

Williamsburg Civic Association (WCA)
Minutes from the General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, September 18, 2007 at 7:30 PM
Nottingham Elementary School

Program

1. Introductions

Mark Moran (President) chaired the meeting. Also in attendance from the WCA Executive Committee were Coral Gundlach (Vice President), Jim Toronto (Treasurer), and Jim Finley (Corresponding Secretary). In the absence of Alex Lee (Recording Secretary), Jim Finley took minutes. Also in attendance were about 25 WCA members. [Editor's note: On September 14, 2007 Alex Lee resigned from the position as Recording Secretary.]

2. Capacity issues in Arlington Public Schools and effects on our neighborhood schools -- Dr. Robert Smith (Superintendent), Mark Macekura, and Marjorie (Meg) Tuccillo, Arlington Public Schools.

Senior APS staff presented information about crowding at Arlington elementary schools. Based on enrollment numbers from last year (September 30, 2006), Tuckahoe Elementary School was the most overcrowded in the county, at 114% capacity utilization rate. Over the next six years, Tuckahoe was forecast to hit 122% capacity utilization rate, and other elementary schools were also forecast to be over capacity, especially those in the north and west of the county. Nonetheless, for the county overall, the utilization rate for elementary schools is 86%, so there is capacity in the system as a whole. Arlington County School Board has set up a system-wide task force, called the Elementary Crowding and Capacity Committee (ECCC). Among other things, the charge of this task force is to consider any reasonable solution that over six years will:

- Resolve crowding at Tuckahoe and potential crowding at other identified schools
- Ensure that no other elementary school will be crowded as a result

WCA members asked numerous questions about the issues and APS approach to addressing them. Citizen input, via the ECCC, to the Superintendent is due in December, followed by staff and ACSB action during January 2008. APS plans to implement a solution beginning September 2008. More information can be found at the ECCC web site (www2.apsva.us/15401081152149600/site/default.asp).

3. Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) Green Living Challenge and Arlington's Fresh AIRE program -- Mike Murtha

Dr. Murtha described resources available to residents from ACE and Arlington County concerning eco-friendly living in Arlington.

Business Meeting

4. Approval of minutes from last meeting (May 15, 2007). Accepted by acclamation.
5. Upcoming meeting dates for 2007 and 2008

Mr. Moran presented a list of proposed future meeting dates for 2008 and the remainder of 2007.

6. Reports and Announcements
 - a. County Board Candidates Night is Wednesday October 17, sponsored by Donaldson Run Civic Association, Maywood, Bellevue Forest and Williamsburg Civic Association.
[Editor's note: After the meeting it was determined that WCA would also co-sponsor a second Candidates Night, on Tuesday, October 30, 2007. Cosponsors: Arlington-East Falls Church, Bluemont, Dominion Hills, Highland Park-Overlee Knolls, John M. Langston, Leeway Overlee (organizer), Tara-Leeway Heights, Waycroft-Woodlawn, and Yorktown]
 - b. Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) Neighborhood Project List (NPL) and Neighborhood Infrastructure Report (NIP). Mr. Moran (WCA's alternate to NCAC) requested members submit their suggestions for "Missing Links" projects and passed out a form for doing so.
 - c. Arlington Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA), Public notice items concerning WCA area projects. Mr. Moran noted a pending BZA application.
 - d. Arlington County Civic Federation: Hershel Kanter gave a brief overview of Federation activities and invited WCA members to participate.
 - e. Treasurer's Report: Jim Toronto (Treasurer) passed out a written report dated September 18, 2007 showing a balance of \$3,472.38.
7. Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at 7:30 PM at Nottingham Elementary School. [Editor's note: After the meeting, it was decided to move the meeting date to Tuesday, November 27, so that it would not occur during Thanksgiving week]

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned around 9:15 PM.