

**McLean Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting
October 7, 2015 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	Present

Board Members Representing Associations (20)

John Adams	Georgetown Pike & Potomac River	Present
Elizabeth Baird	Cedars of McLean	Present
Steve DelBianco	Franklin Area	Absent (exc)
Louise Epstein	Downscrest Citizens Association	Present
Darren Ewing	Olney Road Association	Present
Jane Greenstein	Chesterford	Present
Francesca Gutowski	Lynwood	Present
Bonnie Heebner	Madison of McLean	Present
Robert Heilen	Pimmit Hills	Absent (exc)
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	Present
Behram Shroff	McLean Hamlet	Absent (exc)
Dale Stein	Millwood of McLean	Absent (exc)
Jim Turner	McLean Hunt	Present
Linda Walsh	Dominion/Brookhaven	Present
David Wuehrmann	Ellison Heights-Mt. Daniel	Absent (exc)

Board Members At-Large (14)

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

McLean Citizens Association
Board of Directors Meeting

**MCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Oct. 7, 2015 Minutes**

Guests who signed in: there was an unusually large crowd, due to the NOVA Firearms issue being on the agenda.

Call to Order

Mr. Barnett called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, verified there was a quorum, and reminded everyone to sign in.

Approval of Minutes

The September minutes were unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Report of the Treasurer

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

1st VP Report – Upcoming Candidate Debate

Glenn Harris reminded everyone that MCA is hosting a debate for four local races in the MCC on Sunday Oct 18, from 2:30 – 6 PM.

The four debates will be:

- State Senate (D 31) - Barbara A. Favola v. George Forakis
- House of Delegates (D 34) - Kathleen J. Murphy v. Craig Parisot
- Dranesville Supervisor - Jennifer Chronis v. John Foust
- Dranesville School Board Representative - Pete Kurzenhauser v. Jane K. "Janie" Strauss."

All MCA members may submit questions for the candidates to the MCA Board; MCA members who arrive by 2:15 will be seated in the front rows. Glenn notes that we need more people to help usher the debate, and asked Board members to please sign up or email Louise Epstein, the head usher, if they can help out.

Fall MCA Newsletter

Glenn announced that from now on Kate Probst will be responsible for working with Committee Chairs to put together the newsletter. He asked all Committee Chairs to please email their article to Kate by October 26th!

Committee Reports

1. Budget and Taxation

Bill Crosby reported that in September, the Budget & Taxation Committee met jointly with the Education and Youth Committee to hear from Matt Haley about the Fairfax County Schools Budget Task Force. At the October 19th meeting, the Committee will meet with Jerry Gordon, President and CEO of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority to get his views of the current commercial health of McLean and where we are headed given current economic drivers.

The Committee continues to work on the VRS Pension issue and the Fairfax County Budget.

2. Education and Youth

Louise Epstein reported that at the joint meeting of the Budget and Taxation and Education and Youth Committees, MCA was fortunate to have Matt Haley as the guest speaker. Mr. Haley is a Langley High School parent and chair of the Fairfax County Public School Budget Task Force.

The Task Force has a web page on the FCPS web site that lists dozens of potential budget cuts, and a "budget tool" to allow people to come up with their own list of \$50 million and \$75 million budget cuts. The Task Force is scheduled deliver a written report to Dr. Garza on October 15, 2015, and to present the Task Force's conclusions to the School Board in November. The Task Force report will feed into the FY 2017 FCPS budget deliberations.

In September, MCA also hosted its "Conversation with Dr. Garza," which included a question and answer session. During that evening and at other public meetings, Dr. Garza stated that the later High School start times was implemented without any significant problems. Jeff Barnett noted that the push for later high school start times began with the MCA, a decade ago.

FCPS issued a new class size regulation on July 28, 2015. This regulation has reduced the number of huge elementary school classes, but did not change the staffing formulas for elementary, middle or high schools. Thus, the MCA will continue to monitor class sizes in the McLean area. In addition, the Budget Task Force is considering proposals to increase class sizes during FY 2017.

The Education & Youth Committee and Budget & Taxation Committee are continuing to work jointly on a resolution about the Virginia Retirement System (VRS). In addition, the Education & Youth Committee will discuss responses to Budget Task Force proposals to eliminate the Advanced Academic Program (AAP) Centers.

3. Environment, Parks & Recreation

Paul Kohlenberger reported that the Committee continues to stay abreast of developments regarding the Dead Run Stream Valley Restoration Project. Bob Jordan attended the first meeting of the so-called 'Stream Team' and reported to the committee that that meeting was well-attended. DPWES staff proposed a third potential plan of action. The first is to do nothing. The second is to activate the original proposal. The third, and new, option is to focus on a narrower area; this option would save trees but minimally reduce flood elevation. In other words, trees can be saved at the cost of more substantive reduction in flooding to the park and adjoining properties. The committee will continue to monitor and report back to the Board.

Joyce Harris of the McLean Trees Foundation attended the meeting to discuss MTF's nascent downtown tree program. The basic thought is to replicate MTF's successful neighborhood program with downtown property owners and businesses. Fairfax Tree Stewards and volunteers would perform basic tree assessments and suggest pruning or mulching as needed to landowners. The program would try to educate and assist, and could lead to further tree plantings downtown. She has discussed the program with several groups and individuals and the response has been favorable, as it was within our committee.

As to tree issues more generally, Merrily Pierce reported that staff from the Urban Forestry office were reportedly being more proactive about reviewing construction plans and attending pre-construction meetings with builders.

4. Membership

Mr. Gupta reported that the Committee has been working to improve the "onboarding" process and to make it easier to join the MCA online. Patrick Smaldore has been going door-to-door to businesses in McLean, providing information about the MCA. The committee has also conducted outreach to potential members via email.

The MCA will host a "movie night" on November 22nd at the MCC for families with young children. We are still in the process of selecting the movie, but we encourage families to bring their blankets and have a good time!

The Committee has also been working to get a complete map of all the HOA/CAs in the MCA boundaries.

The MCA will again be participating in the McLean Winterfest, which will be on Sunday, Dec 6, starting at 2 pm. Last year, we had a number of MCA members walking together in the parade, which we will do again this year.

5. Planning and Zoning

Rob Jackson reported on items the Committee worked on in September:

- Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Donna Pesto gave a presentation at our September meeting on the proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment, which would allow much greater density in Planned Districts in revitalization districts, e.g., Downtown McLean and along the Silver Line in Reston/Herndon. The Committee has some concerns about this proposal, and is preparing comments on this issue.
- East Tysons: Cityline Taylor Building C – Cityline is seeking final approval for an office building in East Tysons. We are preparing a resolution on this issue that will be discussed at the November Board meeting.
- Tysons Westpark: Cityline Arbor Row Block D – Cityline is proposing a condominium building on Westpark Drive in Tysons. We are preparing a resolution on this issue that will be discussed at the November Board meeting.
- Mt Daniel Elementary School Expansion – the County Planning Commission deferred the matter until November 4, 2015.
- TEA Center – on Balls Hill Road. There is a proposal to use this facility as a day care center. P&Z will have a resolution for the Board in November.
- Tysons Corner Center – we filed comments on this issue in accordance with the Resolution of September, addressing some issues related to on-site day care, grocery store requirements, affordable housing, police facilities and transportation. Mark Zetts testified about the MCA’s concerns to the County.
- Noise Ordinance Amendment – we have made some progress on this, but this is still a work-in-progress.

We expect to have four resolutions for consideration by the Board in November:

- Cityline Arbor Row Block D
- Cityline Taylor Building C
- The TEA Center Special Exception
- 2232 for Expansion of the MCC

6. Transportation

Jim Robertson reported that the Committee has been following the proposal to widen Route 7. There was a public meeting about this in September that was not very well attended. The proposal is to widen 6.9 miles of Route 7 and make major changes to two key intersections – one at Baron Cameron and one at Lewinsville Road. VDOT estimates the project will cost \$265 million, and expects the work to start in 2021.

Jim also reported that the Committee continues to try to address concerns about noise from aircraft. The survey the Committee distributed over the summer received 185 responses, but the data collected were not very precise. With help from Animesh, the Committee put together a new survey to gather more specific information about exact times when residents experienced loud noise from aircraft. The hope is to collect data for use in discussions with the FAA and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Au-

thority regarding noise concerns.

Another issue the Committee is following is a proposal to implement dynamically-priced tolls during morning and afternoon rush hours in both lanes of I-66 inside the Beltway. There is a third public information meeting on this issue scheduled to be held at the Farmwell Station Middle School Cafeteria, 44181 Gloucester Park, Ashburn, on October 15, 2015 at 7 PM.

7. Tysons Liaison and the Greater Tysons Citizen Coalition

Rob Jackson reported that in September the group discussed the proposed amendments to the Tysons Comprehensive Plan, and that they will be submitting comments on the proposal Fairfax County. After submitting comments, they expect to testify to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors on the proposal.

The group is working on two other issues:

- Seeking better measurement tools for compliance with the Comprehensive Plan and zoning conditions. The Committee is trying to understand how to monitor activities at Tysons. For example, how can the public monitor whether schools and parks that have been promised have been built in a timely manner and in compliance with the terms of the requirements?
- A special concern is the question of whether the landowners' requirements to reduce vehicle trips (transportation demand management) have been implemented? It is unclear who is truly monitoring vehicle traffic at Tysons. This is critical because the County's traffic studies concluded that, once Tysons has been built to 84 million square feet, each new single occupant vehicle trip (SOV) must be canceled by a non-SOV trip because the traffic generated by this level of construction will cause failure on Routes 7 and 123, the Dulles Toll Road and the Beltway.

Liaison Reports

McLean Community Center

Andrea DeVecchio reported that the MCC passed their FY 2017 budget, and expects to have a surplus of \$157,000. She also noted that the tax rate for the local tax that pays for MCC is unchanged.

The MPA ArtsFest was rescheduled due to the inclement weather – it will now be held on October 12th.

On Saturday and Sunday, November 14-15, the McLean Antique Show and Sale will be held at the MCC.

Public Safety Liaison

Patrick Smaldore reported that the MCA has advocated for the second consecutive year to have the McLean Community Center include a Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) Course Offering in its Fall Program Guide. Twenty-three participants have enrolled this year. Patrick noted that the new McLean Police Station is now open, and that Officer Lucas reminds us to watch out for pedestrians when driving, now that it is getting dark earlier.

McLean Planning Commission

Jim Turner reported that the main item on the agenda in September was a proposal to build a new building in downtown McLean. The proposed new residential building would replace an existing commercial building that is on Old Dominion Drive, backing up to Ingleside. He noted it is not clear what is happening to the proposed building to be built by JBG (which also owns the land for the proposed new building) that the MPC has been working on for four years.

Jim announced that we need FOUR alternates from MCA for the MPC!!! Please contact him if you are willing to be an alternate, you do not need to be on the Board, you just need to be a member of the MCA. As an alternate you attend MPC meetings if one of the regular representatives cannot attend

McLean Revitalization Corporation

Roshan Badii reported that they FINALLY obtained permits for installation of the four McLean Gateway signs, and three have been installed! The last Gateway sign will be installed on the new pedestrian median on Old Dominion and McLean Drive. The County has selected the contractor for the construction and the deadline for the completion of the median is November 19th of this year.

She also noted that Patrick Smaldore has agreed to be the new MCA alternate to the MRC.

Tyson's Partnership

Sally Horn reported that the Metro liaison to the Partnership indicated that Metro is looking for ways to increase revenues. One possibility that they may examine is the idea of selling "naming rights" or "sponsorship rights" for Metro stations. This was not well received. The next meeting of the Partnership is November 4.

Aging Up

Jim Phelps reported that the MCA is co-sponsoring a presentation on 7:30PM, Monday, October 26th with the McLean Community Village for all Ages. The presentation will be on Fairfax County's Neighbor-to-Neighbor (N2N) program, which is aimed at helping the Senior population of the County achieve their expressed goal of "aging in place". The presentation addresses making Fairfax County a good place to grow up and grow old. It will be held at the McLean Community Center, 1234 Ingleside Drive, McLean, VA 22101.

New Business

NOVA Firearms

Jeff Barnett provided some background information on the issue regarding NOVA Firearms. Jeff reported that nine parents came to the September Planning & Zoning committee meeting to ask for MCA's help regarding the location of NOVA Firearms, which newly is adjacent (and behind) the Franklin Sherman Elementary School. Jeff noted that the immediate issue is not about having a gun store in McLean, as NOVA Firearms previously operated out of a building on Elm Street and no one objected. The issue is the location of a firearms store next to an elementary school in McLean. Jeff noted that NOVA Firearms is in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, pays taxes, employs people, and has a legal right to operate in that location. Their positions deserve respect.

Jeff also suggested that the parents of this neighborhood fear for the safety of their irreplaceable children. They have zero risk tolerance. A gun store within a Guns Free School Zone, however legal, is not acceptable to the community. The personal fears of parents are understandable. They deserve respect.

Therefore, Jeff suggested, the MCA Board should not, at this meeting, try to reach conclusions or recommendations. Too many facts are unknown. Too few people have contributed to identifying a resolution. Jeff recommended that the MCA create an "ad hoc" committee to explore what we can about the facts regarding the issue, and that this committee deliver a status report back to the Board at our November meetings. He identified four Board members to serve on the ad hoc committee: Lizzy Baird, Steven DelBianco, Louise Epstein and Rob Jackson. If anyone else on the Board would like to be on the Committee, please let him know. The resolution to create the ad hoc committee passed by a voice vote, with one member opposing.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

**The next MCA Board meeting date is November 4, 2015 at 7:30 pm
McLean Community Center**

McLEAN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

7-Oct-15

Checking Account					
	DATE	CHECK #	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	BALANCE
Beginning Balance	9/9/2015				\$9,192.32
Additions					
	9/1/15 through 9/30/15		Dues (Paypal)	\$147.66	
	9/12/15		Dues (checks)	\$1,485.00	
			Total: Additions	\$1,632.66	\$10,824.98
Deductions					
	9/11/15	1241	KKP Business Solutions for 172 summer newsletters	\$568.36	
			Total: Deductions	\$568.36	
			Checking Total Current Value		\$10,256.62
Certificates of De-posit					
CD NUMBER	RATE	REPORT DATE	MATURES	AMOUNT	
3000102773	APY .8%	10/2/15	1/17/17	\$5,979.30	
3000102774	APY 1.4%	10/2/15	3/2/20	\$5,822.14	
3000103064	APY 1.5%	10/2/15	6/12/20	\$5,976.66	
			CD Total Current Value		\$17,778.10
			Net Worth (Checking+CD)		\$28,034.72

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

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Crosby, Treasurer