

**McLean Citizens Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 4, 2013 Minutes**

**Officers (6)**

President	Sally Horn	Present
First Vice President	Glenn Harris	Present
Second Vice President	Armand Weiss	Present
Treasurer	Bill Crosby	Present
Recording Secretary	Louise Epstein	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Nicki Watts	Present

**Board Members Representing Associations (20)**

John Adams	Georgetown Pike & Potomac River	Absent (exc)
Donald Borcharding	Brookhaven Forest Villa	Present
Steve DelBianco	Franklin Area	Present
Bill Denk	El Nido	Present
Louis (Bud) Freeman	McLean House North Council	Present
Jane Greenstein	Chesterford	Present
Francesca Gutowski	Lynwood	Present
Ron Hutchinson	Evermay	Present
Bruce Jones	Lemon Road	Present
Tom Patton	Hamptons	Present
Michele Pearce	Kirby Road	Present
David Pritchett	Treeline	Present
Jim Robertson	Evans Mill Pond	Present
Suzanne Samuels	Langley Oaks	Present
John Schaefer	McLean Broyhill Estates	Absent
Behram Shroff	McLean Hamlet	Present
Dale Stein	Millwood of McLean	Present
Jim Turner	McLean Hunt	Present
David Wuehrmann	Ellison Heights-Mt. Daniel	Present
Marisa Zalmanis	Lewinsville Heights	Present

**Board Members At-Large (14)**

Ted Alexander	Present
Roshan Badii	Present
Jeff Barnett	Present
Tom Brock	Present
Frank Crandall	Present
Andrea del Vecchio	Present
Darren Ewing	Absent (exc)
Animesh Gupta	Present
Rob Jackson	Present
James Phelps	Present
Jane Scott-Jones	Absent
Patrick Smaldore	Present
Kathryn Woods	Absent (exc)
Mark Zetts	Absent (exc)

Guests who signed in: Officer Patrick Lucas, Fairfax County Police Department; Brian Trompeter, Sun Gazette.

### **Call to Order**

Sally Horn called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, verified that there was a quorum and asked everyone to sign in. She also encouraged people to take MCA business cards with dates of upcoming events, to help publicize the January 22, 2014 meeting with the new FCPS Superintendent, Dr. Garza.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from November 6, 2013, with clerical changes, were approved unanimously by voice vote.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Bill Crosby presented the Treasurer's Report, which was approved unanimously by voice vote. See attached.

### **Report of President/Executive Committee**

The MCA executive committee is looking for a new printer. The MCA also will be sending a mailing in early January with a membership renewal application and information about the January 22, 2014 meeting.

The January 22, 2014 meeting will start with a vote on the new bylaws, which will allow the MCA to save money in postage by using email as the principal method of communication. (Members can opt in to receive communications through the US post office.)

Kathryn Barnett was nominated by the MCA Executive Committee to serve the remaining term of another McLean Citizens Foundation board member who resigned. Her nomination was approved unanimously by voice vote with one abstention (Jeff Barnett).

The MCA web site is temporarily inaccessible, but Marisa Zalmanis is working to obtain a new and separate domain to avoid similar technical problems in the future.

MCA board members are encouraged to participate in the Membership Committee's survey, and to forward the survey link to other people in their homeowners' associations.

### **Budget & Taxation Committee**

Dale Stein reported that committee met with the county's director of taxation regarding the real estate assessment process.

Real estate taxes comprise about 82% of the county's revenues, and the county has 283 employees who work in that office, to assess about 340,000 residential, 10-12,00 commercial and 20,000 tax-exempt properties. 1-2% of all assessments are appealed, and about half of those appeals are resolved by county staff and half are resolved by the Board of Equalization.

The office's goal is to set assessments at roughly 94% of the price at which a house would sell, and in general assessments have been at or close to this percentage in the aggregate. Commercial assessments are done largely by capitalizing rental income, which is affected by vacancy rates.

The committee's next meeting will feature county experts on pension benefits.

Armand Weiss, who chairs Supervisor John Foust's FY 2015 budget task force, reported that the task force has 11 members. Louise Epstein represents the MCA. The next meeting features two School Board members (Jane Strauss and Ted Velkoff) plus the FCPS Budget Director, Kristin Michael.

Armand Weiss also explained that in light of the Fairfax Water merger, the expectation is that within 3 years for Falls Church City residents and 4 years for Fairfax County residents, water rates are likely to drop by about 30%.

### **Education & Youth Committee**

Ted Alexander reported that the committee's December meeting will feature Michael Hershman, a community appointee and audit expert on the Supervisors' Audit Committee. In addition, the committee continues to focus on class size, start times and student assessments other than SOL tests.

On December 11, Sally Horn and other civic association leaders (or their representatives) will be meeting with the Blueprint for Change consultants to FCPS, regarding high school start times.

On January 22, the Education & Youth Committee is organizing the town hall meeting with Dr. Garza. After her presentation, she will answer questions posed by the MCA Education & Youth Committee and by members of the audience.

### **Environment, Parks & Recreation Committee**

Frank Crandall announced that the Salona Park task force will release its report soon. McLean Central Park's original plan has been modified to reflect MCA and other comments. The long-term project of transferring Langley Forks from the National Park Service to Fairfax County is moving forward, thanks in part to efforts of Don Bercherding in the Langley Oaks community. The committee also is focusing on preservation of the tree canopy when possible, in part by working on educational programs.

### **Membership Committee**

Armand Weiss reported that the MCA has just reached its goal of 600 members, and a new goal of 700 has been set. He encouraged people to distribute MCA brochures in their communities. He also asked people to let him know if they could volunteer at the MCA booth on McLean Day, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Rob Jackson noted that homeowners associations were eligible to join the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations.

### **Planning & Zoning Committee**

Steve DelBianco described a management company's proposal to redevelop the Stalcups hardware store in the Chesterbrook Shopping Center, by subdividing the space into smaller units. The MCA has asked if the developers would pay for a pedestrian walkway from Vinson Hall to the shopping center.

Sally Horn summarized developments regarding the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Process for Tysons. MCA is concerned about proposals to: (1) eliminate the limitation on initial development levels for office use; and (2) eliminate the 84 million square feet limit for all of Tysons, since the VDOT study showed that this would cause transportation problems. Steve DelBianco suggested that Mark Zetts' slide presentation on Tysons be sent to the entire board.

The MCA and other major citizens and civic associations uniformly expressed concerns about the initial proposal for low-income efficiency rental apartments (aka Residential Studio Units or RSUs), which would have allowed RSUs to be built in low-density neighborhoods. MCA, the Federation and other civic associations requested that they be limited to areas zoned R-20 or higher, as well as in commercial and industrial zones. The Board of Supervisors has directed the Planning Commission to limit RSU developments to areas zoned at least R-12. The MCA has asked the Planning Commission also to consider the other conditions that were listed in the MCA resolution as, in its opinion, these other conditions were critical to ensuring the success of RSUs as a housing option for the intended populations.

### **Transportation Committee**

Jim Phelps reported that the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) had a 2-hour public meeting on November 21, and all but one speaker asked to spend transportation funds on sidewalks and other pedestrian-related projects. According to the FCDOT Director, similar feedback was being given in other developed areas of the county.

Jim Phelps presented a resolution regarding unfunded sidewalk and intersection transportation projects that were not covered in last month's MCA resolution. The Transportation Committee had already emailed the FCDOT Director this resolution, indicating that it was endorsed by the MCA Transportation Committee. The resolution passed almost unanimously by voice vote, with one abstention by Jeff Barnett. See attached.

### **Tysons Corner Liaison**

Sally Horn announced that the Tysons Transportation Service District Advisory Board, which includes representatives from the development, commercial, and residential communities in Tysons, and Vienna Mayor Jane Seeman, Mark Zetts and herself, met in November to discuss matters related to its 2014 recommendations for the tax rate for the special tax district. The Service District was established by the Board of Supervisors to provide, as a private sector contribution, \$256 million of the \$3.1 billion needed for the required Tysons-related transportation improvements over the next 40 years. She noted continuing interest by some Tysons representatives to substitute HB 2313 taxes collected, e.g., by stores in the shopping centers located in Tysons, for the Service District obligations.

### **Public Safety Liaison**

Tom Patton and Michele Pearce suggested ways to better disseminate safety-related information to the public, and asked Officer Lucas for suggestions. Sally Horn asked about the likely impact of future Tysons development on crime rates in the greater McLean area. Officer Lucas said that the county already had created nine additional officer positions for the McLean area.

Animesh Gupta's neighborhood asked the county to develop software to create updated maps with crime incidents in just the MCA area.

Michele Pearce asked whether the county could station police officer and/or park police cars outside schools, at the beginning and end of school. Officer Lucas suggested that parents speak to the School Board about hiring crossing guards, since the police department did not have enough personnel.

**McLean Community Center**

Patrick Smaldore stated that the MCC did not meet in November. He added that Paul Kohlenberger from the McLean Historical Society had brochures for a December 10<sup>th</sup> event at the MCC, honoring two former department chiefs.

**McLean Planning Committee**

Jim Turner stated that the MPC met with developer JBG on its Elm Street project, on setbacks and design. The FAR is about 1.75, and the amount of retail space is still being negotiated. All parking will be underground, and apartments will be allocated 1.6 spaces each. Some have requested more spaces for shoppers, but no decision has been reached. Meters may be added on Elm Street and Fleetwood Street.

**McLean Revitalization Corporation**

Roshan Badii reported that the MRC is working to obtain some of the \$1.2 billion in transportation funding to pay for some of the 200 unfunded projects.

**Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations**

David Wuehrmann reported that the Federation passed 6 more legislative proposals at its last meeting. Based on feedback from MCA board members, he voted against some resolutions and supported three: (1) repeal of the King's Dominion Law to allow schools to start before Labor Day; (2) Revise the state Local Composite Index; and (3) make it a primary violation to use a cell phone in a moving vehicle, without hands-free equipment. Rob Jackson offered to send information to MCA board members on the votes for the different resolutions.

**Fifty-Plus Liaison**

Jim Phelps stated that the McLean Village for Change did not meet since the last MCA board meeting.

**Old Business/New Business**

None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

**The next MCA Board meeting date is January 8, 2014**

**McLEAN  
CITIZENS  
ASSOCIATION**

**TREASURER'S  
REPORT**

4-Dec-13

<b>Checking Account</b>					
	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	11/6/2013				<b>\$12,125.92</b>
<b>Additions</b>					
	11/8/13		Dues (checks)	\$150.00	
			Total: Additions	\$150.00	<b>\$12,275.92</b>
<b>Deductions</b>					
	11/11/13	1192	Global Printing for Sept. 2013 newsletter	\$460.65	
	11/11/13	1193	Global Printing for 3 October event flyers	\$440.16	
	11/11/13	1194	Global Printing for October event flyer	\$313.02	
	11/12/13	1195	McLean Trees Foundation for contribution in memory of Joyce Crandall	\$200.00	
			Total: Deductions	\$1,413.83	
Checking Total Current Value					<b>\$10,862.09</b>
<b>Certificates of Deposit</b>					
<b>CD NUMBER</b>	<b>RATE</b>	<b>REPORT DATE</b>	<b>MATURES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	
3000102773	APY 1%	10/7/13	1/17/15	\$5,868.75	
3000102774	APY .75%	9/30/13	3/2/14	\$5,742.58	
3000103064	APY .5%	10/1/13	6/12/14	\$5,914.15	

CD Total Current Value	<b>\$17,525.48</b>
<b>Net Worth (Checking+CD)</b>	<b>\$28,387.57</b>

Checking account and certificates of deposit are at SONA Bank in McLean.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Crosby,  
Treasurer

**McLean Citizens Association Resolution  
Support for Certain Fairfax County Unfunded Transportation Projects**

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the approval of HB 2313 by the 2013 Virginia General Assembly, revenues for transportation projects in Fairfax County are estimated to increase by approximately \$1.2 billion over a six-year period and,

**WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) has requested that county residents comment on their local-project priorities from a categorized list of currently unfunded projects that will be further prioritized by FCDOT and transmitted to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors by early 2014, and,

**WHEREAS**, of the 56 unfunded transportation projects in the Dranesville District, 38 of these projects are within the McLean Planning District and,

**WHEREAS**, the McLean Citizens Association passed a resolution on November 20, 2013 supporting sixteen pedestrian sidewalk projects within one mile of certain elementary schools and 1½ miles of certain middle schools, and

**WHEREAS**, there are eight additional Improvement Projects in the McLean Planning District, listed below, that, if implemented would significantly reduce traffic congestion and enhance both pedestrian and vehicular safety,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the MCA supports including the following projects in the Fairfax County six year transportation funding plan:

- #22 – Balls Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive
- #31 – Georgetown Pike and Route 123 – right turn lane addition
  - #33 – Kirby Road and Old Dominion Drive – intersection safety
- #34 – Lewinsville Road and Spring Hill Road traffic flow improvements
- #38 – Route 123/Great Falls Street/Lewinsville Road Intersection improvements
- #41 – Spring Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive intersection improvements
- #157- Old Dominion Drive Walkway
- #202- Great Falls Street Walkway

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** support of the specific projects is made with the understanding that a final decision on implementing these projects will not be made until the MCA and the affected communities have been notified of, and participated in, both project feasibility reviews and project design reviews.

*Approved by the MCA Board of Directors  
Date 12/04/2013*



cc: John Foust, Dranesville District Supervisor  
Julie Ide, Staff  
Fairfax County Board of Supervisors  
Senator Janet Howell  
Senator Barbara Favola  
Delegate Bob Brink  
Delegate Jim Scott  
**Tom Biesiadny, Director, Fairfax County DOT**