

**McLean Citizens Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Jan. 6, 2016 Sign-In Sheet**

**Officers (6)**

President	Jeff Barnett	Present
First Vice President	Glenn Harris	Present
Second Vice President	Animesh Gupta	Present
Treasurer	Bill Crosby	Present
Recording Secretary	Kate Probst	Present
Corresponding Secretary	Marisa Zalmanis	Absent (exc)

**Board Members Representing Associations (20)**

John Adams	Georgetown Pike & Potomac River	Present
Elizabeth Baird	Cedars of McLean	Present
Mauro D'Angelo	Pimmit Hills	Absent (exc)
Steve DelBianco	Franklin Area	Present
Louise Epstein	Downscrest Citizens Association	Absent (exc)
Darren Ewing	Olney Road Association	Present
Jane Greenstein	Chesterford	Absent (exc)
Francesca Gutowski	Lynwood	Present
Bonnie Heebner	Madison of McLean	Present
Ron Hutchinson	Evermay	Present
Bruce Jones	Lemon Road	Present
David Pritchett	Treeline	Present
Jim Robertson	Evans Mill Pond	Present
Suzanne Samuels	Langley Oaks	Present
John Schaefer	McLean Broyhill Estates	Absent (exc)
Behram Shroff	McLean Hamlet	Present
Dale Stein	Millwood of McLean	Present
Jim Turner	McLean Hunt	Absent (exc)
Linda Walsh	Dominion/Brookhaven	Present
David Wuehrmann	Ellison Heights-Mt. Daniel	Present

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

Irv Auerbach	Present
Roshan Badii	Absent (exc)
Tom Brock	Present
Thomas Culligan	Absent (exc)
Andrea del Vecchio	Present
Madge Gazzola	Absent (exc)
Anne Gruner	Present
Sally Horn	Present
Rob Jackson	Present
Paul Kohlenberger	Present
Jane Scott-Jones	Present
Patrick Smaldore	Present
Andrea Young	Present
Mark Zetts	Present

**McLean Citizens Association  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**MCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Jan. 6, 2016 DRAFT Minutes (**

**Guests who signed in:** Dean Sherick (Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management), Merrily Pierce (Environment and Parks Committee), Michelle Aten (McLean resident), and Desmond O'Rourke (West Lewinsville Heights Citizens Association).

**Call to Order**

Mr. Barnett called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and verified there was a quorum.

**Approval of Minutes**

The December minutes were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

**Report of the Treasurer**

The December Treasurer's report was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

**Report of Executive Committee**

Mr. Barnett provided a number of updates to the Board:

- There will be a legislative Town Hall, sponsored by State Senator Susan Howell at the MCC, on Saturday Jan 16<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 pm. Senator Favola and Delegates Murphy, Sullivan and Simon will also participate.
- We are revising the MCA policy and procedures manual, as the last time the manual was revised was 10 years ago. Once we get a complete revised draft, we will get it out to the full MCA Board for comments. If there are any issues related to the manual that concern you, please let Jeff know.
- **OEM/Volunteer Fairfax Presentation about the Fairfax County Community Resilience Program.** As part of our efforts to increase our understanding of what Fairfax County Public Safety agencies are doing and to increase our membership. Patrick asked representatives of the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Volunteer Fairfax to speak briefly to the MCA Board of Directors. Patrick introduced Dean Sherick with the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Maria Bernadzikowski with Volunteer Fairfax. They provided a brief overview of the work their respective agencies are doing on Community Resilience and how MCA members and other McLean residents can get involved. Ms. Bernadzikowski described a new program they have created to enhance communication to help organizations and people work together in recovering from a disaster, called the *Community Resiliency Program*. They are hosting a seminar and table-top ex-

ercise about this program in January and February, which all are welcome to attend (although you need to sign up in advance.)

- Jeff Barnett welcomed two boy scouts with us tonight.

## **Committee Reports**

### **1. Budget and Taxation**

Dale Stein reported that in December, the Budget & Taxation Committee and the Education & Youth Committee met jointly with senior management of the Educational Employees' Supplementary Retirement System of Fairfax County (ERFC): Executive Director Jeanne Carr, the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, and another Trustee. School employees (mainly teachers) receive retirement benefits from the Virginia Retirement System and a significant supplement from the ERFC. The ERFC pays retirement benefits to approximately 35,000 past and current employees.

The ERFC has obligations to pay employees approximately \$2.7 billion of benefits and has funds invested to pay those benefits of approximately \$2.1 billion. The shortfall in funds is approximately \$600 million. (Data are actuarial amounts for 2014.). Dale noted that the Committee is continuing to work on this issue.

In addition to the school system pensions, the key issue the Committee will be working on in the next two to three months is the proposed FY 2017 County Budget, which will be made public in the middle of February.

### **2. Education and Youth**

Liz Baird reported that the E&Y Committee has been meeting with the Budget Committee regarding teacher pension issues.

The only other issue the Committee is looking at is the proposed cuts to the FCPS budget, which will be made public on January 7<sup>th</sup>. The Committee will be looking at the cuts, and bringing some issues to the Board.

### **3. Environment, Parks & Recreation**

At its December 16 meeting, EP&R welcomed Ellen Eggerton, green building ombudsman for DPWES, who gave a presentation on energy efficiency in the home and reviewed various policies and practices of the County as they relate to green building techniques.

As to the Dead Run Stream Valley Restoration Project, Mr. Kohlenberger reported that, after another meeting of the 'Stream Team', the County is now moving into a more focused phase, including meeting with individual affected neighbors. The aim is to have a plan to present back to the public in the next few months.

As to the ongoing issue of tree preservation, Supervisor Foust recently held a meeting with leaders from Chesterbrook Woods, Franklin Park and El Nido. In attendance were the Deputy County Executive, the chairs of the Tree Commission and the Environmen-

tal Quality Advisory Council (EQAC), leadership of DPZ and DPWES, lawyers from the OCA, and staff from Urban Forest Management. The meeting was called in response to citizen concerns about lack of enforcement of tree preservation regulations. Steve DelBianco, who attended on behalf of Franklin Area CA, gave the Board a recap of the meeting. A brief discussion of tree issues by the Board ensued.

Mr. Kohlenberger reminded the Board that EQAC's annual public hearing was to be held on January 12, and that written testimony was welcome.

Paul also invited the Board to EP&R's January 20 meeting, where Andi Dorlester, FCPA's lead author of the Tysons Park System Concept Plan, will give an update on park development in the Tysons part of McLean.

#### **4. Membership**

Animesh Gupta reported that the Committee is working on developing a new website, and that the MCA Newsletter was distributed by email to the membership in December, and will be mailed to those members who have opted out of email delivery in the near future.

He noted that the Committee has been working on the agenda for the next General Membership meeting to take place in March. There was some discussion about the pros and cons of holding the General Membership meeting at the same time as the monthly MCA Board meeting.

Mr. Gupta noted that the Committee is also considering a number of future events to increase membership, including a possible Drone/Kite Festival (May/June 2016).

#### **5. Planning and Zoning**

Mark Zetts reported on the current status of four different properties.

##### **A. Mt Daniel Elementary Expansion**

Toni Jones, Superintendent of Falls Church City Public Schools, (FCCPS) will give a presentation at the January 26 P&Z on the changes they have made to the proposed expansion. The changes amount to a reduction of 4 classrooms, 88 students and 5 parking spaces. The County informed FCCPS that they must seek a Special Exception permit in order to expand the school. Jones informed two members of the Mt Daniel/Ellison Heights HOA that she was reluctant to file an application.

##### **B. Sunrise Assisted Living Facility (Westmoreland and Kirby Road)**

Sunrise, who withdrew its Special Exception permit application for an assisted living facility on June 5, 2015, has decided to resubmit their application and will come to the January 26 P&Z meeting. Sunrise has modified the design of the building in order to make room for landscape screening along Westmoreland Drive.

##### **C. Van Kirk Special Permit and Variance**

The Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) public hearing was held on September 30 and continued on January 6. At the January 6 hearing, the BZA deferred decision on both the permit and the variance applications to give the applicant time to fix his cited zoning violations. The BZA objected to:

- 1) The amount of impervious surface in the rear yard and specifically the width of the concrete decking around the swimming pool. County code requires at least a 5' wide deck and the applicant's decking exceeded 10' in places. The BZA wants the excessive concrete removed.
  - 2) The size of the proposed front porch, which extends across the width of the house and encroaches into the side yard. The BZA said to reduce the size of the porch to get it out of the side yard.
  - 3) The shed in the back is too tall. The applicant was asked to reduce it. The applicant also added rain gutters to the shed and the gutters extend over the property line into the neighbor's property. The gutters need to be cut back.
  - 4) There are storm water management problems on site that need to be addressed.
- At the 9/30 public hearing, the BZA asked the applicant's agent to brief MCA on the case. The Committee sent an e-mail to the BZA informing them that we had invited the agent to P&Z meetings in October and November, and the agent declined to appear or submit materials related to the case.
  - The BZA deferred decision on the Special Permit and Variance to March 16.

#### **D. TEA Center Special Exception Request**

The Fairfax County Planning Commission recommended approval of the childcare Special Exception request on December 9, 2015. MCA opposed the Special Exception unless conditions for expanding the enrollment from 40 to 70 children were modified to permit the increase over a two-year period with staff verifying safe and efficient operation given the location of the day care on Balls Hill Road.

The Planning Commission was not comfortable with allowing an increase in enrollment administratively. Thus, the development conditions were modified to limit the childcare facility to 40 children, and any increase in enrollment will require a Special Exception Amendment.

#### **6. Transportation**

Jim Robertson reported on the current status of a number of issues that the Transportation Committee is following:

- A.** I-66 Inside the Beltway Planning – Ms. Amanda Baxter, Program Manager, VDOT, *Transform 66 Inside the Beltway* Project, gave an excellent presentation at the November Committee meeting regarding the plans for dynamic tolling on I-66 inside the beltway. We intend to invite her back in March, to update us on this issue.
- B.** Route 7 Widening - Right now, there is not much going on with the Route 7 widening project Working Group. The VDOT Project is working on the design, but it will be awhile before it is completed. VDOT will schedule a meeting with the Working Group on the project status later in the year.

- C. The Committee drafted a resolution regarding the need to improve traffic between Virginia and Maryland on I-495 and the American Legion Bridge, which was approved by the Board on January 6<sup>th</sup>.
- D. In December, committee members attended a meeting about helicopter noise. The meeting was hosted by Arlington County Board Member Libby Garvey. A report on this meeting will be given at the January Transportation Committee meeting.

Jim Phelps reported on the progress of the National Airport Community Working Group. The FAA has come up with a proposed modification to the north departure route from Reagan National Airport. The proposed modification has been presented to the Working Group, but it appears that the likely reduction in airplane noise will be minimal. Jim Phelps will give a presentation on what the FAA is proposing at the January Transportation Committee meeting.

## **6. Tysons Liaison**

The GTCC did not meet in December. We are scheduled to meet in January to discuss performance metrics, but the Planning Commission's Tysons Committee is meeting the same night. As a result, the GTTC may want to reschedule the meeting.

### **Liaison Reports**

#### **1. Public Safety Liaison**

Patrick Smaldore reported that, in December, he sent out emails to McLean area HOAs/CAs and the FCPD regarding calls for service involving neighborhood crime and/or public safety issues. He noted that the Fairfax County Police Department recently began using a new private social network to facilitate communication among neighborhood residents, called "NextDoor." Jeff asked Patrick to put together a slide or two describing the platform and how it works to present at the next Board meeting.

#### **2. McLean Community Center**

Andrea DelVecchio reported that the County approved the MCC Renovation Development Package, and that the 2232 Application has been approved. Construction is expected to begin in Jan. 2017 and will go to mid- 2018.

Ms. DelVecchio informed the Board that the MCC election process for the Governing Board starts on January 25, 2016.

She also noted that on Sunday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, the MCC is holding a very interesting event to commemorate the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday.

Other MCC events include the Chocolate Festival on Sunday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> and the Better than Bling event on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2016.

#### **3. McLean Planning Committee**

Francesca Gutowski reported that the MPC recently was given a presentation from a

local commercial land-owner, who is considering building residential condominiums behind his building at 6707 Old Dominion Dr. (where Chipotle is located). The development includes a residential tower and underground parking. This is an area where the MPC would like to see some development, but there are concerns about the appropriate size and density of the proposed development. The MPC's vision for that area of Mclean is mixed residential and retail. The issues created by the development are how high should the buildings be, and how dense should the development be? The conceptual plan would require rezoning and a comprehensive plan amendment. The MPC has, in the past, asked the County to come up with funds so it can revisit the plan for the development of the central business area of Mclean. The existing plan was done before metro and the rezoning and development of Tysons.

Rob Jackson mentioned that he thinks it is time for the County to conduct a traffic study of impact of Tysons development on McLean before we start encouraging development in downtown McLean.

#### **4. McLean Revitalization Corporation**

Patrick Smaldore reported that the MRC is working on the McLean Business District Tree Assessment about: *Why Trees Are Good for Business Districts*. He also noted that the MRC sent out a survey to their members to gather information as part of the process for revising their website, and that the MRC is in the process of revising and amending their By-Laws.

#### **New Business**

- 1. Saucy Branch Resolution** – Paul Kohlenberger provided an overview of the resolution under consideration regarding *McLean High School Park*. This resolution is an updated and revised version of a resolution passed by the MCA in 2004. The resolution calls for the Fairfax County Park Authority to establish a Resource Protection Zone in the southern end of the park, and to change the classification of the park from a “local park” to a “resource-based park,” to focus the use on the natural resource. We are also asking that the park be renamed the *Saucy Branch Nature Preserve*. We have received a lot of support from the nearby HOAs for these changes. We have reached out to McLean High School, but have not received any response from them. After some discussion, and a few “friendly” amendments, the resolution was approved unanimously by a voice
- 2. American Legion Bridge Resolution** - Jim Robertson told the Board that the main purpose of the proposed resolution is to support the County in its efforts to move forward with implementing a solution to the incredible traffic congestion at the American Legion Bridge. He noted that there have been a number of studies about the traffic problems on both the Virginia and Maryland sides of the Bridge, and that this resolution is focused on encouraging Maryland, Virginia and the federal Department of Transportation to develop a solution. There was a spirited discussion of the pros and cons of the resolution, which was ultimately approved by a voice vote.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

**The next MCA Board meeting date is February 3 at 7:30 pm  
McLean Community Center**

**McLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION  
TREASURER'S REPORT**

6-Jan-16

<b>Checking Account</b>					
	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>BALANCE</b>
<b>Beginning Balance</b>	12/2/2015				<b>\$11,082.44</b>
<b>Additions</b>	11-20-15 through 12/31/15		Dues (Paypal)	\$30.00	
	12/3/15		Dues (checks)	\$165.00	
			Total: Additions	\$195.00	<b>\$11,277.44</b>
<b>Deductions</b>	12/2/15	1243	Animesh Gupta for movie expenses, including the licence, DVD, etc.	\$178.54	
			Total: Deductions	\$178.54	
			Checking Total Current Value		<b>\$11,098.90</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 .8%	12/31/15	1/17/17	\$5,991.24	
3000102774	APY 1.4%	12/31/15	3/2/20	\$5,842.46	
3000103064	APY 1.5%	12/31/15	6/12/20	\$5,999.04	
			CD Total Current Value		<b>\$17,832.74</b>
			<b>Net Worth (Checking+CD)</b>		<b>\$28,931.64</b>

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Crosby, Treasurer





## **McLean Citizens Association Resolution**

### **REGARDING SAUCY BRANCH AND McLEAN HIGH PARK**

**January 6, 2016**

WHEREAS, the headwaters of that tributary of Pimmit Run, known from early times as Saucy Branch, flows through the entirety of a county park classified by the Fairfax County Park Authority (“Park Authority”) as a Local Park and currently known as McLean High Park; and

WHEREAS, the upper portion of Saucy Branch is now designated as a Resource Protection Area (RPA) on the official County maps; and □

WHEREAS, the forests and wetlands associated with Saucy Branch contribute to important storm-water management and flood control; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of West McLean have used McLean High Park as a nature preserve, and the high school has used the park as a field laboratory site for biology classes; and

WHEREAS, the three surrounding citizens associations have adopted the park through the Park Authority’s Adopt-A-Park program; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 2015, as in years past, a large group of neighbors conducted an extensive clean-up of the park, demonstrating the community’s continued commitment to preserving the park; and

WHEREAS, a study by Lewis, Scully and Gionnet, Inc. (“Study”), commissioned and funded by the Park Authority, found that the park is important to the Fairfax County Park System because it provides needed passive recreation and educational opportunities to the established residential community and the adjacent high school; and

WHEREAS, the Study concluded that the park should continue to provide an enclave of wild-life habitat for numerous species commonly found in or migrating through Northern Virginia, and a narrow wildlife corridor upstream to Lewinsville Park; and

WHEREAS, the Study recommended that the entirety of the park to the south of the Chesapeake Bay Resource Protection Area (RPA) also be designated a Park Authority Resource Protection Zone (RPZ);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the McLean Citizens Association hereby requests the Fairfax County Park Authority Board to designate the area south of the Chesapeake

Bay Resource Protection Area (RPA) as a permanent Resource Protection Zone and that small area north of the RPA as a passive recreation area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the McLean Citizens Association calls upon the Park Authority to reclassify McLean High Park from a Local Park to a Resource-Based Park, in recognition of the important wildlife habitat and wetland area the park encompasses and which are the park's defining features; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the McLean Citizens Association calls upon the Park Authority to give proper recognition to the name "Saucy Branch," which has been passed down from colonial times and which is the principal feature of the park, as reconfirmed in the Study, by redesignating McLean High Park as Saucy Branch Nature Preserve.

*Approved by the MCA Board of Directors  
January 6, 2016*

Distribution:

John Foust, Supervisor, Dranesville Magisterial District

Bill Bouie, Chairman, FCPA Board

Grace Han Wolf, Dranesville Representative, FCPA Board

Kirk Kincannon, Director, FCPA

Ken Quincy, Chairman, Planning & Development Committee, FCPA Board

Frank Vajda, Chairman, Resource Management Committee, FCPA Board

David Bowden, Director, Planning & Development Division, FCPA

Cindy Walsh, Director, Resource Management Division, FCPA

Sandy Stallman, Manager, Park Planning Branch, FCPA



## **McLean Citizens Association Resolution**

### **The American Legion Bridge and connected roadways**

**January 6, 2016**

**Whereas**, the American Legion Bridge is a vital transportation and economic link for not only Fairfax and Montgomery Counties, but for Maryland and Virginia in general; and

**Whereas**, the West Side Mobility Study, jointly conducted by the Maryland State Highway Administration and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) in 2009, evaluated improvements to the American Legion Bridge, Capital Beltway in Maryland and the I-270 spurs that would increase capacity, improve traffic operations and add a managed lane that would connect to the recently constructed VDOT Express Lanes, and

**Whereas**, the West Side Mobility Study recommended further study of a preferred long-term improvement that would widen the American Legion Bridge and Beltway to add one managed lane extending from the Virginia Express Lanes to the I-270 interchange; and

**Whereas**, the study also recommended further analysis of a lower-cost, mid-term improvement that would add an interim, managed lane in each direction on the American Legion Bridge and Beltway by restriping; and

**Whereas**, a Potomac River Crossing Conditions study, conducted by VDOT and presented to the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) in July of 2015, found that the American Legion Bridge suffers from the worst congestion of all bridges crossing the Potomac River, and had the projected largest growth in traffic volume through 2040; and

**Whereas**, VDOT Staff recommended in that study that the “top priority” for addressing Potomac River crossings should be extending the Express lanes across the American Legion Bridge to the I-270 interchange; and

**Whereas**, on October 19, 2015, members of the Montgomery County Council and Fairfax County Board of Supervisors wrote to the Governors and Transportation Secretaries of Maryland and Virginia asking the states to come together and focus on making improvements to address the severe congestion problems at the American Legion Bridge; and

**Whereas**, the October 19th letter noted that, every day, nearly 300,000 vehicles cross over the tremendously congested bridge, making it the single most-utilized Potomac River crossing in the region and that, during the afternoon commute, average vehicle speeds slow to 34.9 mph on the Outer Loop and 22.5 mph on the Inner Loop; and

**Whereas**, the October 19th letter further advised that the American Legion Bridge has become a choke point that has serious negative consequences for the economies, environment, and quality of life of residents of Fairfax and Montgomery Counties; and

**Whereas**, traffic congestion on the American Legion Bridge regularly backs up for miles on the inner loop of the Beltway through Tysons during both the morning and evening rush hour commutes; and

**Whereas**, McLean Citizens Association members and other residents of the McLean area have raised significant concerns for a number of years about worsening impacts of this traffic congestion as commuters use local McLean roads to circumvent the Beltway backup toward the American Legion Bridge, and

**Whereas**, I-495 and I-270 are a part of the Federal Interstate system that includes the operations of a number of National Security operations that rely on it to obtain access between Maryland and Virginia and beyond.

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the McLean Citizens Association joins the Members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Members of the Montgomery County Council in urging the governments of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the State of Maryland and the US Department of Transportation to expeditiously develop and implement a joint plan for the expansion of the American Legion Bridge and its connecting roadways, and the eventual construction of an additional parallel bridge on the eastern side next to the existing span over the Potomac River.

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*Approved by the MCA Board of Directors*

*January 6, 2016*