



Williamsburg Civic Association Newsletter

February 2008 • www.wca-arlington.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 19



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next General Meeting of the Williamsburg Civic Association will be Tuesday, February 19, from 7:15 to 9:10PM at Nottingham Elementary School (in the library) 5900 Little Falls Road. Arrive at 7:15PM to meet and talk with your neighbors. You can also pay your dues at that time. The agenda is below, and will be available on the WCA website, & distributed via email to subscribers to the WCA Listserv/email group.

AGENDA

Chair: Mark Moran, President
Williamsburg Civic Association

Program

1. Introductions - 5 min. (7:30-7:35)
2. Services offered by the Arlington County Fire Department: Lt. Anne Marsh, Fire Station #6 15 minutes (7:35-7:50)
3. Accessory Dwellings (AD's) in Arlington (tentative) Member from Arlington Housing Commission or subcommittee - 25 minutes (7:50-8:15)

Business Meeting

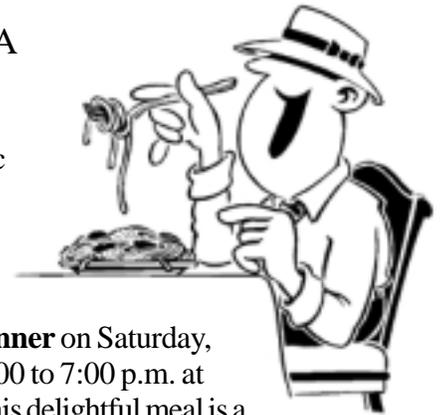
4. Approval of minutes from last meeting (11/27/07) 5 minutes (8:15-8:20)
5. Voting on changes to Bylaws - 10 min. (8:20-8:30)
6. Report from nomination committee for upcoming elections in May including nominations from the floor: Dr. Mike Murtha - 15 min. (8:30-8:45)
7. Voting on which neighborhood project to submit for consideration to Arlington's Neighborhood Conservation (NC) program: Mark Moran, Jim Toronto - 15 minutes (8:45-9:00)
8. Treasurer's report: Jim Toronto - 5 min (9:00-9:05)
9. Other business - 5 minutes (9:05-9:10)
10. Adjourn (9:10)

COME TWIRL A NOODLE WITH A NEIGHBOR

The Williamsburg Civic Association is sponsoring its second annual (after a few years' hiatus)

Winter Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 23rd from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Little Falls Church. This delightful meal is a complement to WCA's more famous Pancake Breakfasts, which are held each spring on Neighborhood Day. The Association sponsors these meals as a way for people in the neighborhood to get together informally and help us build the solidarity that every community needs, especially to have an effective civic association. The social cohesion engendered in the civic association has allowed the community to respond when it opposed a project, such as a giant cellular antenna on top of Minor Hill in 2001. The civic association has also been successful in advocating for and getting built median traffic calming on Little Falls Road and Williamsburg Boulevard. At this year's dinner, your appetites should be fed by lively discussions about other future neighborhood enhancements and/or your ideas for the future around the East Falls Church Metro Station.

The meal will be supervised by our very own, celebrity chef Dr. Michael Murtha. If you have not had a chance in the past to try one of his meals in the community room at Little Falls Church, you have a real treat ahead of you. The excellent facilities at the church, such as its kitchen and community room, ensure you will have a unique and pleasant dining experience. The community room is at the rear of the church. Parking is available at the rear of the church, next to the community room. The meal will include both spaghetti with meat sauce and vegetarian spaghetti, as well as salad, garlic bread, and dessert. The costs for the dinner are very reasonable: **\$7 for adults, \$3 for kids under 12, free for kids under 3 (with a maximum of \$20 per family)**. Any proceeds above the cost of the food will be donated to the Arlington Pediatric Center, an important local institution. **EVERYBODY COME, YOU'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME!**





IT'S ELECTION TIME AGAIN!

As announced in our November 2007 meeting, the officer positions in WCA have changed a bit this year. We have combined the post of Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary into Secretary and added the position of NCAC (Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee) Representative. The current elected officers are all running for another term and Lisa Moses, WCA member and Sycamore Street resident has volunteered to run for the newest post.

Mike Murtha is in charge of the election committee. Please contact him at dmmurtha@verizon.net if you are interested in running for a position. The nominations will take place during our upcoming February meeting and elections are in May.

2008 Proposed Slate of WCA Officers:

Mark Moran, President
Coral Gundlach, Vice President
Jim Finley, Secretary
Jim Toronto, Treasurer
Lisa Moses, NCAC Representative



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Treasurer's Report

I want to thank all those folks who have paid their dues and especially those who have been generous and supplemented their payments. There are approximately 106 households who are current with dues. Many have been faithful dues payers over the years. We have just over 1000 households in our civic association. You can see how many households have not paid and what a difference it would make if they did. Dues are \$5.00 per person per household.

I usually get a "flurry" of dues by mail immediately after the newsletter goes out. On February 1st 2008 I initiated a new effort to confirm receipt and thank those who sent dues by sending a postcard upon receipt of the dues payment. This will serve as your receipt and a reminder as to when your dues were paid.

We currently mail a hard copy of the newsletter and this alone takes almost \$700.00 per issue. We are currently taking paid advertisements to help subsidize these costs. On occasion we have other costs such as signs and purchasing food for the dinners we sponsor annually. At this point the hardcopy is needed since the majority of households are not on the email list. We are attempting to build the email list, but we will still have a group of the households who need the hard copy. Please put your email address on the coupon when returning your dues. These email numbers are being made into a list. Several years ago we had two separate lists that helped defray costs. We are hoping to do that again.

As of January 22, 2008 the cash balance in the WCA checking account was \$330.13 plus accounts receivable of \$716.54 totaling \$1046.67. We also have a \$1821.65 CD. Please realize this report is being made prior to the expenses of the February newsletter.

Submitted by Jim Toronto, Treasurer WCA

Please join our Yahoo! Groups e-mail distribution list

If you have not done so already, please join our Yahoo! Groups e-mail distribution list (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/arlington_wca/). This is a great way for us to communicate with each other (via e-mail or the Yahoo! Groups Website). Once you join the group, anyone can post a message or respond to a post. When you are joining, please tell us, as a minimum, your FIRST and LAST NAME, and WHERE YOU LIVE (either the street and/or address). This helps us prevent spammers from joining the group. Right now, we have about 96 members, but, with about 1000 households in our civic association, we have a long way to go. We recognize that not everyone can or will want to join, but given the high cost of sending out paper newsletters (about \$700 an issue), this is one way for us to get information out to the community quickly and cheaply.

FALL PROPERTIES...
Your Neighborhood
Realtors, & your
Neighbors, too

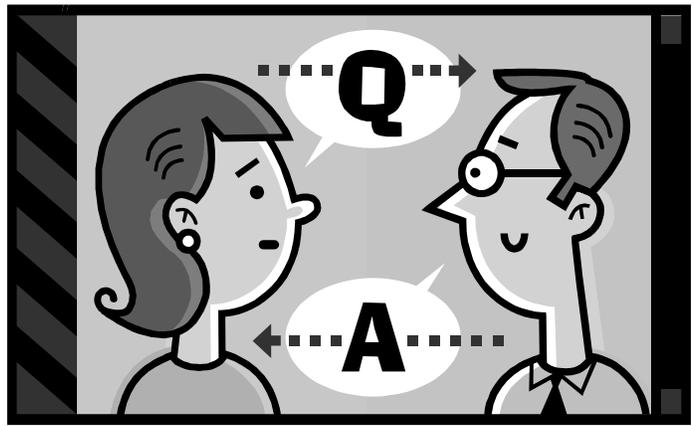


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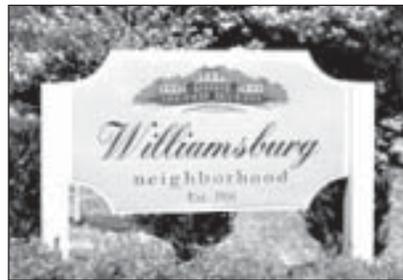
703.536.7001

www.fallproperties.com



Lets Talk Tuesdays! at Fall Properties

Here's your chance to have a casual, professional conversation with your neighborhood real estate experts. Every Tuesday through February we will be open between 6 and 8pm to answer your questions in a relaxed, low key atmosphere. Our Realtors will be prepared to speak on a different topic each week. Check our ad in the Arlington SunGazette for the weekly topic, or give our office a call. We hope to see you here.



WCA Dues are only \$5 per year!

Your WCA 2007 dues are \$5 per person (adults over 18). Please fill out and send the form below with your check (payable to Williamsburg Civic Association) to our Treasurer: Jim Toronto, 3577 Powhatan St. N, Arlington, Va 22213. You can also pay at meetings.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

I AM INTERESTED IN WORKING ON CONSERVATION PLAN PROJECTS

HELPING WITH THE NEWSLETTER ORGANIZING SOCIAL EVENTS/MEETINGS

Help us pick the next neighborhood improvement

Since 1964, Arlington has had a Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Program (www.arlingtonva.us/DEPARTMENTS/CPHD/ons/CPHDOnsConservation.aspx), whose mission is to enhance residential areas by providing citizen-initiated, public improvements to neighborhoods. The NC program is one of the main ways our neighborhood can obtain improvements in areas such as

- curb, gutter, and sidewalk;
- parks;
- traffic calming;
- street lights; and
- beautification.

To be eligible for such improvements, a civic association must: 1) Have a representative and alternate on the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC); 2) Attend the monthly NCAC meetings on a regular basis; and 3) Have an approved Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP).

Williamsburg Civic Association is currently meeting all three eligibility requirements. Our approved Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) can be found both here (www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CPHD/ons/conservation/CPHDOnsConservationPlans.aspx) and here (www.wca-arlington.org/documents.html). As an additional tool to help neighborhoods assess the state of their infrastructure, the county staff prepares for each NCAC member a Neighborhood Infrastructure Plan (NIP), which can be found here (www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CPHD/ons/conservation/CPHDOnsConservationPlans_NIP.aspx).

Funding cycles for NCAC have varied over the years, but a new funding cycle is about to begin. The NCAC compiles a list of candidate or proposed neighborhood improvement projects. Each civic association may submit one project. Then, the projects are ranked using various factors to determine which of them will get funding in a given year. Currently, WCA has no proposed project on the queue/list, so we need to pick one. We plan to vote on a project for consideration at the upcoming Feb. 19 civic association meeting. Projects should come out of the NCP. If you browse our NCP, you will see there are many projects to choose from (some have even already been built). To make the voting process manageable, we plan to vote on one of the two projects listed below, or a suggestion from the floor as a third choice to be voted on.

1. Install a landscaped median on Sycamore Street, between 26th St., N. and Williamsburg Boulevard (pages B5 and B24)
2. Establish a new park in the neighborhood (page B15) and/or fix up the Tuckahoe Park, so that it is suitable for toddlers (this park, although near our civic association, is not within our borders, so some may not want to use our NC funds for a project outside of our borders)
3. Other suggestion(s) from the floor.

Are you a music lover? Yorktown High School is hosting 2 concerts that will satisfy all music lovers. On Wednesday, February 20, come listen to the YHS Strings Orchestra Pyramid Concert, featuring the strings of Yorktown High School, Swanson Middle School, and Science Focus Elementary School. The next evening, Thursday, February 21, return to listen to the YHS Band Pyramid Concert, featuring the Concert and Symphonic bands of Yorktown High School, Swanson and Williamsburg Middle Schools. Both concerts are free and open to the public, starting at 7 pm in the YHS auditorium.



Don't Forget • General Meeting • Tuesday Feb. 19 • 7:15–9:10PM • Nottingham ES

Williamsburg Civic Association
3577 N. Powhatan Street
Arlington, VA 22213
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