

**Holmes Run Acres Civic Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 5, 2008**

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The March 5, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting was hosted by Eric Reuter and called to order at 8:10 pm.

**Attending:** Norm Atkins, Peggy Daley, Mia Gardiner, Ann Johnson, Catherine Johnston, Renée Klein, Brenda Mantz, John Mantz, Eric Reuter, and Rod Smith.

**Not Attending:** Steve Biver, Mary Beth Gardiner, Michael Jaworek, Barbara Karro, Cindy Roy, Chris Rupp, Victoria Schillinger, Dave Smith, and Kimberli Stewart.

**President's Report**

Victoria Schillinger has resigned as Secretary to spend more time with her family. By-laws say that Assistant Secretary steps up to that position, and Peggy Daley will now be the Secretary for the Board.

Linda Smyth called the Board regarding redoing the water lines for the HOT lanes. They will have to move and enlarge the lines. It will affect six homes in HRA; those affected will receive separate letters regarding this. Development behind us will not be effected as much due to easement for Dominion power lines. There will be a public hearing April 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss the scope of the project and the impact on the community.

**Secretary's Report.**

Rod wanted to have added that more bicycle lanes should be created to reduce congestion by using them for less than a two-mile commute. We should also have more lanes and they should be widened. Vienna may be the first area to try experiment to attract more pedestrians and bicyclists to get to Metro. Concern reiterated about pedestrian safety. Renée made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Catherine seconded. Vote unanimous.

**Treasurer's Report**

Renée said that check was written for International Dinner rental and for the band. Donation of \$125 was the recommendation. Balance in treasury at present is \$7,584.98.

**Standing Committee Reports**

• **Civic Affairs**

John brought up the issue of park being used by teams for soccer games. He suggested that the Board take a position on this and calls should be made to the county. This issue was reviewed with last Board, and it was found that calls from individuals to report violations of park use were more effective than from the Board. Again, this is a community park, and its use is for the community, not the general public. We do not have facilities to accommodate larger groups, such as parking and bathrooms, and soccer games have already torn up the grass. Eric will call Fairfax County as an individual/Board member regarding use of the park and preparation for summer. With Prince William County focusing on illegal immigrants, there may be a wider search for fields to use for soccer games.

• **Community Facilities**

Michael is not here for a report on the International Dinner, but Brenda is doing the silent auction (interesting donations). Set-up will start around 2:00 pm. She has to leave at 5:00 pm for another

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engagement. Catherine said she would take over for the evening bidding and collecting the money. Norm will put up the signs which he can pick up at Catherine's house.

- **Membership and Hospitality**

No report.

- **Programs and Social/Youth Activities**

Kim is not here. Norm reported that the Easter Egg Hunt plans for March 22<sup>nd</sup> down at the part. 9:30 am is the set-up time. Dot Almassy and Beth Olson are getting stuffing for eggs. Dot will be having people over to help with this project.

Yard sale and clean-up planned for May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The House and Garden Tour will be on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Ad Hoc Committee Reports

- **By-Law Revision Committee**

Catherine said that we need an indemnification clause (disclaimer clause) in the by-laws. It helps to have a personal umbrella clause for protecting Board members from liability. there is a disclaimer in the Directory regarding errors and omissions and use of the Directory. It would be an ad hoc committee, but we should not lose sight of it.

- **Community for All Ages**

No report.

- **Emergency Preparedness**

Website for emergency numbers is [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency), under CEAN. There is additional emergency information on the site as well.

- **Historic Preservation**

Chris not here. There will be a workshop on Saturday, April 12, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, called "Re-inventing Your Neighborhood." A flier was passed around with this information.

### Other Reports

- **Federation of Civic Associations**

Federation Board meeting was held on February 21, 2008. A very active group listened as topics were discussed. Dominion Power noted that Northern Virginia has grown by 43% and needs have increased for power. Northern Virginia has been named one of two in the nation's "critical congestion areas." Construction of a new line is to begin by April 2009 so that line will be in use by summer of 2011. Dominion has also applied for a new nuclear power plant that should be available no sooner than 2014.

The next topic was presented by VDOT regarding HOT lanes. The Beltway would be widened by two lanes, and the inside lanes would be the HOT lanes that could be used by buses, motorcycles, and carpools, or HOV-3 for free and by others for a toll, depending on the time of day and congestion. Hybrids would not be exempted from fees. There will be transponders in the road that will note occupancy of vehicle and need for changing tolls based on congestion. The HOT lanes are due to come online by December 2012.

Issue of BRAC (Base Realignment) reported by speaker from Fairfax County Department of Transportation. Many questions about roads being capable of handling increased traffic and timely completion of Prince William County Parkway and even access to new facilities that government

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proposes to build. Workforce of military, civilian, and contract workers at Fort Belvoir will increase from 21,000 to 47,500. Money allotted by Federal government about three times less than needed for transition. County to make up the difference?

Rail line to Dulles also discussed, and the issue of maintaining traffic mobility during construction brought up again. There were many questions about how projects could be completed and much opposition to positions of speakers.

Next meeting will be March 27, 2008.

- **Historian/Archivist**  
No report.
- **Holmes Run Directory**  
Directory is out to the neighborhood.
- **INOVA Land Use Committee**  
Meeting on March 25 focused on Woodburn Mental Health Facility being moved to Willow Oaks site at Route 50 and Williams Drive. Size increased so that Center could be used for several social service agencies and have closer access to INOVA Fairfax Hospital Psychiatric Unit and medical services.

Agenda included items on zoning application for projects that are started but not yet approved. Storm water management and enough room on site for pond another issue.

Transportation regarding access to Woodburn and INOVA presented, and plans to accommodate increase in "vehicle trips" discussed. Issue of connector road from hospital to mental health site being used as a cut through from Gallows to Route 50 or vice versa brought up, but dismissed by presenters as likely to be lightly used. Cost of changes to Gallows and Route 50 would be covered by developers as proffers, but the County is considered one of the developers, so cost may be passed on to citizens (not mentioned).

Many questions were raised as to why this site was selected. Issues seem to already be decided, so why are communities there. "Issue really is one of is this a good project?"

New heliport for Heart Center and question of more noise for neighborhood mentioned. Linda Smyth asked how a helicopter could pick up a heart patient. Moved from one hospital to INOVA was the answer.

Many pretty handouts and maps with esoteric explanations of plans. Next meeting is April 17<sup>th</sup> where more questions by communities will be answered.

- **Runner**  
The new *Runner* is ready. Flier on arborist community meeting will be delivered to all HRA homes.
- **Providence District Council**  
Infrastructure issue of cost and impact of development on new communities. Ann is going to meeting on Providence District and Tyson's development issues.

### Old Business

- Community meeting with arborist Stuart Bunn scheduled for March 26th at 7:30 pm in Friendship Church. Rod will introduce speaker. Need projector for laptop. Dave will bring "seed questions." Information will be put on the HRA listserv.

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- Catherine is looking into issue of trademark or copyright for HRA logo. It was not designed by the Civic Association, so probably cannot get copyright. May be able to get trademark somehow.

### **New Business**

- Tax assessment that reversed land and building values this year was discussed. Ann went on website to get more information. Mia and Catherine got in touch with Linda Smyth. They are reevaluating the issues. There had been a need to balance the value of land over the last five years, but it had not been done. Then suddenly the new assessments arrived to much consternation by owners. Article in Washington Post said that another reevaluation was being considered by Fairfax County. members informed to look at insurance policies for replacement cost of building, not assessment.
- Annual Meeting topics broached. Emergency issues do not seem to draw interest, but speakers for HOT lanes or Sierra Club might be interesting.

### **Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm. Motion made by Norm and seconded by John. Vote was unanimous.

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting of the HRACA Board of Directors will be held at 8:00 pm on April 2 at Mary Beth Gardiner's house (3406 Hartwell Court).

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Peggy Daley, Secretary