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

⁷ "Life Tyre Management" New Zealand Ministry for the Environment, c. 2003.

⁸ "Turf Use, Maintenance, and Turf Exhibition," United European Football Association, UEFA, c. 2002.

⁹ "Rubber tire leachates in the aquatic environment," by J.J. Evans, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Cooperative Oxford Laboratory.

¹⁰ "Ground discarded tires removed naphthalene, toluene, and mercury from water," by A.S. Bunasekara, J.A. Donovan, and B. Xing.

¹² "Toxicological Evaluation for the Hazard Assessment of Tire Crumb for Use in Public Playgrounds," by Detlef A. Birkholz, Kathy L. Belton, and Tee L. Guidotti, Air & Waste Management Association, July 2003

¹³ "Air Emissions from Scrap Tire Combustion," U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, October 1997.

¹⁴ "A Clone of Methicillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* among Professional Football Players," The New England Journal of Medicine, February 3, 2005.

¹⁵ "Body Shaving and Turf Burns Spread Infection in College Football Team," Infectious Diseases Society of America, November 4, 2004.

Paul Wieland described the genesis of the Resolution, which went through a dozen revisions within the EP&R Committee before reaching its present form. Discussion followed. Several amendments were suggested by Mike Clancy. After these amendments failed to garner sufficient votes to amend

the Resolution, the question was called. The Resolution was carried with 30 votes For and 2 Against (Mike Clancy, Ed Saperstein).

REPRESENTATIVES/DELEGATES TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

McLEAN PLANNING COMMITTEE

No report.

MCLEAN REVITALIZATION CORPORATION

Dan DuVal stated that the planned bus shelter design is being revised. The County will accept the first shelter as a contribution to the County, and it will be the County's responsibility. WMATA is the authority overseeing the installation of bus shelters.

FAIRFAX COUNTY FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

The MCA semi-annual Membership meeting will take place Thursday, October 26, at the McLean Community Center. President Brock asked that Directors put forward ideas for the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

President Brock adjourned the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Desmond B. O'Rourke, Recording Secretary