

**BLUEMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION**  
**Joint Executive Board and General Membership Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 12, 2008, 7:30 pm**  
**Arlington Traditional School**

**Call to Order**

Vice President Wendy Dean called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 pm. In attendance were Carl Drummond, Mary Thorne, Sam Ferro, Suzanne Sundburg, Wendy Dean, Talmadge Williams, Judah dal Cais, eight Bluemont Civic Association (BCA) members and seven nonmembers.

**Neighborhood Conservation (NC) - Speaker Tim McIntosh**

NC Planner, Tim McIntosh, explained that representatives from 50 Arlington County neighborhoods form the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC). NC has funded \$2 million in projects for Bluemont. This is a citizen-based program in which project proposals are brought to the committee by neighborhoods. Every six months, NC recommends projects for funding to the County Board.

McIntosh recommends that neighborhoods formally update their NC plans every ten years. BCA last created its NC plan in 1999 and has not formally updated its plan (a process that requires county review and approval) since that time so a 2009 update is recommended. The process begins with the formation of a BCA NC Plan update committee. The committee designs a survey that is then distributed to all BCA households. NC has funds available for printing but not mailing the surveys. McIntosh recommends that neighbors go door to door on individual blocks to boost involvement and lower the distribution cost. The goal is to attain at least a 10% response rate. The results of the survey are evaluated and compiled into the updated plan. The plan must be approved by both NC and the County Board. McIntosh has survey templates and will attend committee meetings and provide advice as needed. It is estimated that updating the plan would require two years. An updated plan would represent changes in the neighborhood in the past decade and earn more points in the priority system used in the funding rounds. A vote will be taken at the January 28 BCA meeting to decide whether or not BCA will formally update its NC Plan starting in 2009. This vote will be publicized in the January newsletter.

**Police Community Liaison - Officer James O'Daniel**

Officer James O'Daniel, the BCA liaison officer, answered questions from a number of members about ongoing noise problems generated by outdoor drinking games, which have been shown to exceed the county noise code levels. He reported that the police logs do not normally include enough detail to identify specific noise sources, but he acknowledged that outdoor drinking game parties have caused problems at various rental properties as well as in the parks. In some cases, pressure on the landlord has led to evictions. Officer O'Daniel

encouraged concerned neighbors to contact him by e-mail at [Jodaniel@arlingtonva.us](mailto:Jodaniel@arlingtonva.us) or by cell phone at 703-963-9034.

### **Jordan Manor Demolition, Curtis Adams AHC Project Manager**

Dan Revermann, a construction manager with AHC and George Carr with District Contractors attended the meeting with Curtis Adams. Adams is the point of contact for the project and can be reached at 703-486-0626, ext 170, [adams@ahcinc.org](mailto:adams@ahcinc.org). The demolition of Jordan Manor has been held up by the IRS and is now projected for mid-December or January. (AHC has promised to notify the neighbors in writing of the demolition date once it has been established.) A fence will be erected surrounding the property (date of installation also to be included in the written notice to neighbors), and the effected sidewalks will be maintained. Although ACH plans to preserve as many of the existing trees as possible, plants near the building will most likely be lost. Neighbors wishing to remove plants that will otherwise be removed in the demolition process can contact Adams and must sign a waiver. The demolition is expected to last four weeks. District Contractors will not begin work before 7:00 am on weekdays and, if necessary, 9:00 am on Saturdays. They are not demolishing the parking lot so all demolition-related vehicles will be parked within the fence. AHC must demolish the buildings before handing the site over to JBG. JBG and AHC will then swap the land previously occupied by Jordan Manor with part of the Peck-Staples site at the corner of Wilson Boulevard and N. Wakefield Street. JBG plans to sell the land previously occupied by Jordan Manor to a townhouse developer.

### **Approval of Minutes for 10/14/08 and 10/22/08**

Secretary Mary Thorne distributed draft minutes for the 10/14/08 Executive Board meeting and 10/22/08 General Membership meeting. A motion to approve both sets of minutes was made and seconded. The membership voted to approve the 10/14/08 and 10/22/08 minutes as drafted. Thorne will forward the 10/14/08 and 10/22/08 minutes for posting to the BCA Website.

### **December Newsletter and Meeting**

Topics for the newsletter need to be finalized by November 14. Sam Ferro needs the text on November 20. The newsletter will be printed on December 1 and mailed on December 4 or 5. Suzanne Sundburg will ask Chris Healey for an article on the funds for the Revolutionary War Trail/N. Harrison Street bike trail extension that were requested in the recent Park Enhancement Grant (PEG) application. Nora Palmatier has a couple of invasive plant removal dates for the newsletter. Both the December and January newsletters should advertise the vote, which is coming on January 28, on whether or not to update the BCA NC Plan. Julie Mangis of the Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership will be the speaker at the December 9 meeting.

### **ATS Boundary/Attendance Zone Issue**

At the November BCA meeting, members discussed elementary school boundary adjustments that the Arlington Public School Board is considering. Among the options the school superintendent has presented to the board is the possibility of moving ATS to the Wilson school property in Rosslyn within several years and turning the current ATS building back into a neighborhood elementary school for Bluemont. School Board members may make a decision on this item (in the superintendent's proposal, it is referred to as Option B) as early as its December 18 meeting. Larry Smith was seeking proponents of giving preference to neighborhood children to attend ATS to speak at the School Board meeting on November 17.

### **Other New Business**

There were the following suggestions for future speakers:

- 1) New chair of the County Board—press release coming in early December
- 2) Newest School Board member
- 3) Someone to speak on recent pollution problems with Lubber Run
- 4) Staff member from Code Enforcement
- 5) Mary Margaret Whipple (Virginia State Senate)
- 6) Jim Moran (U.S. House of Representatives)
- 7) Staff member from the Real Estate office after the increased assessments are mailed

### **Adjournment**

Judah dal Cais adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.