

# **BBHCA Draft Meeting Minutes—Tuesday, March 13, 2006**

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The March 12, 2007, meeting started at 7:35 pm at Bush Hill Elementary School. The November 14, 2006, meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

## **BOARD REPORTS**

### **Treasurer**

- A printout of the budget was made available at the meeting.
- Our income is not covering expenses largely due to the newsletter. We did not print the newsletter in January.
- We will use money from the money market to make up any deficits.
- To date, income received is \$1,200 from dues and \$960 from donations.

### **Membership**

- 144 members as of to date
- Received \$23 in donations tonight
- Please ask friends/neighbors to join. If you get 5 members to join you will receive a gift certificate for a restaurant. There are approximately 900 families in our combined community.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Yard Sale**

The Community Yard Sale is scheduled for June 9. There is a charge of \$8 for members/\$15 for nonmembers. This is to pay for ads, buy banners, balloons for those that participate. The income generated from the yard sale slightly exceeds our costs. The yard sale is not meant to be a money maker but more as an opportunity for the community to participate.

### **Neighborhood Watch**

- Crime Prevention Officer Alice Bennett Eggers was introduced and gave a brief update. Crime reports are listed every week in *The Washington Post*. Our area includes Springfield Mall and the strip mall across the highway in Springfield.
- In Bush Hill there was an attempt to pick up a young girl. The police were contacted but because the investigation is still pending it has not been widely broadcast. The police did have a safety meeting at the school where parents and teachers were involved.
- Any questions for Officer Edgers can be emailed to her at [alice.bennett@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:alice.bennett@fairfaxcounty.gov). Her phone number is 703-922-8263.
- The non-emergency phone number in Fairfax is 703-691-2131.

## **Land Use Committee**

- Bush Hill Presbyterian Church (Jane Way) plan for improvement was approved. Construction will probably take place late summer/early fall. One of the requirements of their plan is to submit an 8' wide sidewalk but they submitted a waiver for a 5' wide sidewalk because that was the size of the original sidewalk.
- Wesleyan Church (Old Rolling Road) is a little behind because of a snag dealing with the merger of the property. The plan did not comply with the records so they are working through and will resubmit within the next week.
- Tree cutting on Westchester (near Oakwood) are within their zoning rights to cut down every tree as long as they don't do deep root.
- Curtis Property (3 white houses on Van Dorn) – there is a resource protection area on the back of the property so will be revisiting in November. This will impact Van Dorn widening and interchange.
- The townhouses proposed for Fleet & Beulah were rejected.
- Springfield Mall has submitted a site plan to redevelop the mall. Will be reviewed next week and will be setting up a separate task force to review.

## **Call for Board Nominations**

Bob Michie made a call for nominations for the 2007-2008 Board. No formal nominations were offered at the meeting. The co-president and membership positions will be open. The secretary's position is also open. Although the current secretary noted that she would be willing to take on this position for a third year, she would like to see someone else step up to the plate.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

**Mark Sickles**, our delegate to Richmond spoke at our meeting. He wanted us to know that while legislation is on the table, the Governor can rewrite the entire legislation. This session is a 46-day session and the Governor has to be finished by March 26. Then there needs to be a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote to pass a bill and April 4 is the last day to act on anything.

### *Current Legislation Highlights*

- Transportation is a big issue (summary of issues passed out at the meeting.)
- Northern Virginia Transportation Plan: There are 17 representatives from Fairfax County and all but one voted for this plan. Includes commercial real estate, grantors (settlement) tax, hotel, rental car, and a \$100 fee when you move into the area (due to Northern Virginia congestion). All monies raised here, stays here. This would potentially raise half of the funds needed for the Transportation 2030 Plan.
- Statewide would borrow \$300M for next 8 years and payback over 20 years. Paid for out of existing resources. We are currently spending a lot of general fund money for transportation. This is good now because economy is good, but we need to think about what would happen if/when the economy is bad. The Governor is opposed to using general fund in the event the economy goes bad.
- This is a 2.5B project (\$350M over the next 8 years.)
- VA is the 12<sup>th</sup> wealthiest state in the country.

- Given regional authority to raise taxes. Referendum was voted down in Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads, but it is now in the bill.
- Ft. Belvoir needs road infrastructure. EIS is out for comment but it does not address transportation off base. The Federal delegation is involved.
- Northern Virginia gets back 40% from taxes. Out of that, 40% is for primary roads, which is not our fair share, and 60% for urban/state roads which is our fair share. We pay 74% of education out of our property taxes. State pays 25%. We have the second biggest community college system in the country.
- Medicaid: Virginia is a 50/50 state. Medicaid is 16% of Virginia's budget.
- HPV vaccine for girls was passed.
- Payday Loan Act failed.
- 19-year-olds can't use cell phone while driving. It is a secondary offense. Passed.
- Regulation of electric utility service passed. Virginia Dominion is building another reactor at Lake Anna.
- There will be 4 days in October of tax relief for those who purchase energy efficient appliances.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.