**Minutes: Bluemont Executive Committee**

On Zoom and at the Key School 855 North Edison Street

May 29, 2024, 7:00 PM

1. The President established that a **quorum** was present.
2. The Executive Committee unanimously approved the **minutes** of the April Executive Committee meeting without changes.
3. **Reports from Officers and Committee Chairs.**

**President Henry McFarland**: The President reported that, despite rainy weather, **Family Fun Day** was a success with around 30 participants and several new sign-ups for the e-mail list. County Board Member Susan Cunningham stopped by. He thanked the Committee and Park Steward Nora Palmatier for making the event a success.

The President discussed his plan to ask the General Membership at tonight’s meeting for permission to sign the joint letter being drafted by several civic association requesting a study on how **special exemptions to the General Land Use Plan (GLUP)** have been working, and how the process is operating going forward. Special exemptions to the GLUP are being increasingly used to make very substantial changes in land use without involvement of civic associations, and without going through the Site Plan process. Concerns include density, the impact on schools and parks.

The President said he would invite nominations from the floor for BCA offices and present any such nominations along with the list of **nominees for BCA offices** to the General Membership for approval at tonight’s meeting.

**Treasurer David Smith:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **May-24** |  |  |
| Previous Total: | $1,904.31 |  |
| Out: | ($133.33) | Cindy Matlack for newsletter layout |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| In: | $255.00 | dues |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| New Total: | $2,025.98 |  |

Board members welcomed use of BCA’s Neighborhood News and the BCA e-mail list to encourage people to renew their memberships. The recent note sent out by BCA garnered six membership responses.

**Stormwater:** David Smith, who also chairs the Lubber Run Watershed working group, reported that Bluemont residents along Abingdon Street in FEMA’s recently established 100-year flood plain received letters from the County Department of Environment Services (DES) about the LOMR (Letter of Map Revision) DES is submitting that would pull most of the homes out of the flood plain if FEMA accepts the County’s LOMR data. The letter was good, and included six pages of detailed drawings.

David Smith reported on discussions with the Waycroft Woodland civic association about a stormwater retention vault. He and others walked the proposed site with a Master Naturalist, and Waycroft Woodlawn residents to see the problem, and will later walk the site to see affected trees. In response to a question on how the retention site would work, David Smith said the County has not yet held a meeting to present the proposal.

**Civic Federation** delegate David Smith noted upcoming Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) annual elections, and that the post of Secretary had no candidates. Report on the May ACCF meeting are at this link <https://www.civfed.org>.

**Arlington Neighborhood Advisory Committee (ArNAC)** representative Chris George discussed the proposal he will make at tonight’s General Membership meeting for a letter requesting the County Board approve $14 million in bonds for the 2025 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to cover 16-20 projects in the backlog of approved ArNAC projects, funding the program until 2026.

As Chair of the **N. Carlin Springs** safety working group, Chris George reported his query to the County for all of the Carlin Springs Road safety study to be done in 2025.

As co-chair of the **Expanded Housing Options** (EHO) Committee, Kate Mattos reported that the other co-chair moved out of Bluemont. EHO Committee Member Allen Norton reported that about a month ago, the new EHO permit for N. Wakefield Street was no longer on the dashboard of EHO permits, and he could not find any record of it.

As representative to the **Virginia 250 Committee**, Allen Norton said there had been no word.

**New Business**

In response to a question about the proposed letter on a study on special exemptions to the GLUP, the President said he was not aware of any relation between that effort and EHO.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Minutes prepared by Secretary Laura Kirkconnell