



Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

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Record

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NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, November 23rd at the Walt Whitman Middle School Jack
Knowles Lecture Hall (NOTE CHANGE OF DAY AND DATE)

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

- Approval of Secretary's Minutes
- Approval of Treasurer's Report
- Committee Reports
- Co-Chairmen's Report on Board Actions

PUBLISHED ITEMS and RESOLUTIONS

NEW BUSINESS

- Member Association Representatives' Time
- MV Supervisor's Time
- Other Elected Reps and Public Time

ADJOURNMENT

Co-Chairmen	Errol Bergsagel	703.780.9038
	Al Bornmann	703.360.5964
	Mack Rhoades	703.329.9120
Treasurer	Phyllis Evans	703.960.2140
Secretary	Chris Granger	703.768.1936
Editor	Dave Bolte	703.765.0129
BUDG	George Bauer	703.768.1774
COAF	Queenie Cox	703.360.2414
EDUC	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
ENVR	Jim Davis	703.799.3278
H/HS	Louise Cleveland	703.780.9151
PL/Z	Diane Donley	703.780.2804
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey	703.360.2185
TRANS	Frank Cohn	703.780.5698
FCFCA	Pat Rea	703.799.4799

MINUTES

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING –October 27, 2004

ASSOCIATIONS REPRESENTED: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood/Potomac, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Marlan Forest, Mason Hill, Montebello, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon/Potomac, Mount Zephyr, New Gum Springs, Newington, Riverside Gardens, River Towers, Sherwood Estates, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, William H. Randall, Williamsburg Manor, Williamsburg Manor North.

PRESIDING: Mack Rhoades

SECRETARY'S MINUTES: Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Membership renewal forms were available. See the website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: George Bauer introduced Scott Kubly and Todd Wigglesworth of the County who spoke to us about the rationale for the Transportation Bond Issue on the November 2 Ballot. One hundred ten million of the one hundred sixty-five million dollars is slated to fund the county's share of the WMATA capital program. New rail cars and buses would be purchased and the current facilities would be maintained and improved. Metro ridership is growing 3-5% a year. As the present system is getting more crowded, cars and buses are aging. Metro helps to reduce the congestion, which costs all of us time, efficiency and productivity. Pat Rea said the FCFCA discussed the issue of liability of officers of citizens' associations. He suggested they look into this.

CO-CHAIRS' TIME: The Nominating Committee was approved. The slate will be presented in November and voted on in December.

RESOLUTIONS: P & Z's "Citgo" passed 20-0-0. The "Education Resolution" and Transportation's "Trail" passed 21-0-0.

SUPERVISOR'S TIME: Gerry thanked Louise Cleveland, the HHS committee and the Council for their work on the Mount Vernon Hospital issue. INOVA will devote more resources to Mount Vernon. However, a group of doctors is planning to start a group in Lorton. We must remain vigilant. The duck hunting blind has been removed from

NOMINATIONS FOR MVCCA OFFICER SHIP

The current three co-chairs have agreed to stand for reelection for the coming year: Errol Bergsagel, Mack Rhoades, Al Bornman. There is one other nominee for co-chair: David Dale, regular member and sometime acting chair of the Planning and Zoning Committee. No nominee for Secretary has been identified at this time. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the November Council meeting. A nominee must have agreed to serve prior to being nominated.

NOTICE: ANNUAL DUES NOTICE AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/APPLICATION IS NOW ON THE WEBSITE AND ALSO IS CURRENTLY BEING MAILED TO CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS.

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Little Hunting Creek. The County will work with the State to prohibit such hunting in heavily populated areas. JPI, the developer of the King's Crossing site, still wants too much residential and is not proposing the types of building materials that will allow for taller buildings. The right of way on Route #1 must be established so that developers can know where to build. Rail must be factored in as well.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Budget & Finance Committee met on November 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room at Walt Whitman Middle School. Attending were with guest speakers **Barbara Emerson**, Fairfax County Budget Specialist and **Marcia Wilds**, Fairfax County Revenue Specialist along with representatives of seven MVCCA member associations: Hollin Glen, Hollin Hills, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Williamsburg Manor, Huntington, Potomac Valley / Riverbend, and Wessington Homes. Mike Coughlan also attended. Mike continues to serve as a consultant to our organization.

Fairfax County continues to provide excellent management for its citizens and there are a number of statistics to support this position. For example, the County continues to provide an increasing economy in scale in the services provided to us.

Positions per 1000 Residents				
FY 1991	FY2002	FY2003	FY 2004	FY 2005
13.57	11.47	11.41	11.18	11.06

Raising the revenue to pay for our services continues to not be without complications.

The Current Trend in Commercial Real Estate:

Background: Fairfax County was a major beneficiary of the Internet Boom experienced in the 1990's with a peak experienced approximately in 2001 (which corresponds to our FY 2002). The table below shows that even though the County benefited from this boom by the growth of commercial real estate in the County, FY 2002 was not the period that resulted in the highest percentage of real estate revenue being paid by taxes on commercial properties. Commercial real estate vacancy rates are improving; however, the current trend is not expected to change until FY 2006 or sometime later.

Commercial/Industrial percentage of total real estate assessment base:

FY 1990	26.76% (Highest in over a decade)
FY 1996	19.04% (Lowest in decade – previously)
FY 2002	24.84%
FY 2003	21.97%
FY 2004	19.14%
FY 2005	18.20%
FY 2006	Expected to drop further.

Change in Car Tax Revenue Formula:

The revenue sharing arrangement between Fairfax County and the State for personal property (the car tax) taxes is in the process of being changed. The car tax revenue is collected by and retained by Fairfax County. When the State legislated a reduction in the car tax for cars having a value of less than \$20,000, the State promised to make up this loss in revenue to the County. A new formula will be in place to restrict the amount of relief for the reduction of the car

tax revenue in the future. The amount of reimbursement to the County will be fixed. Any future growth in the number of cars in the County will not result in any increased revenue reimbursement from the State. The amount of car tax relief provided by the State for additional cars located in Fairfax County will either be lost or the County would have to make up this revenue.

Meal Tax Referendum Requirement:

As we have discussed in the past, Fairfax County does not have as diversified a tax base as it should which causes the real estate taxpayer to provide a higher percentage of the revenue for the County than the BOS would like. All other adjoining taxing authorities levy a meals tax on their robust restaurant economies. Currently, Fairfax County is allowed to implement a meals tax, but only if approved by referendum. **Normand Lussier** of Hollin Glen has accepted the responsibility of drafting a resolution on this matter to potentially be submitted to the Board of MVCCA for presentation to the Council.

Real Estate Tax Relief for Senior Citizens or Disabled Citizens:

The State regulates the amount of assets that a taxpayer can have and be able to qualify for real estate tax relief in Fairfax County. In the FY 2005 Adopted Budget, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's (BOS) provided that Fairfax County would allow Fairfax County citizens to have the maximum amount of assets and still be eligible for some tax relief. This allowable amount has been raised to \$340,000 from the previous amount of \$240,000 in assets held other than one's personal residence and up to one acre of land on which the residence is located. **Phyllis Evans**, Treasurer of MVCCA, has agreed to do an analysis of this increase to see if our committee should recommend that Fairfax County again go to the maximum allowed by the State.

We again wish to thank Barbara Emerson and Marcia Wilds for being so generous with their time given to us.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in the conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Consumer Affairs did not meet this month because its meeting date fell on Election Day. We will meet on Tuesday, December 7th at 7:30 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Governmental Center (Parkers Lane) to develop a list of topics for 2005. It will not be a long meeting, so please attend so we can provide an interesting list for our members. Please note that the guest speaker that was scheduled to speak on general and mandated civic and home/condominium owners' association issues will be re-scheduled as a guest speaker for the general membership during 2005. Check the Record monthly for the date.

EDUCATION

The Education Committee of the MVCCA met Wednesday, November 3, 2004, at 8 pm, in the library of Whitman Middle School. The following associations were represented: Randall Estates, Sulgrave Manor, Belle Haven Estates, Potomac Valley Riverbend, Mt. Vernon Farms, Williamsburg Manor North, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, and Mount Vernon Civic.

The chair welcomed guest Andy Hawkins, Director of Budget Services for FCPS, who gave a presentation on the school budget process including the various revenue streams, inputs, and timelines.

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He also provided interim information on development of the FY2006 budget which will be presented in January 2005.

One particularly positive development noted by Hawkins is that the Superintendent and the current school board are taking a more collaborative, and thus more pro-active, approach to the development of the budget rather than the board simply reacting to the more finalized version in January. Similarly, the Superintendent and the School Board are working more closely with the Board of Supervisors and at an earlier stage to discuss both the schools' needs and the county's resources. All these factors should reduce the acrimony and misunderstanding created by compartmentalization and budget by "ambush".

Another initiative which should help the process is that the School Board and FCPS are working on setting priorities on a five year plan basis. The plan created will drive future budgets and provide more information to the public and the Board of Supervisors on the direction and needs of the schools over a longer period than the one-year actually funded.

In response to committee comments, particularly on the manner of presentation of the FY2005 budget, Hawkins also stated his office is looking into improving the public presentation to better educate the taxpaying public on the needs of the system, both funded and unfunded, and on the cost-effectiveness of the schools and administration.

Hawkins also discussed that enrollment is stabilizing thus reducing the tremendous costs the system has faced in accommodating new students in a system with little or no excess capacity. However, while the gross enrollment numbers are stabilizing, the percentage of students who need more help and are therefore more expensive to educate (non-English speakers, those with learning, physical or mental disabilities, poor and minority) continues to rise. Thus, costs will continue to rise even where enrollment is the same.

Initiatives to increase after school activities, particularly at the middle school level, as part of community wide efforts to improve achievement and combat drugs, gangs and other inappropriate behavior, will also inevitably add to the school budget.

After Hawkins' presentation, the committee also discussed Superintendent Dale's speech at the October public meeting attended by the committee. The chair was directed to draft a possible letter highlighting points of interest and our local concerns.

Next meeting: December 1, 2004, 8 pm, Whitman MS library
Speaker: TBD

In response to committee questions, Hawkins also noted that his office is looking at ways to better present the budget

ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

The Environment and Recreation Committee met 7:30 PM Wednesday Nov 3 in Room E-114 Mt Vernon High School. Attending were: Hollin Hills, Hollin Hall Village, Mt Vernon CA, Mt Vernon Manor (and MVCCA co-chair, Mt Vernon on the Potomac, Mt Zephyr, Riverside Estates (2), Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Sulgrave Manor and Williamsburg Manor.

The committee discussed the **Lorton Arts Center resolution** presented to the full Council and subsequently pulled from

consideration in February 2004. The Lorton Arts Foundation (LAF) has Board of Supervisors approval to lease the Old Medium Security Prison grounds for 99 years for their project. Currently, LAF employs Greenhorn and O'Meara a development consultants. The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) County Planners and Reviewers have been regularly meeting with Greenhorn and O'Meara to discuss storm water detention, potentially matching a performance standard to that of an undeveloped lot. This cooperative collaboration has led these agencies to consider Storm Water devices that could be employed on this site. Discussions between these parties affirm the feasibility to employ myriad storm water devices. From bio-retention, porous pavers, underground detention, rain gardens to green roofs the storm water management could accommodate 2 _ inches of rain. Currently the site passes water after the first 1/4 inch of rain. This detention plan could make this a premier demonstration Storm Water Management site for the "Best Managed County" in the nation.

Because this facility is still owned and operated by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The committee felt it necessary to re-iterate its position of making this public site the best example of storm water management. The final Plan for this site is to be completed by the end of November 2004. The committee voted unanimously to resubmit the **Lorton Arts Center Resolution**, making sure that all feasible Storm Water controls are incorporated.

The Committee was briefed on the **Comprehensive Plan Policy Amendment, Chesapeake Bay Supplement**. This Supplement Amendment will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on November 15.

The Supplement was developed to satisfy requirements from Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance Board (CBLAB). The Supplement includes all pertinent information from various County Agencies to "adjust" the County Policy Plan.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 7:30 PM, Dec 1, Room E-114, Mt Vernon High School.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

H/HS Committee met Nov. 4 with 10 member associations represented: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on Potomac, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hills (2), Mount Vernon Civic, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac, Stratford on Potomac-Sec.4, Williamsburg Manor. The meeting focused on 3 agenda items: (1) Inova's announcement concerning plans for Mount Vernon Hospital (IMVH) and a Lorton healthplex, (2) Availability of public information for discerning needs and locating resources in county Human Services Region I (which includes the Mount Vernon District and both sides of the Route 1 Corridor), and (3) H/HS Committee's agenda for monthly meetings, Jan-July 2005.

Inova's "October surprise" on Mount Vernon Hospital's future

[MVCCA has stated its position in two Resolutions, "Public Support for Saving Mount Vernon Hospital," July 2003, and "Public Support for the Southeast Health Planning Task Force Recommendation," July 2004, MVCCA Record, on our web site: www.MVCCA.org. Also in The Record are key developments, in monthly H/HS Reports (July 2003—present). Supervisor Hyland's Mount Vernon District web page provides Hospital news that links to the full 4-page "Report of the Southeast Health Planning Task Force to the Community and the Trustees of the Inova Health System,

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March 1, 2004." On Aug. 26, MVCCA sent a letter to Inova's CEO and 2 Boards, transmitting the Council's unanimous support for the 4-point Task Force Recommendation (as expressed in our July 2004 Resolution). Inova's Oct. 5 response to MVCCA, described in the October Record, is also posted on our web site]

At last, a crucial, positive step toward resolving public concern over the future role of our Hospital! On October 19, IMVH Administrator Susan Herbert announced—to a small gathering of local press representatives, elected officials, and a few Task Force members—that Inova's management will give "its full recommendation" to its Board of Trustees that IMVH continue to provide the services the community has come to expect at the Parker's Lane site and that Inova also develop a Lorton healthplex with 24-hour emergency services, as well as outpatient and diagnostic services, and physician offices. At IMVH, expansion of the Wound Healing Center and endoscopy, plus a major upgrade of the diagnostic "imaging platform," are among the enhancements promised so far, with medical staff proposals for others said to be taking shape. On Oct. 26, Inova published its press release via web site (www.inova.com), confirming key points in the announcement. Inova management's recommendations concerning goals and plans for southeastern Fairfax are expected to come to the Board of Trustees in early December, in conjunction with other major capital commitments that will require Board approval.

H/HS committee discussion focused on the continuing need for public information concerning proposals and capital commitments to enhance IMVH services and facilities as well as to plan for a Lorton healthplex. "Stay tuned" is our advice to the Council and the public.

Public information re needs and resources

The New Yorker Magazine, Oct. 25, reported on "an old age just above the poverty line," by following the daily life of a retired resident of our local Mount Vernon House, "one of the few privately owned and operated buildings in northern Virginia subsidized by the Dept. of Housing and Urban Development." A pension and social security income of a few hundred dollars/year above the federal poverty line means she is eligible for just \$10/month in food stamps and does not qualify for Medicaid for her prescription medicines. Read on, if you care to understand realities behind the title, "Not Poor Enough," or to think about the role of our local network of public and private services.

To move from awareness of an individual neighbor's situation to public discussion of planning policies—in human services as well as education, public safety, transportation and other areas—citizens can make use of an increasingly informative array of web-based county "Maps, Stats & Facts" (see the county home page, www.fairfaxcounty.gov). Under "Community Assessment," and "Human Services Regions," you will find a trove of information—countywide and also sorted for our HS Region I—that can provide insight. Where do people work, how far do they commute, and how many have no health insurance? Down-loadable pages for Region I, from "2000 Census Profiles by Human Services Regions," were distributed to committee members for discussion.

Helping a neighbor find local resources to meet a wide range of needs may begin with a call to the multilingual team for "Fairfax County Coordinated Services Planning." **703 222-0880**. Your call will go directly to our local team, in the South County Center, who match people and family situations with programs for which they are eligible (including those that specialize in filling "eligibility" gaps and meeting emergency needs). H/HS members are pleased to note that a number of resource listings are updated

regularly and available on web, including the "Quick Guide 2004" for public and private agencies serving Northern Virginia and the Fairfax County "Human Services Resource Guide." H/HS members received a "Quick Guide" booklet as well as pamphlet guides to programs supervised by the Community Services Board (mental health, mental retardation, and alcohol and drug services), and an "Emergency Services Rt. 1 Corridor, Spring 2004" list of essential contact numbers.

Looking ahead

In monthly meetings through July 2005, H/HS Committee members plan to focus in the following areas:

Dec. 7 Community emergency preparedness—Can neighborhoods do more? *Jan. 4 Affordable housing*—What steps are possible toward a healthy mix? *Feb 2-March 1 Matching needs with resources*—How do we view the proposed FY2006 county budget?, *April 5-May 3 Enabling communities* (through options for child care, eldercare, youth afterschool and summer activities, adult education in language and job skills, mentoring programs, et al.) *June 7 Protective services*—preventing and responding to abuse, *July 5 Caregiving*—long-term care at home, in the community, and via "long distance." Please note that the announced focus may change, with availability of guest resources, and meetings will usually include discussion of other ongoing concerns. Committee members welcome other interested citizens and invite their participation.

Community meetings—all are open to the public

Tuesday, Nov. 30, Route One Task Force for Human Services plans a "Pot Pourri" format, an information exchange among local service providers, with Deputy County Executive Verdia Haywood and Supervisor Gerry Hyland participating, 7 p.m., South County Center 2nd flr Conference Room, 8350 Richmond Hwy. Anne Andrews, Convener, 703/780-1773.

Thursday, Dec. 2, Southeast Health Planning Task Force holds its next scheduled meeting, 7 p.m. South County Center. Chair Anne Andrews, 703/780-1773.

Tuesday, Dec. 7, MVCCA Health and Human Services

Committee, meets 7:30 p.m., IMVH Conf. Room C. H/HS Chair Louise Cleveland, 703/780-9151. How Can Neighborhoods Prepare for Emergencies?

PLANNING & ZONING

The Planning and Zoning Committee meeting on November 1, 2004, was attended by 20 associations: Bellehaven Terrace, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Marlin Forest/ Marlan Heights, Montebello, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Zephyr, New Gum Springs, Newington, Potomac Valley/River Bend Estates, Riverside Estates, Spring Bank, Stratford on the Potomac Section 4, Southwood, Tauxemont, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, and Williamsburg Manor, Williamsburg Manor North. The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 6, 2004, at 7:30 pm at Walt Whitman Intermediate School.

The committee heard six matters including three land use cases, one land use case that had been presented for information at the October 2004 meeting, one transportation and land use matter that was presented to both the Transportation and Planning and Zoning Committees, and one other matter. The committee passed four resolutions. The P&Z Committee learned that the October 2004 presentation for information concerning the Springhill Senior Campus, where the 80-unit building for senior housing was to have been destroyed and two smaller buildings were to be built instead has been scraped and the Springhill Senior Campus will be constructed as previously approved by the P&Z.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Associations represented: Hollin Hall, Mount Zephyr, Potomac Valley River Bend, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac Sect IV, Waynewood, and Williamsburg North.

The committee reviewed again the final version of the resolution entitled 'Distracted Motor Vehicle Drivers' which the committee had revised slightly, and passed in both September and October. (The Transportation Committee also again reviewed it in September and passed it in October.) Copies from the internet on the issue of cell phone usage and hands free cell phone use studies were also available for review. The District of Columbia regulation banning the use of hands free cell phones by drivers, but while permitting the use of hands free devices was provided again. There were no further changes proposed. The membership again endorsed the resolution and forward it to the MVCCA Council for approval.

The committee then considered a request from the Fairfax County Chief Magistrate to Fairfax County for a supplemental allowance from the County. Magistrates are paid by the Commonwealth. Their salaries begin at \$20,375. The Chief Magistrate earns \$43,396 a year. The Commonwealth salary does include a slight cost of living allowance for those in the cities and counties around Washington but it is not sufficient to retain them. The Chair noted that the committee had supported this request several times in previous years and he had provided testimony to this at the Board of Supervisors review of proposed budgets. The committee decided that the Chair should send a memo to Supervisor Hyland requesting that he ask the County Executive include a supplemental allowance in the proposed budget for FY 2006.

The Chair then brought the committee up to date on the progress of the Delancey St. replication in Fairfax County. At present, the effort is being spearheaded by the Fairfax County Community Criminal Justice Board (CCJB). The Chair is a member of the CCJB. The CCJB has formed working groups to complete the next steps: 1. Form a Steering Committee, 2. Develop draft Articles of Incorporation, 3. Identify funding for intern support, 4. Conduct site visits to existing Delancey St. replications to learn from their experiences in setting up the sites and in training the initial membership. The Milton Eisenhower Foundation will continue to support this effort with some limited funding. Abubakr Karim and Clifton Johnson who are leading a similar effort in the District of Columbia, that is further along, have agreed to assist us. Arlene McDermott, who was former Governor Baliles's administrative assistant, and Richard Faulkner, who has extensive experience in directing probation and parole agencies, have agreed to lead this initiative.

The Chair provided recent information on the District of Columbia's effort to control the passage of hazardous chemicals through the District. The District introduced legislation almost a year ago to bar hazardous material shipments on a CSX rail line which runs through the city. Each year, as many as 8,500 rail cars carrying chlorine, ammonia, and hydrochloric acid roll through the city. A total of about six million tons of chemical freight go through the city along the CSX line, passing within four blocks of the Capital, south of the Mall and across the Potomac River. The National Capital Planning Commission would like to have a study to move the line. The Transportation Security Administration has missed several self imposed deadlines to address the issue. In the interim, the District has draft legislation requiring that permits be approved by the District before hazardous materials could transit the District. How they will implement this requirement is unclear. However, the issue is of concern to both Maryland and Virginia because of the possibility that, without notice to them, rail cars awaiting clearance might be placed unguarded on side rails in either state while the railway awaits clearances

for the rail cars to transit the District. Mayor Williams has stated he will sign the DC legislation when it is passed by the DC Council.

Copies of a paper prepared by Judge Cassidy concerning the new penalties for DUI conviction were provided to members and reviewed by the committee.

The Public Safety Committee's next meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, December 9 in Community Room #2, Mount Vernon Governmental Center. Note: this is the second Thursday rather than the usual first Thursday of the month.

TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met jointly with the Planning and Zoning Committee, on November 1, 2004 at 7:30 PM in the Walt Whitman Middle School (WWMS) Lecture Hall and subsequently, at 8 PM independently in the Media Center. Attending were Errol Bergsagel, Co-Chair MVCCA; Earl Flanagan, Mt Vernon District Transportation Commissioner; and 20 representative of MVCCA member organizations: (Belle Haven, Belle Haven Terrace, Berkshire, Collingwood Springs, Huntington, Marlan Forest Heights, Montebello, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Zephyr, Spring Bank, Stratford on the Potomac, Southwood, Tauxemont, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Westgrove, Williamsburg Manor, Woodland Park); and one interested citizen.

In the joint meeting with Planning and Zoning (P&Z) a briefing by Fairfax County staff on amending the Comprehensive Plan to conform with planning recommendations for the Kings Crossing was presented (see P&Z minutes). Subsequently a request was received from P&Z for a rapid approval of a draft resolution to be provided soonest and in advance of a pertinent meeting, which will address the questions why the County sees a need for an out-of turn amendment, why there is a deviation from the Task Force recommendations, and why there is a need for excessive community disruption. As soon as the draft resolution is received by the Chair, it will be e-mailed for approval, changes or disapproval to all Transportation Committee members.

After reconvening in an independent meeting, Committee members received a power point briefing from Mr. Robert Brubaker, of Metroped entitled "Walkable Community Workshop". The briefing provided guidance to increase pedestrian safety by providing sidewalks separated from roadways, crossing islands, improved intersection layouts and proper application of paint as a first and inexpensive measure. Committee members were requested to provide recommendations for the placement of safety islands along Highway #1 to the next meeting.

Mr. Flanagan briefed on the current status of Route #1 planning, to include planning at the Kings Crossing. VDOT has now been convinced that a comprehensive Mass Transit Study will have to be completed before the layout of Highway #1 can be finalized. Such a study will examine all options for mass transit along or adjacent to Highway #1 from the Huntington Metro to Fort Belvoir. Problems with construction of Heavy Rail, Light Rail and Monorail were highlighted which will affect costs, the width of the highway and topography.

The Chairman indicated a need to develop a status chart which will reflect the status and follow-up on resolutions submitted by the Transportation Committee and acted upon by the Council. This will be pursued at the next meeting.

Due to time constraints, Updates on numerous outstanding issues were not presented. The Chair will insure that this item will be covered at the next meeting, Monday, December 6 at 8 PM in the WWMS Media Center. Agenda to be announced.

Review of Plan for Lorton Arts Center Workhouse

WHEREAS, Whereas, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors owns property known as the "Workhouse", and

WHEREAS, Lorton Arts Foundation obtained a 99 year lease and rezoning at the "Workhouse" site of the old Lorton Prison,

WHEREAS, the Lorton Arts Center will be submitting a plan for review about the end of November 2004, and

WHEREAS, the Mt Vernon Council of Citizens Associations Planning and Zoning Committee's approved resolution describes this rezoning to be "environmentally friendly", and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Lorton Arts Foundation has publicly proclaimed it also to be "environmentally friendly" development, and

WHEREAS, the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (NVSWCD) has received two grants from Virginia Dept of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) at this adaptive re-use site, to develop a feasibility plan for incorporating Low Impact Development (LID) practices at this site, and

WHEREAS, a collaborative relationship between Fairfax County, Northern Virginia Soil Water Conservation District, Lorton Arts Foundation has been established to pursue this initiative, and

WHEREAS, this collaboration has found rain gardens, porous pavers, underground detention, bio- retention areas and green roofs to be feasible at this site,

WHEREAS, the amount of storm water run-off can be controlled up to 2 _ inches of rain, and

WHEREAS, the site currently passes water after 1/4 inch of rain, and

WHEREAS, downstream areas will be further affected by the passing of water from this site, and

WHEREAS, LID practices can be as or more effective than conventional Storm Water Management (SWM) practices for storm water detention and water quality improvement, and

WHEREAS, LID practices can be no more costly than conventional storm water controls, and

WHEREAS, the use of all feasible LIDs could serve as a "showcase project" of correctly planned innovative storm water controls that demonstrate the benefits of LID techniques.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations requests that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors require implementation of all feasible LID storm water quantity and quality controls, as per the above collaboration of the involved parties, on this site plan as a development condition.

RZ 2004-MV-019, GBI Corp., Sydenstricker Road

WHEREAS, GBI Corp. proposes to rezone 7.3 acres on Sydenstricker Road from R-1 to R-3;

WHEREAS, GBI Corp. has worked diligently to overcome the problems with this site by providing a stormwater management pond as well as a Best Management Practices pond to assist the water problems on the land of the adjacent homeowners to the northwest;

WHEREAS, GBI is providing public streets that will give the new 18 homeowners the advantages of wider streets and more parking;

WHEREAS, GBI is providing a significant tree save area that will enhance this new neighborhood;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations does not oppose this proposed rezoning.

PCA 80-L-070, SE 2004-MV-020, Handyman Concrete

WHEREAS, the applicant requests approval of a Special Exception to permit development of a concrete batch mixing plant in accordance with Section 9-501 of the Zoning ordinance;

WHEREAS, the applicant requests a proffered condition amendment to divide a property zoned as I-6 into two parcels;

WHEREAS, the property is located on the west side of Gunston Cove Road south of Lorton Road and east of I-95;

WHEREAS, Handyman Concrete has come before the South County Federation (SCF) which has approved the proffers of the applicant;

WHEREAS, Handyman Concrete has included as proffer #19 that its truck drivers will not use a winding hilly unsafe section of Lorton Road and has worked with the local homeowner's associations to accomplish this agreement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations does not oppose this special exception and proffered condition amendment.

RZ-2004-LE-012, Madison Development Partners, Proposed Groveton Heights Project on the Old Groveton Elementary School Site

WHEREAS, The Fairfax County staff accepted rezoning application RZ-2004-LE-012 (Madison Development Partners) on April 6, 2004;

WHEREAS, The applicant is requesting to rezone the 4.59 acre site from C-3 (office zone) to the PRM (planned residential mixed use zone) to allow for the development of approximately 300 residential units that would provide sixty-eight dwelling units per acre, with ancillary retail and office os approximately 10,000 square feet at a 1.8 FAR up from .7 FAR;

WHEREAS, this proposal also includes a substantial above ground parking garage thus excluding any park like amenities for the proposed 300 dwelling units;

WHEREAS, the land at the old Groveton school site was exchanged with the developer of the South County Center;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Former Groveton Elementary School and proposed south County Government Center Sites Master Sales and Development Agreement (Development Agreement), dated February 11, 2000, the developer agreed to build a Class A office building of 70,000 square feet at this site that is currently zoned commercial (C-3);

WHEREAS, the Development Agreement contained a buy-back option but the County apparently has not thoroughly explored all purchase options;

WHEREAS, the County has not thoroughly considered the effect of such a high density development along Richmond Highway and the attendant increased congestion;

WHEREAS, The statement by the developer "even during the high office demand years of the high-tech/communication office driven boom, this location was unsuccessful in attracting a tenant" indicates that the developer understood the lack of "near term" feasibility of the site for a Class A building;

WHEREAS, The existing site, although undeveloped, is not a blighted property and could remain undeveloped without adverse effect on the area;

THE COMMITTEE resolutions

WHEREAS, The economy is improving, significant development is expected at Fort Belvoir and throughout the corridor over the next 10 years;

WHEREAS, it is generally understood that revitalization is a long term effort that will span more than a decade and that job forecasts predict consistent and significant increased job growth over the next decade; ²

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations opposes this particular dense rezoning of the old Groveton School Site;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations requests the BOS wait at least an additional 5 years (Summer 2009) before considering any rezoning or out-of-turn plan amendments applications; and that such applicants present their case to the MVCCA;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations requests that the original 70,000 square foot office building be constructed with a possible 10,000 square foot retail component and that the 300 residential units be severely restricted to a much smaller number of about 50;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT: the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County explore all purchase options, as explained in good faith to the citizens, especially where it appears that the value of the property is substantially greater than the proposed buy-back price and that potential lost taxes will be insignificant compared to a resale of the property.

¹ Source: <http://www.sfdc.org/Press/FairfaxPRMDistrictProposed.html> from The Fairfax Newsletter, by Gina McQuinn, Thursday, April 15, 2004; Page 1.

² Source: <http://www.gmpolicy.net/cra/forecasts.htm> Last chart "State of the Market 2004 Greater Washington Commercial Association of REALTORS - February 17, 2004."

S04-CW-T1, Kings Crossing, Richmond Highway

WHEREAS, an out-of-turn plan amendment has been submitted to change the language in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan regarding the intersection of Kings Highway and Richmond Highway and the immediately surrounding areas;

WHEREAS, the amendment, as presented in the staff report, would have a severe negative impact on the established communities from increased cut-through traffic and safety issues for pedestrians;

WHEREAS, the amendment, as presented in the staff report, does not coordinate the transportation and environmental needs with land use planning, specifically the redevelopment of Kings Crossing and the Penn Daw area and varies significantly from the MVCCA previously approved Kings Crossing resolution;

WHEREAS, there does not appear to be an urgent need that justifies consideration of an out-of-turn amendment rather than using the normal Area Plan Review process which begins next year, and

WHEREAS, the amendment, as presented in the staff report, does not address any public transportation options, and

WHEREAS, the amendment, as presented in the staff report, is sufficiently lacking in details to permit reliable evaluation of impacts or may allow future transportation related construction that was not envisioned,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations requests that the Board of Supervisors not act upon this out-of-turn plan amendment and re-submits these changes to the Comprehensive Plan during the regular Area Plan Review process, at which time coordination and integration of transportation, including transit options, and land use can be accomplished and impacts on surrounding areas can be better assessed.

Distracted Motor Vehicle Drivers

WHEREAS, population growth, growth in numbers of vehicles, and resulting traffic congestion in Northern Virginia require that drivers' full attention be given to operating their vehicles; and

WHEREAS, 'distracted driving' is the result of unsafe operation of a vehicle caused by inattention; and

WHEREAS, in recent years there has been rapid growth in the number of and use by drivers of personal communications technologies, such as hand held cellular telephones and other hand held communications devices (hereafter referred to as mobile telephones) ; and

WHEREAS, the police of the various Northern Virginia jurisdictions have not been required to maintain statistics on the number of accidents in which the use of these devices is a factor; and

WHEREAS, empirical information and experience indicate that the use of these mobile telephones by drivers has significantly contributed to the unsafe operation of vehicles and to the number of motor vehicle accidents; and

WHEREAS, drivers of operating vehicles should be discouraged from the use of these mobile telephones for other than emergency situations related to roadway safety or health issues; and

WHEREAS, drivers with a learner's permit should not be permitted to use these mobile telephones while operating motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, there is currently no direct fine for the use of these mobile telephones by drivers when operating a vehicle or when these devices are a factor in vehicular accidents, and

WHEREAS, school bus drivers should not use these mobile telephones except in emergency situations while operating school buses, because they must not only drive the bus but be responsible for order among the passengers; and

WHEREAS, hand-free accessories for these mobile telephones are available that, when installed and used, permit the driver to keep both hands on the steering wheel when it is necessary to use a mobile telephone; and

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia has implemented a law concerning distracted driving, and has set a fine of \$100 for drivers convicted of using hand held electronic devices while operating a vehicle.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) requests that the use of hand held mobile telephones by drivers operating motor vehicles shall not be permitted in Fairfax County except in emergency situations or by emergency personnel, such as ambulance, fire and rescue, or police; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, appropriate fines should be established for violating these regulations; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Fairfax County Police Department shall be required to keep in their vehicular accident reports whether a hand held mobile telephone was used by any of the motor vehicle drivers involved, as well as whether use of those devices was a factor in the vehicular accident; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the MVCCA requests the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to request the County Executive to review this issue and prepare regulations for enactment by the Board of Supervisors or, where not permissible, prepare a request for the General Assembly to either enact appropriate legislation for the Commonwealth or permit Fairfax County to enact the regulations; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Fairfax County should work with other jurisdictions in the Washington Metropolitan area to develop consistent distracted driver regulations to assist drivers in understanding and complying with them.

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS Treasurer's Report

For period from January 1, 2004 through November 10, 2004

	Budget 2004	Actual to Date	Budget to Actual (to date)
Balance Beginning Period		\$3,669.17	
RECEIPTS			
Dues*	\$4,819	\$4,671	-\$148
Record Subscriptions	\$450	\$480	\$30
Gala Income	\$3,972	\$4,265	\$293
Knowles Plaque Donations ¹	N/A	\$615	\$615
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$9,241	\$10,031	\$790
DISBURSEMENTS			
Record Expenses	\$4,700	\$3,701	-\$999
Administrative	\$696	\$414	-\$282
Gala	\$2,750	\$2,702	-\$48
Web Site	\$540	\$555	\$15
Knowles Plaque	\$0	\$1,148	\$1,148
Membership	\$75	\$0	-\$75
Postage	\$480	\$300	-\$180
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$9,241	\$8,820	-\$421
Balance Ending Period		\$3,729.34	

¹Includes balance forward of \$440.00

*Dues & Subscriptions paid for prior to 1/1/04 included in beginning balance

COMMITTEE CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 2004

MVCCA Board-MVGC-SUPV
Thursday, December 9th at 8:00 pm

Date/Day/Time	Comm.	Place	Chair	Phone
12/3 Th 7:30	H/HS	IMVH-C	Louise Cleveland	703.780.9151
12/7 T 7:30	COAF	MVGC	Queenie Cox	703.360.2414
12/1 W 7:30	BUDG	WWMS CR	George Bauer	703.768.1774
12/1 W 7:30	ENVR	MVHSE-114	Jim Davis	703.799.3278
12/1 W 7:30	EDUC	WWMS L	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
12/9 Th 7:30	PSAF	MVGC	Dallas Shawkey	703.360.2185
12/6 M 8:00	TRANS	MVGC	Frank Cohn	703.780.5698
12/6 M 7:30	PL/Z	WWMS LH	Diane Donley	703.780.2804

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