

**Bluemont Civic Association
Executive Board Meeting
November 13, 2007, 7:30 p.m.
Arlington Traditional School**

President dal Cais called the meeting to order at approximately 7:35 p.m.

In attendance were Judah dal Cais, Terry Serie, Carl Drummond, Wendy Dean, Sam Ferro, Suzanne Sundburg, Lisa Byington and Mary Thorne.

Approval of Minutes for 9/11/07 and 10/9/07

Secretary Mary Thorne distributed draft minutes for the 9/11/07 Executive Board meeting. Final edits were made to the minutes, and a motion to approve the 9/11/07 minutes, as amended, was made and seconded. The Executive Board voted unanimously to approve the 9/11/07 minutes. Thorne will forward the approved minutes for posting on the BCA Website.

Former Secretary Lisa Byington distributed draft minutes for the 10/9/07 Executive Board meeting. Final edits were made to the minutes, and a motion to approve the 10/9/07 minutes, as amended, was made and seconded. The Executive Board voted unanimously to approve the 10/9/07 minutes. Byington will forward the approved minutes for posting on the BCA Website.

Paintballing Incident

Lisa Byington reported that at 11:30 p.m. on November 11 several houses on her block of N. Edison Street were shot with paintballs. These were drive by shootings in which the shooters were aiming for house windows. Byington learned when she reported this incident to the police that it is a felony to fire a “missile” at a house. Newsletter Editor Suzanne Sundburg will add a notice regarding the paintball incident to the November Newsletter.

Rental Truck Parking on Streets

The D&V Texaco station continues to park its rental trucks on residential streets. BCA members reported that Arlington police consider Frederick St. and Fairfax Drive to be residential streets where commercial vehicles are not permitted to be parked. Because the Texaco is a small neighborhood business, members have not called the police to report the parking violations yet. President dal Cais will meet with Robbie to ensure that the trucks are parked in a location that does not negatively affect neighbors.

Port-a-Potty on Softball Field

Lisa Byington raised the issue of the port a potty. Carl Drummond reported that the port-a-potty had finally been removed. The potty was put there to accommodate the weekend softball teams who use the field next to Arlington Traditional School (ATS). There are bathrooms in ATS, which are accessible from the outside, but the school won't open

them for the softball teams. Lisa will contact Ed Fendley to request that the school make its bathrooms available to the softball teams.

ATS Issue

There is a focus on overcrowding in Arlington County schools. This is an issue at Tuckahoe and Nottingham where they are using trailers. A petition is being circulated requesting that the school board consider giving preference to children who live within a safe walking distance. Although BCA members initiated the petition, this is not a BCA-endorsed activity.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee

Tim Macintosh with Arlington County is seeking volunteers for a neighborhood traffic calming committee. Judah will forward that information to Suzanne Sundburg for inclusion in the November newsletter.

November Newsletter

The Executive Board reviewed the draft newsletter text for the November newsletter. Peck-Staples Information Coordinator Terry Serie will submit written changes to Sundburg regarding the Peck-Staples-Jordan Manor articles. Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Representative Wendy Dean had a couple of changes to the NC article. With the noted changes and additions, the November newsletter text was approved. The Executive Board determined that a December newsletter could not be produced in advance of the December 11 combined Executive Board/general membership meeting. Therefore, there will be no December newsletter unless developments regarding on the Peck-Staples-Jordan Manor site plan warrant an additional newsletter.

Peck/Staples Update

Terry Serie updated the group on what had transpired regarding the Peck/Staples project at the last Site Plan Review Committee (SPRC) meetings on November 5. JBG met with a lot of resistance to its site plan at the November 5 meeting. Terry provided notes on the major issues that had been raised. The SPRC members raised objections in a variety of areas, including building design, location of Center Street, location of garage entrances and loading docks, and the possible flipping of the positions of buildings A and B. Few SPRC members supported the site plan as presented. The location of Center Street has to be approved by the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), as Glebe Road is controlled and maintained by the state.

A member of the historical society suggested that the smaller building, for Virginia Tech, be placed on the Wilson Boulevard corner and that the building incorporate the Peck showroom because of its history representing the role of the automobile. Terry spoke to a representative of the Ballston Science and Technology Alliance about their plans for a coffeehouse and science oriented program space on the lobby floor of the Virginia Tech building. The Alliance is seeking private funding.

Terry passed out two BCA statements previously approved by the Executive Board. One stated the Board's support for efforts to address Arlington County's affordable housing

crisis. The second statement outlined the Board's support for the presence of Virginia Tech in the Bluemont neighborhood. Although November 26 is a tentative date for the next SPRC meeting, Terry expects it will happen as scheduled.

Neighborhood Conservation

Wendy Dean reported that BCA's priority project on 9th Street N. is likely to be funded in the December funding round. She also said she had seen the latest draft of the master transportation plan.

Upcoming Meetings

No outside speaker is scheduled for the November 28 general membership meeting. Terry Serie will provide an update on what happened at the Peck/Staples SPRC meetings on November 5 and November 26. There will be a combined executive board/general membership meeting on Tuesday, December 11.

President dal Cais adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:55 p.m.