

**Bluemont Civic Association, Executive Committee Meeting**  
**March 8, 2005, 7:00 pm**  
**Arlington Traditional School**

President Judah dal Cais called the meeting to order at approximately 7:04 pm and introduced County staff member Richard Best.

**Wilson Blvd. 50% Plan Presentation by Richard Best**

Richard Best of the Arterial Transportation Management (ATM) project presented plans that 50% complete for traffic calming, wider sidewalks and related improvements along Wilson Blvd. between George Mason and Frederick. Based on resident input gathered during the 2004 ATM charettes, improvements from George Mason to the County Line are planned, but only the first two blocks (up to Frederick Street) will be done initially.

The proposed ATM plan for Wilson Boulevard (between George Mason and Frederick) will be presented at the March 23 Civic Association general membership meeting.

Best confirmed that an Executive Board member from both the Boulevard Manor and Dominion Hills Civic Associations had attended nearly all ATM meetings, including charettes.

In response to questions from the Board, Best said:

-- landscaping would not be determined until the 90% stage, but the Civic Association would be consulted.

-- re-timing traffic signals could minimize delays (resulting from the narrowing of Wilson) for cars turning from Edison onto Wilson.

-- he would consider a partial raised median in front of the 7-11 store.

-- he would consider some sort of special lighting for crosswalk at Safeway.

-- he would look into stamped concrete for sidewalks (not pavers).

-- he would consider diagonal crosswalk at Wilson and George Mason to link parks.

-- he would consider left-turn signals on Wilson for turns onto George Mason.

-- he would keep in mind that the pavers in front of the Lock & Safe building were part of the existing site plan, and that part of the Safeway parking may have been designated as "wetland."

The Board noted that it wanted Civic Association consensus on the ATM plan. Best said the County would want to be told early on by the Civic Association if it were on the wrong path with the ATM plan.

Initial project funding of \$90,000 is available. There is \$1 million in bond money earmarked for the entire ATM pilot project. Best suggested that they could look at other capital projects stuck in limbo as a potential source for additional funding.

Judah asked Bob Waffle to serve as moderator for the plan's presentation at the March 23 general membership meeting and asked Ellen Armbruster to assist.

### **New Business:**

#### **Parking Permit Forums**

The Board agreed to keep the Civic Association membership informed via e-mails and the newsletter about upcoming public forums regarding a County study to change procedures for parking permits. One option reportedly being considered is to charge residents up to \$100 a year for a permit.

#### **I-66 Study Report Presentation**

The Board agreed to keep members informed of dates for upcoming public meetings on the study report's "options" to relieve traffic congestion on I-66, which may include the widening of I-66 from the Rosslyn tunnel to the Dulles Toll Road. The Board agreed that at the March 23 general membership meeting, it will propose donating \$50 to \$100 to the Arlington Coalition for Sensible Transportation, which is monitoring this issue and supporting alternatives to road widening. Judah noted that the Civic Association has made similarly sized donations to other groups in the past.

#### **Walk-Through with a County Board Member**

The Board authorized the President to set up a community walk-through with a County Board member. The application deadline for a walk-through is April 4.

#### **Upcoming Metro Meeting**

Discussion of Metro funding and other issues (sponsored by Congressman Jim Moran) will take place on Monday, March 14 at 7:30 pm at the County Building at Courthouse.

#### **Speed-Activated Signal on Wilson at Bluemont Park**

The Board authorized Bob Waffle to send a letter to County Board member Paul Ferguson asking him to adjust the timing of the speed-activated traffic light on Wilson Boulevard near Bon Air Park so that the light stops the speeder and not the car behind the speeder.

## **Old Business:**

### **Neighborhood Conservation Plans**

Kate Mesches reported that Harrison Street had its 90% meeting and could complete its planning by the spring; 10<sup>th</sup> street may be done; 5<sup>th</sup> and Frederick had not scheduled their 50% meeting; and Bluemont will make a third attempt to seek funding for the project at 9<sup>th</sup> and Frederick.

### **House Obstructing 9<sup>th</sup> Street**

The Board agreed to send a formal letter to County staff and the Board of Zoning Appeals about the recently constructed house near 9<sup>th</sup> and Frederick. The front stairs seem to go into the street. County officials told the Civic Association President that it will inspect the property in the course of deciding whether to grant an occupancy permit, but not before.

### **Large Houses on Florida Street**

Judy Collins reported on her e-mails to the County about houses that appear to violate height and lot coverage ordinances. The Board approved and asked Bob Atkins to continue these efforts and report further.

### **Civic Federation Activity**

Bob Atkins reported that the Civic Federation is in the process of reviewing the County budget for Fiscal Year 2006.

### **Nominations Committee**

Laura Kirkconnell has volunteered to be nominated as the 2005-2006 Executive Board Secretary, and she started her duties at this meeting since the position has been vacant for nearly a year. The Board noted that the Nominations Committee slate of candidates for the Executive Board must be printed in the June newsletter, so Association members can vote at the June annual meeting.

### **Deadlines for the Newsletter**

The Board agreed the March newsletter needed to be printed in time for distribution on Saturday, March 12 and that the deadline for the April newsletter would be April 14.

### **Neighborhood Day**

The Board President will register Bluemont for the Neighborhood Day parade. Laura Kirkconnell has volunteered as parade coordinator, but volunteers are still being sought for the neighborhood barbeque.

### **Candidates' Night**

Judah invited BCA member Ed Fendley (via his campaign treasurer, Kate Mesches) to address the BCA membership regarding his candidacy for the upcoming School Board race. The Board will determine whether it is possible to host a candidate night before the May primary for County elections. The Board noted that it might hold a candidates' night in conjunction with another civic association. It was noted that so far, there were no Republican candidates for School Board, but the Board agreed that all parties and candidates would be given equal opportunity to participate in any Bluemont event.

### **Incorporation**

The Board noted the need to keep the issue of incorporating the Bluemont Civic Association on the agenda while Board members continued to gather information on how it could be done. Member Suzanne Sundburg offered to contact attorney Jerry Friedlander to determine the price for drawing up incorporation papers.

### **Tool Loaner Program**

The President said that at the next Civic Association, he would propose using the \$180 of the March neighborhood-wide newsletter ad revenues to buy power washers for BCA's "Tool Loaner Program." It was noted that the snow blowers provided by the County did not get much use this year, perhaps because of the mild winter.

President Judah dal Cais adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:27 pm.

### **Attendance:**

Judah dal Cais  
Laura Kirkconnell  
Carl Drummond  
Robert Waffle  
Judy Collins  
Kate Mesches  
Ellen Armbruster  
Suzanne Sundburg  
Robert Atkins