

Mount Vernon
Council
of Citizens'
Associations

# ecord ecord

By Subscription \$15.00 Per Year

Volume XXXVIII, No.6, JUNE 2006

#### **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday June 28th 2006 8 pm Mount Vernon Governmental Center (NOTE CHANGE)

#### **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	Al Bornmann
	Robert Reynolds
	Mack Rhoades
Treasurer	Phyllis Evans
Secretary	Carol Coyle
Editor	Dave Bolte
BUDG	George Bauer
COAF	Queenie Cox
EDUC	Judy Harbeck
ENVR	Jim Davis
H/HS	Louise Cleveland
PL/Z	David Dale
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey
TRANS	Frank Cohn
FCFCA	Judy Harbeck
SCAWH	Jerry Ireland

#### PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, May 24th 2006 8 pm in the Walt Whitman School Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

#### **MINUTES**

ATTENDING: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on the Potomac, Collingwood Springs, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Glen, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Hybla Valley Farms, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Zephyr, New Gum Springs, Newington, Newington Forest, Marlan Forest, Montebello Condo, Pinewood Lake Homeowners, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens River Towers, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Sulgrave Manor, United Voice at Kings Crossing, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor North, Co-chairs Bornmann, Reynolds, Rhoades; Committee Chairs Bauer, Cox, Harbeck, Davis, Cleveland, Dale, Shawkey, Cohn; Special Committee Chair Ireland; Editor Bolte

Supervisor Hyland was asked to speak first. He presented Board matters for the month and discussed: the ceremonial opening of the first span of the Wilson Bridge and anticipated opening to traffic and traffic pattern changes; the Army Environmental Statement as to the BRAC implementation; and traffic calming measures under consideration for Shelhorn Road and Boswell Avenue.

#### Announcements

Guest speaker for the September Council meeting will be Mr. Steve Sinclair, Fairfax County Utility Analyst, Department of Cable Communications and Consume Protection, speaking electric power purchase

Health and Human Services and Public Safety Committees will meet jointly, Thursday, July 6, MVGC-3.

The summer Fort Hunt Concert Series schedule is elsewhere in the RECORD

### THE COUNCIL minutes

Committee Chairs presented their reports, in order: Budget; Consumer Affairs, referring to the presentation to be made by the County Office of Consumer Affairs; Education, discussing the replacement of the Mount Vernon Cluster Chair and the Mount Vernon High School principal; Environment and Recreation, as to changes in construction plans for a residence on East Boulevard Drive on the Potomac, the JPI project, use of parks by nonresidents and the destruction of parkland surfaces by misuse including the possible installation of artificial turf, and procurement of parkland; Health and Human Services; Planning and Zoning, explaining deferral of the decision on the Walgreen Drug Store and coordination with the Transportation Committee; Public Safety, mentioning offering a residence for burning in connection with Fire Department training; Transportation, focusing on a request to VDOT for a four-year resurfacing plan for Mount Vernon District and affirmation of the expectation that Route One will contain six lanes all the way north to I-95/I-495; Special Committee for Affordable and Workforce Housing, discussing financing sources and comparing income for housing from proffers as compared with other sources. Judy Harbeck reported on activities of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations including consideration of steps to control parking on County streets. There was extensive discussion of traffic calming measures and steps by communities to request them and consideration as to their effect upon adjacent communities.

Resolutions were presented and considered: Washington Square Homes PCA-C-403-2, approved 26/0/0; Mount Vernon Hospital Amendment to SE 82-V-012, approved 26/0/0; and an R-TAP Resolution concerning County traffic procedures, which was amended and approved 10/6/9.

The Sulgrave Manor new president, Greg Scoma, was introduced. Mary Richards, Hybla Valley Farms, was recognized to discuss the Association position on the Walgreen Drug Store development plan.

Sponsored by Consumer Affairs Committee Chair Queenie Cox, Investigator Roy C. Seger, Consumer Protection Division, Fairfax Country and Alton Drew, Lead Investigator, Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, described measures taken by Fairfax County, and available to residents when needing assistance in procurement of goods and services, when providers fail to meet promised or adequate standards for contractual or other obligations.

### THE COMMITTEE reports

#### **BUDGET AND FINANCE**

The Budget & Finance Committee met on June 7th at 7:30 in the principal's conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School. Representatives from Hollin Hills, Stratford Landing, Williamsburg Manor, Williamsburg Manor North, Potomac Valley / Riverbend, Stratford on the Potomac, Sec. IV and Wessynton Homes attended. As in our previous two meetings, our discussions focus on improving our knowledge base on what it costs to live in Fairfax County. Our meeting focused on our continuing efforts to increase our knowledge base of the cost of living in Fairfax County. As we have stated previously, our reason for pursuing this is that mid-year FY 2006, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted to increase the dollar brackets making a resident over age 65 eligible for real estate tax relief if their income is between \$62,000 and \$72,000, provided their assets do not exceed \$340,000 (exclusive of one's residence).

After many years of dedicated community service, Jim Mengenhauser has resigned as the North Potomac Valley / Riverbend representative to the Budget and Finance Committee. We have always valued Jim's thoughtful and well researched input into the efforts of our committee. In leaving, Jim stated that he felt that the organization needed "new blood". While Jim makes a valid point, we may be losing something even more valuable: Jim's experience and knowledge base that can only be gained through time and effort. Jim brought his replacement, Chris Robinson, to introduce him to the committee. Chris is a realtor with McEnearney and has vested interest in real estate tax rates. Chris is enthusiastic and looks to be up to the challenge of working on our committee and we look forward to working with him.

Judy Harbeck, Chair of the Education Committee, visited our meeting to explain that the manner in which the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's (BOS) provided funds to the school system serves to infringe on the Fairfax County School Board's authority to allocate their budget. The BOS allocated more funds to the school system than originally proposed in the Advertised Budget, but in a manner so as to stipulate how the funds are to be spent. The School Board probably would have allocated the funds as the BOS dictated, but this sets up a precedent that the School Board is not required to follow. Judy indicates that her committee will initiate a resolution addressing the issue sometime in the early part of next year.

Robert Johansen, PhD, presented a set of power point slides summarizing his current research on the cost of living Fairfax County. We will not meet again until September which will give us time to digest Robert's report.

Our next meeting will be at 7:30 on Wednesday September 6th in the principal's conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School when we will continue to continue our work on this subject.

#### **CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

The Consumer Affairs Committee met on Tuesday, June 6th at 7:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School in the Principal's Conference Room. The following associations attended: Gum Springs, Hollindale, Mt. Vernon Lakes, Mt. Vernon Manor and Potomac Valley/River Bend.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Steve Sinclair, a utility analyst for the Fairfax County Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection. Mr. Sinclair spoke about electricity deregulation.

There are three components that appear on an electric bill: 1) distribution; 2) transmission; and 3) generation. Distribution and transmission is regulated. Generation is deregulated. During 1999, the Virginia Assembly passed the electricity deregulation law that goes into effect during 2010.

The three reasons for deregulation were 1) competition would lower prices, increase economic growth and create jobs; 2) there would be an increase of customer choices similar to telephone service; and 3) more competitors to enter the market.

The basis for passing the law have not occurred for a number of reasons to include: 1) fewer competitors have not entered the market that would have provided more choices to the consumer. However, unregulated subsidiaries of regulated providers have entered the market; 2) jobs were not created; and 3) the cost of marketing and retaining customers is costly which prevents providers from entering the market. Therefore, pricing will never be decreased under deregulation.

If the residents of Virginia do not familiarize themselves with the deregulation law, they will experience the same pain as Baltimore residents who recently were notified of a proposed 78% increase in their electric bill that goes into effect July 1st. Although Maryland legislators are now trying to take action to prevent this from occurring, it may be an uphill battle because Maryland allowed the service providers to sell their generation assets. Unlike Maryland, Virginia has a little more time before the law takes effect and can reverse their deregulation law because it did not allow the sell of generation assets.

A day after the Consumer Affairs meeting, on Wednesday, June 7th, local news stations reported that Delmara and Dominion were both seeking rate increases. Delmara is seeking a 59% rate increase and Dominion 53% for 2006.

To prevent what has happened in Maryland to Virginia residents, Virginia needs to educate its residents on what will happen when the price cap is lifted (deregulation). To provide information to its general membership, the Consumer Affairs Committee has extended an invitation to Mr. Sinclair to address the general membership during its September 27th meeting. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Consumer Affairs will have a "virtual" meeting for September to fine tune its plans for educating the MVCCA membership about the electricity deregulation law. To participate in this virtual meeting, please send your e-mail address to queenecox@aol.com. Otherwise, have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Consumer Affairs next "physical" meeting will be October 3rd at 7:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School in the Principal's Conference Room.

#### **EDUCATION**

The MVCCA Education Committee met at 8 pm on June 7, 2006, in the library at Whitman Middle School. Associations represented were: Wellington, Mount Vernon Farms, Stratford on the Potomac IV and Williamsburg Manor North.

At the May meeting with School Board Member Dan Storck, one subject discussed was the fact that, as a result of the announced retirement of Cluster IV Assistant Superintendent Dr. Calanthia Tucker in July and the approximately contemporaneous decision of MVHS Principal Eric Brent to move to a school in Prince William County, the schools will be instituting search and hiring processes for both positions.

The Chair reported on issues regarding the searches for a new Cluster IV (Mount Vernon and West Potomac pyramids) Assistant Superintendent and new MVHS principal which arose subsequent to the May meeting. Several committee members and the chair attended an informational meeting on the Cluster IV assistant superintendent search where they were surprised to learn that the incoming cluster assistant superintendent would not be involved in the selection process for the MVHS principal although that position is a critical part of the cluster leadership team. Since it appeared that the timing made some input possible and that best management practices indicated the cluster leader should have a voice in the selection of the team for which the leader is accountable and responsible, the Chair sent a letter to Superintendent Dale expressing concern and our expectation that all parties, including the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent, would take special care and personal interest in the process given the needs of MVHS and our Cluster generally. Several committee members, on behalf of their associations, sent similar communications.

Although as of this date, Dr. Dale has not responded to the Committee's letter, he did respond to members' e-mails and indicated that he intended that the new Cluster IV Assistant Superintendent would participate with him in the final hiring decision on the MVHS principal position. This is probably the best we could expect given that we also want both selection processes to proceed as expeditiously as possible so the new personnel have the summer to plan, meet with staff and make other hiring and instructional decisions.

The Chair, and a number of committee members, also responded to FCPS' requests for input on leadership characteristics and other qualities needed in both open positions, and on some of the issues and challenges to be faced.

The Chair also discussed concerns (which have also been discussed in the Fairfax Federation's Education Committee) about the Board of Supervisors' (BOS) handling of the FY2007 school transfer where, in providing some additional funds above the 6% guideline (although less than was recommended by MVCCA and the Federation), the BOS also apparently tried to reorder or "cherry pick" items from the School Board's priorities as expressed in the budget "Tiers". Although the BOS has no actual authority (or the expertise) to dictate how school funds are spent, there is concern that the attempt is a blurring of the lines between the BOS duty to

allocate funding to the schools, and the School Board's duty to expend the funding in the most effective manner. Moreover, it could led to a chilling of recent cooperative discussions and FCPS's efforts, through the tiers, to better explain priorities, costs and funding needs.

The Chair, prior to the Education Committee meeting had briefly discussed this issue with the Budget & Finance Committee which expressed similar concerns over the BOS' actions and a desire to participate if any further action is to taken.

It was decided that, since there is no particular immediacy to the issue, that the Chair meet with FCPS staff and school board members over the summer to determine the best course of action. Members of both committees will be advised of such meeting(s) in case any wish to attend.

The Committee decided it will not meet formally in July and August, so the next regular meeting will be in September. Over the summer, it is suggested that committee members who are interested try to meet with the principals of the schools in their association's area to make a personal connection, explain the work of our Committee and obtain insight into the needs of our schools to help direct the Committee's activities, budgetary and otherwise.

Next meeting: September 6, 2006, 8 pm, Whitman Middle School library.

#### **ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION**

The Environment and Recreation Committee met on June 7, 7:30 PM, Room E-114, Mt Vernon High School. Attending were: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hills, Mason Neck, Mt Vernon Civic, Mt Vernon on the Potomac, Mt Zephyr, "Spiegel's" Landing, Spring Bank, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington, Wessynton, Little Hunting Creek Watershed Committee, Fairfax County Park Authority (PA "Irish" Grandfield), Fairfax County Dept of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES Craig Carinci, Pete Schumann, Bob Dittmann and Valerie Tucker), Dominion Surveyors, Inc(George O'Quinn) and one homeowner (Scott Crabtree).

An opinion is awaited from the County Attorney's Office, regarding possible conflict of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Chapter 118 (C-Bay) and the Erosion and Sediment Chapter 104 (E and S)of the Fairfax County Code. At issue is C-Bay allowance to remove "invasive" plants from environmentally sensitive areas is canceled by the E and S. Permits, submission of plans and size of projects seem to be determining factors, suggested to be in conflict. This opinion could affect a proposed riparian restoration project at Mt Zephyr neighborhood Park.

"Cell Phone Soccer League" information packet was distributed to the Committee. In the past several years a growing reports and undesired "bi-products" of unauthorized/ not permitted sporting events have been reported to County Authorities. The Committee will address and hopefully recommend, with the Public Safety

Committee, MVCCA, an appropriate policy and action changes to keep this problem from degrading our parks and activities fields.

Kings' Crossing developers presented information on the proposed plan to turn over almost seven acres (the Fairchild property) to the Park Authority. There is general Committee agreement to the plan, its access and amenities. Storm water management will be very challenging because of the topography and amount of water coming from and across this property. The Park Authority will not accept the land until a stream restoration of that section of Quander Brook is finished. The developer is looking at three possible re-sites for a Dominion Power transformer station.

The Erosion Facilities Inspection Division (EFID)gave a power point presentation to the Committee. Slides showed possible violation reporting process and examples of good and bad erosion and sediment controls. The inspectors are skilled reviewers of plans, thus allowing them to make field corrections available at time of inspections or reports of violations. The environmental reviewers work very closely with the inspectors when correcting violations, doing inspections and other plans for the approximately 3200 projects going on in Fairfax County at any one time. Pictures were offered of reported RPA and wetland encroachments that were subsequently issued notices of violations. Timely addressing of these reported violations was questioned. Fairfax County has a schedule listing the time allowances for violations to remain and/or be corrected This is an area that the Committee would like to see shortened and "tightened up".

Next meeting: July 12 --note date change—7:30 PM Room E-114, Mt Vernon High School.

#### HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

H/HS Committee met June 6 on "Domestic Violence: Why does it require coordinated community-wide response" with 11 representatives participating: Belle Haven Terrace, Collingwood on Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon CA, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Zephyr, Stratford Landing, Stratford on Potomac-Sec. 4, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington, and Wessynton.

Domestic violence is a crime that occurs most often "behind closed doors" and in neighborhoods of every socio-economic and cultural character, nationally and countywide, including Mount Vernon District and County Human Services Region I. Its consequences extend far beyond the home and into the community. Our guest resource, for committee Q and A and discussion, was Seema Zeya, Fairfax County Domestic Violence Coordinator, who brings 15 years of experience in both legal and human services assistance to victims into her present work for Fairfax County.

Seema Zeya emphasized the complexity of recognizing as "domestic violence" a pattern of coercive behaviors, used by an individual to gain and/or maintain power and control over another individual in the context of an intimate/dating/familial relationship. This pattern is not a one-time "family fight," but a related series of coersive behaviors that grow more frequent and more severe: physical and

sexual violence as well as threats and intimidation; stalking; isolation and economic/financial control, "spiritual" abuse, and actual or threatened destruction of property or harm to family/pets/significant others. (This behavioral working definition excludes other kinds of legally defined "family abuse" not motivated by coercive control; it does encompass adult relationships, married or not, living together or separately.) The pattern is not based in mental illness or any known physiological traits of the abuser. Specifically, the behavior is generally NOT based on an abuser's lack of impulse "control" (though he may convince himself and others it is) but is a consciously chosen strategy and often well-disguised from neighbors, work colleagues, and even, at the outset, the person chosen for control.

This pattern of ongoing, related coercive behavior is likely to grow worse over time: such "domestic violence" is, statistically, a major cause of emotional and physical injury to women; men are also victims, and children who witness such violence are in real danger of absorbing and repeating self-destructive responses.

Fairfax County is focusing increased attention on understanding domestic violence and on building better coordination among the varied agencies that have a role in an effective response. In the past two years, creation of the new position of Domestic Violence Coordinator is one among several forward steps. The county has formed a Domestic Violence Prevention Policy and Coordinating Council with more than 30 representatives from key public and private nonprofit agencies in health care and human services, public safety, courts, and legal services. This Coordinating Council meets quarterly, chaired by County Executive Tony Griffin; ongoing subcommittees and working groups tackle numerous interagency issues and consider strategies adopted in other jurisdictions throughout the United States.

The County has also posted on its web site a "comprehensive guide on how to seek assistance from public and private human services agencies, the police and courts," the Domestic Violence Handbook, available as a PDF file to be downloaded and read or printed: www.fairfaxcounty.gov (click on Human Services). This source book, created by the Network Against Family Abuse (NAFA) in 2003, is especially useful because it describes how to recognize domestic abuse and how to access resources nearby, from counseling and temporary safe shelters to protection orders through a local magistrate. The Handbook is translated into multiple languages (Arabic, Farsi, Korean, Spanish, Urdu and Vietnamese) that reflect the diversity of languages spoken at home among people in our neighborhoods, our workplaces and our schools.

How can neighbors, and neighborhood association officers, respond appropriately? In situations of clear immediate danger or serious injury, call 911, of course. Emergency medical and public safety professionals in our county do have appropriate professional training and will help a victim access emergency shelter and other resources.

Keep in mind, however, that the "victim is the real expert" on the costs and dangers to self or others in attempting to leave a controlling relationship and may be afraid, with reason, to be perceived as looking for outside help. What the victim may need

most is reassurance that the abuse is not her/his fault and connection to trained service providers who will validate her/his right to make decisions, help the person plan for safety, and offer emotional support and counseling appropriate to her/his situation. Encourage the person to seek crisis/options counseling and ongoing assistance through these 24/hour hot lines: Fairfax County Women's Shelter (Voice/TTY) 703 435-4940;

Fairfax County Victim Assistance Network 703 360-7273; Or the National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE

(The last number can provide emergency counseling and can connect the caller to local services anywhere in the country, as

Community meetings—open to the public

Thursday, June 22, Southeast Health Planning Task Force, 6:30 p.m., Conf. Rm. C, Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. Anne Andrews, Chair, 703/780-1773. (The new Administrator of IMVH will be present.)

Thursday, July 6, MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee, 7:30 p.m., Mount Vernon Government Center Community Rm. 3, joint meeting with Public Safety Committee, with Community Services Board Exec. Director James Thur. Louise Cleveland, 703/780-9151

#### PLANNING AND ZONING

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. In attendance were representatives from the following associations: Bellehaven Terrace, Collingwood on the Potomac, Engleside, Hollin Hall Village, Hollin Hill, Huntington, Middle Valley, Montebello, Mr. Zephyr, New Gum Springs, Newington, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Sulgrave Manor, United Voice of Kings Crossing, Village at Gum Springs, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Wm. H. Randall, and Williamsburg Manor North. Two land use cases were heard; no resolutions were passed.

The first Monday in July is the 3rd. o avoid conflict with the holiday weekend, the Committee voted to reschedule the July meeting to the following Monday, July 10, 2006. The school will be closed, so the meeting will be held across the street in the community room of the government center.

The first case was an information only presentation for applications SP-99-V-013 and RZ-1999-MV-007 for the property at 7920 Holland Road in Gum Springs, tax map 102-11 ((01))-38A. This proposal is to rezone to R-5 to construct 5 single-family detached homes on approximately two acres. There were concerns about the plan to use a private road for access, the dedication of almost an acre as common area with such a small number of homes, the integration into the Gum Springs community, and the resolution of concerns from the Gum Springs community. No vote was taken.

The second land use case was a return presentation by JPI for the proposed Kings Crossing development at the intersection of Richmond Hwy and Kings Hwy, tax map 0833-01-0024A plus

some adjoining properties. The referenced applications are RZ-2005-MV-036 (Final Development Plan), RZ-2005-MV-037 (General Development Plan), SE-2005-MV-032 (Service Station/Mini-mart), and SEA-79-112-02 (Fast Food restaurant w/drive-through). The proposal is to consolidate Land Unit G and rezone the approximately 34 acres from C-8 to PRM to build the Kings Crossing town center: 676 residences, 200,200 sf retail, a 92,000 sf hotel, 212,000 sf office, and 8 acre wooded park, and a central plaza. A full build-out results in 32.8% commercial use, and 67.2% residential. The Planning Commission date is July 20. There were discussions about the proposed proffers, concerns about the ratio of commercial to residential space, and miscellaneous design elements. No vote was taken since there is no staff report yet, the Spring Bank Community has not voted, and the magnitude of the project dictates that communities have a chance to review the design before their representatives vote. Information about the design and photos of the display boards shown at the meeting are posted on the Committee's web site.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm. The next Planning and Zoning Committee meeting is Monday July 10, 2006, at 7:30 PM, in the community rooms of the government center on Parkers Lane, across from Whitman Middle School.

The Committee's web site www.mvcca-pz.org has additional information and supporting documents.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Associations represented: Hollin Hall, Hollin Hills, Mount Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, Southwood, Stratford on the Potomac Sect IV, Waynewood, and Wellington.

Our speaker was Capt. Mike Kline, Commander, Mount Vernon Police Station. As we requested, he began with an update on his current staffing situation. He has 118 officers assigned. Of these, two are serving with the armed forces in Iraq, seven are on light duty for various medical reasons, and one is in training. Essentially, he has 108 personnel available for regular duty. Of these, seven are assigned to the bike patrols, nine are detectives, five are school resource officers (SRO), two are traffic officers who work traffic congestion points during the day, six officers make up the surveillance team, one gang activity officer, and there is one crime prevention officer. For regular patrols, he has had about seven officers on duty during the day, nine in the evening, and eight on the night watch. The tight staffing requires that he use overtime to appropriately man his patrols. In addition, during the last month he has provided officers to the Sully Police Station so that their officers can recover from the recent deaths of two of their officers. With the additional officers he expects to get as a result of the increase in the number of police officers approved in the Fairfax County Budget for FY 2007, which starts July 1, 2006, he plans to have ten officers for each of those watches. It will be almost a year before he will have these officers because new officers must be hired, trained, and have an initial familiarization period before they are ready to serve as police.

Capt. Kline then provided some statistics on crime in the Mount Vernon District. Robberies have stayed about the same. In 2004 there were 136 versus 135 for 2005. This summer he will have a K-9 team of 11-14 officers who will take turns walking neighborhoods where robberies are prevalent. With regard to murder statistics, there are a few unsolved murders if you go back twenty or thirty years, but every one of the recent murders, over the last two or three years, has been solved or the police know who did it but they don't have enough evidence yet to make an arrest. All of these are not random murders, but rather are the result of domestic disputes or the result of fights between people who know each other. As a result of constant pressure, gang criminal activity is currently down and is expected to go down further this summer as it always does when school is out.

He discussed the use of sobriety check points. They are used for deterrence and for education purposes. Typically, they are set up for the four hour period 10pm through 2am. Because of Virginia Code requirements, they have to write an operations plan before they set up each sobriety check point. They set up one on April 15 on Richmond Hwy. They screened 518 vehicles. 16 drivers were detained. Of these, 3 were arrested for DWI and 10 were arrested for other traffic violations.

Finally, we had a discussion about complaints about the use of Collingwood Park which is located just west of the George Washington Parkway by West Blvd. and Chadwick Rd. Nearby residents have complained that too many persons (teams) are using it and destroying the playing fields. There is noise, trash, alcohol consumption, defecation/urination, and some confrontations with residents who complain to them. Some teams and snack vans have come from Maryland and don't have the required permits. Residents believe the police aren't there often enough and haven't responded to calls. Capt. Kline's review did not find any calls about the park. There is only one Don's John, very few trash cans, no sign with park rules, and limited parking space for the number of people who use it. Most of these problems must be corrected by the Park Authority. He will alert the police patrols to monitor that park on weekends and particularly on Sunday afternoon. (On the Sunday following this meeting, the Police did monitor the Park. Several parking citations were issued and Capt Kline provided additional recommendations. These will be followed up with the Environment and Recreation Committee.)

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held in Community Rm. 3, Mount Vernon Governmental Center beginning at 7:30pm, Thursday, July 6, 2006. Our speaker will be Jim Thur, the Director of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board. This will be a join meeting with the Health and Human Services Committee with emphasis on subjects of interest to both committees including jail diversion, homeless persons, and group homes in our area.

# **COMMITTEE** reports

#### TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met at 8 PM on June 5, 2006 in the Walt Whitman Intermediate School Library. Attending were Mr. Earl Flanagan, Mount Vernon District Transportation Commissioner; representatives of 21 member organizations (Belle Haven Terrace, Belle View Condo, Berkshire, Collingwood Springs, Hollin Hall, Huntington, Hybla Valley Farms, Marlan Forest Heights, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Zephyr, New Alexandria, New Gum Springs, Newington Forest, Potomac Valley-Riverbend, Stratford on the Potomac Section IV, Tauxemont, United Voices at Kings Crossing, Wellington, Westgrove, Woodland Park); and two interested citizens.

Mr. Alexander Lee of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project addressed the Committee, briefed them on the current status of bridge construction, the transition to the first span of the new bridge and aspects concerning pedestrian crossings on Route #1 at Fort Hunt Road and Huntington Avenue. The use of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge should be avoided during the next few weekends in June and July in view of lane closings designed to tie in the outer loop of the Beltway unto the new bridge in June and the inner loop in July. Thereafter the old bridge will be demolished and the second span completed for use in the Fall of 2008. Attendees were provided with the latest newsletter and a compact disk depicting details of the changeover. VDOT has now agreed to provide a pedestrian crossing at the Route #1/Fort Hunt Intersection. The trail from the Urban Deck in Old Town will tie-in with a sidewalk leading to the intersection. Proposals for a below bridge pedestrian passage for a tie-in with the Cameron Run trail which already has Oursman Ford's approval on their property, but would also need approval from the Hampton Inn owners, will be up for discussion. Hhowever numerous negatives were surfaced to include safety considerations that might weigh against such a plan. Mr. Lee promised to return in the fall to discuss traffic light timing that is critical to ensure smooth traffic flow and traffic turns. The jug-handle supporting the Fort Hunt intersection will be reopened in about 16-18 months primarily serving exiting outer-loop Beltway traffic and the business establishments on the west side of Highway #1. Southbound traffic on Route #1 will be able to turn left on two lanes into Fort Hunt while the Huntington intersection will be provided with but one left turn lane. Pedestrian crossing at Huntington will continue during construction and thereafter.

Mr. Earl Flanagan briefed the committee on three matters. He first advised on action taken to brief the Planning Commission on changes desired in the Comprehensive Plan. He, along with Mr. Neil McBride and Mr. Frank Cohn had briefed the Commission on the need for six lanes plus mass transit for the entire stretch of Richmond Highway throughout the County - this proposal received Board approval; the naming of the entire Connector Road (Route #1-Telegraph Road) as Mulligan Road - this proposal also received Board approval; the need for a truck exit to the County Resource Recovery Facility – this proposal will receive further study; and the need to bring maps and written descriptions into synchronization -the Board will have another meeting on this matter. A resolution was submitted to the Committee to delete references to LRT/BRT (Light Rail Transit/Bus Rapid Transit) on the Transportation Map for the Route #1 corridor since the final determination will await

the recommendations of the ongoing Transit Study that also is considering a heavy rail and a monorail option. The Resolution was passed unanimously with a vote of 21 in favor. The Resolution is printed elsewhere in the Record.

Mr. Flanagan further briefed on the status of the Parking Restriction Resolution passed by the MVCCA during a prior meeting. The Federation has not yet taken a position on this Resolution that is being shepherded by Mr. Flanagan, in his capacity as Transportation Committee Chair of the Federation. Federation members appear to be split on this issue.

Lastly, Mr. Flanagan indicated that he has intervened to have Old Mill Road declared an Historic By-Way, similar to action taken on Old Colchester Road; such designation will provide an upgrade of the two-lane road and sidewalks for improved safety

The Committee received updates on a number of other subjects. (1) The R-TAP Resolution passed narrowly at the last MVCCA meeting by a vote of 10:6:9. There was concern by some, that the "Impact Area" might be significantly larger, to the detriment of the "Petition Area" in any vote; some Presidents recommended a differentiation in the value of the votes between the two areas. The letter of transmittal to the Supervisor mentioned this concern. (2) Under the BRAC heading, money has been appropriated to start design/construction of Mulligan Road in FY'07. A meeting on the entire BRAC impact on Ft Belvoir is scheduled on 6/7/06 at the Springfield Hilton. (3) A meeting will be conducted on 6/7/06 with the Engineers, FCDOT and the Supervisor's staff on extending the sidewalk on the east side of Highway #1 from the Wyngate housing complex to the Engleside Office Park in conjunction with ongoing storm drainage work and to provide northbound turn lanes into the Post Office and the Wyngate complex along with a pedestrian safety island. (4) There is disagreement among neighboring civic associations concerning traffic patterns on Boswell Avenue to enter and exit the proposed Walgreen complex. Walgreen has failed to submit a final traffic lay-out to this Committee. The question of a feasibility of a turning lane into Walgreen on Boswell remains unanswered. (5) A letter has been sent by the Chair to the Supervisor advising him that the request for a 3-way stop at the Lukens/Old Mill Road intersection is not an R-TAP matter but strictly a matter of safety, in view of sight-line obstructions.

The next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for July 3, 2006 to be held in Multi-Purpose Room #3, in the Mount Vernon Government Center – Note Change of Meeting Place!!!

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

There was no meeting this month. Our next meeting is on Thursday June 29th at 7:00 PM.

### THE COMMITTEE resolutions

### RESOLUTION: FAIRFAX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION MAP

WHEREAS: the MVCCA Council has previously asked the Board of Supervisors to call for a transit study to select a type of rail transit comparable to the 2001 Beltway Rail Study which includes heavy rail, light rail, monorail and bus rapid transit, and

WHEREAS: the Board of Supervisors has asked the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation to undertake such a study, and

WHEREAS: the Virginia General Assembly has requested such a transit study, and

WHEREAS: no type of transit has yet been recommended by the pending study, and

WHERAS: the draft Fairfax County Transportation Map prematurely identified transit on Richmond Highway as "LRT/BRT" (Light Rail Transit and Bus Rapid Transit) when no study has yet been started, let alone completed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that Supervisor Hyland require the deletion of "LRT/BRT" on the draft Fairfax County Transportation Plan for transit on Richmond Highway and merely show it as planned for some type of mass transit.

### Fort Hunt Concert Series

**JUNE 18** 

Roots Rock & Roll **JUNE 25** Loudoun Jazz Ensemble Big Band, Jazz, Swing Doc's Big Band **JULY 9** Big Band, Swing

The Grandsons

**JULY 16** The Air Force Band's Max Impact

Rock

**JULY 23** Johnny & the Headhunters

Blues/Rock & Roll

**JULY 30** Blue Book Value

Swing Blues

AUG 6 Carla Ulbrich

Funny Folk

The concerts, free and open to the public, will be held on Sundays from 7:00-8:00pm. Bring a picnic and chair or blanket and enjoy the entertainment. In case of rain, the concerts will be held under the pavilion in Area A. Fort Hunt Park is located approximately 6 miles south of Old Town Alexandria, along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Plenty of free parking is available. This series is sponsored by the National Park Service, Mount Vernon Council of Citizens, Mount Vernon Voice, and generous donations from the community. For more information, please contact the National Park Service at (703) 289-2500, -2556, or -2552.

### MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report For period from January 1, 2006 through June 8, 2006

	Budget 2006	Actual to Date	Budget to Actual (to date)
<b>Balance Beginning Period</b>		\$2,188.93	
RECEIPTS			
Dues	\$4,500.00	\$4, 338.00	-\$162.00
Record Subscriptions	\$345.00	\$225.00	-\$120.00
Gala Income	\$2,645.00	\$2,833.00	\$188.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$7,490.00	\$7,396.00	-\$94.00
DISBURSEMENTS			
Record Expenses	\$4,800.00	\$2,619.43	\$2,180.57
Administrative	\$625.00	\$85.56	\$539.44
Gala	\$2,500.00	\$1,504.11	\$995.89
Web Site	\$690.00	\$270.00	\$420.00
Postage	\$400.00	\$100.00	\$300.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$9,015.00	\$4,579.10	\$4,435.90
Balance Ending Period 6/8/0	\$5,005.83		

### COMMITTEE CALENDAR FOR JULY 2006

#### MVCCA Board-SUPV Thursday July 13 7:30 pm

Date/	Day	Time/	Comm	Place	Chair	Phone
7/6	Th	7:30	H/HS	MVGC-3 (Note Change	Louise Cleveland	703.780.9151
10/3	W	7:30	COAF		Queenie Cox	703.360.2414
9/6	W	7:30	BUDG	WWMS PC	George Bauer	703.768.1774
7/12	W	7:30	ENVR	MVHSE114	Jim Davis	703.799.3278
9/6	W	8:00	EDUC	WWMS L	Judy Harbeck	703.780.1883
7/6	Th	7:30	PSAF	MVGC	Dallas Shawkey	703.360.2185
7/3	M	8:00	TRANS	MVGC	Frank Cohn	703.780.5698
7/10	M	7:30	PL/Z	MVGC	David Dale	703.765.8247
6/29	Th	7:00	SCAWH	MVGC-1	Jerry Ireland	703.768.6923
ı						

The **Record** (USPS 702-510, ISSN 1055-5986) is published monthly except August for \$15.00 per year by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203. Periodicals postage is paid at Mount Vernon, Virginia.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes for the **Record** to P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, Virginia 22121-0203.



PO BOX 203 Mount Vernon, VA 22121-0203 www.mvcca.org Periodicals Postage Paid at Alexandria, Virginia