

**Holmes Run Acres Civic Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 7, 2007**



The March 2007 Board of Directors meeting was hosted by Mia and Keith Gardiner and was called to order at 8:10 p.m.

Attending: Norm Atkins, Betty Cagley, Peggy Daley, Mia Gardiner, Vicki Hancock, Bob Harris, Patience Herren, Michael Jaworek, Ann Johnson, Catherine Johnston, Brenda Mantz, Joe Ponte, Victoria Schillinger.

Not Attending: Amy Eggers, Mark Eggers, James Hoofnagle, Barbara Karro, Renée Klein, Chris Rupp.

President's Report

A neighbor asked the President to raise the issue of the delivery of the *Examiner* throughout the neighborhood and whether the Board could do anything about it. It was concluded that this is not a Board issue and recommended that neighbors must treat this as an individual issue.

Secretary's Report

There was a motion made to accept the February minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

No report.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Civic Affairs**

On March 2, VDOT filed the proposal for HOT (high occupancy toll) lanes for I-95 and 395 with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Transportation Planning Board. The toll proposal would be the most expensive in the country with tolls reaching as much as \$1.00 a mile in some spots during peak times. The project, to be built by Fluor Virginia and Transurban Development, is being opposed by many officials and commuters. The Prince William County Board of Supervisors voted two weeks ago to oppose the project. Construction would begin in 2008 with completion targeted for 2010. The proposal will have to be approved by the Council of Governments Planning Board which is made up of state and local officials from Virginia, Maryland, and DC.

No decision as of yet on the Tyson's Metro going above or below ground. The decision still rests on Governor Kaine. Charlie Hall reports that there is concern on the potential of a "no bid" contract being struck with Bechtel. March 20 is the next Providence District Council meeting. The Council is in opposition to the above ground rail.

A South Carolina-based developer, Edens and Avant, is completing plans to add 31 acres of mixed-use development in Merrifield near the multiplex. The plan includes 600K square feet of retail space, 800K of residential space, and 150K of office space, as well as a cinema and hotel near the intersection of Gallows Road and Lee Highway. The developer has filed plans with Fairfax County; however, the area will have to be rezoned for the density being proposed. Plans for the development of the Dunn Loring Metro parking lot have been approved. This project is part of the urban redevelopment of Merrifield.

- **Community Facilities**

No report.

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- **Membership and Hospitality**

No report.

- **Community and Social**

Michael Jaworek reports that the International Dinner is being held on Saturday, March 31, with music by Dagmar and the Seductones. The Committee needs a few volunteers for pre-dinner cocktail parties. Some items have been collected for silent auction, and it was recommended that the revenue be used to replace the neighborhood signs. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the proceeds be used for new neighborhood signage.

Norm Atkins reports that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 7 and the Spring Clean-Up and Yard Sale will be held on May 5.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

- **Community for All Ages**

No report.

- **Emergency Preparedness**

No report.

- **Historic Preservation**

The Committee is waiting to hear about the federal historical designation.

- **Successfully Changing Your House**

The draft publication is ready and printing is being discussed and arranged.

Other Reports

- **Federation of Civic Associations**

No report from previous meeting. The next meeting will be held on March 29.

- **Historian**

No report.

- **Holmes Run Directory**

56 ads have been sold for the HRA Directory with \$4,600 being collected. Norm would like to recognize the hard work of Board members who worked to sell the ads. Norm has extra copies of the Directory if anyone needs one.

- **Providence District Council**

A tea party was held for original HRA residents (1951-1954). Twenty invitations were sent to original residences and fourteen to second-generation residents. Linda Smyth and her assistant attended, and questions were asked regarding the Providence Perspective Project and how HRA residents could contribute; the project plan, however, is still being formulated.

- **Runner**

March 16 is the deadline for *Runner* submissions, and the topic is "HRA Heritage." Vicki Hancock and Haleh Peterson will also be stepping down from their co-editor positions. They will prepare the Spring and Summer issues of the *Runner* but will need the Board and residents to volunteer for the co-editor positions in time for the Fall *Runner*.

- **Website/Listserv**

No report.

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Old Business

- None.

New Business

- Vicki Hancock, Vice President, reported that the Board will need eight new members, and that the Elections Committee will need to know who is running in time for elections at the Annual Meeting in May.
- Norm Gottlieb, President of the HRA Recreation Association, attended the Board meeting to discuss the cell phone tower negotiations underway. HRARA has been considering cell tower proposals since 2004 as a revenue-generating measure. While HRARA would rather not consider this option, membership has been running between 150 and 200 members, and the pool is not making enough to cover all its expenses, which includes a \$150K debt due to pool construction. Another area pool, Broyhill Crest, has a cell tower and it has kept them from going under. An agreement has been signed to allow Cellular Wireless Structures to build a 140-foot tower to be placed near the parking lot. The arrangement would be a five-year lease with an option to renew. The county has final decision-making power on the agreement through the Planning Commission, but even if passed, the process could take up to three years. The revenue gained from this agreement would equate to 39 new memberships a year.
- A motion was made by the HRACA Board to recognize Norm Gottlieb for his continuing efforts to keep HRARA going and to support the cell phone tower plan. There also was discussion about potential health risks of cell phone towers.

The meeting was called to a close at 10:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Victoria Schillinger
Secretary