

Meeting Minutes for September 22, 2009
Brookland/Bush Hill Civic Association

- Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm

- **Committee Reports**
 - **Secretary** (Deborah Moore) – Minutes of the May 12 meeting were approved as published in the September print newsletter.

 - **Newsletter** (Sarah Kelly) – no report.

 - **Treasurer** (Kevin Henry)– Proposed budget was passed as a provisional budget at the May meeting to allow us to operate over the summer. The budget in the newsletter has the final numbers. We are not in the red because of the increase of dues and donations. We have a profit of \$2,300. This year’s budget is based on membership of 200 homes. One of our biggest expenses is the newsletter and we are staying with printing of 3 newsletters and one postcard. Someone asked if we can’t do away with a paper newsletter and just send it electronically. Our bylaws state that we must communicate with everyone and not everyone is set up electronically. We have a monthly electronic newsletter that goes out to only members – this provides updates on happenings and special events.

 - **Membership** (Richard Frederick) – membership year runs fiscal. Last year we had 271 households join. There are 800 households in the Association. Membership chairs personal goal is to enroll 300 homes. As of today, 48 members have joined for the start of the new membership year.

 - **Land Use** (Carol Alim) – no report.

 - **Neighborhood Watch** (Bob L’Heureux) – been a quiet summer but with school in session we need to keep vigilant. Springfield Mall has been having some trouble with the latest incident a robbery 10 days ago. The other night on Bush Hill drive two cars with their lights off were driving very slowly at approx. 10:30pm. These are the kinds of things we need to keep a lookout for. Anything suspicious report to Fairfax police or your neighborhood watch chair.

- **New Business** – The trash barrel at the bus stop at the intersection of Franconia and Westchester has gone missing and several members of our community have taken it upon themselves to police the area for trash. One member contacted Jeff McKay’s office to complain about the trash and Jeff’s office forwarded their complaint to Metro. To date nothing has happened about placing a trash container there or metro policing the area. It was requested that we contact Jeff McKay’s office again and ask them to follow up with Metro.

The Fairfax County Medical Reserve Corps is looking for volunteers. The Corps helps in a medical crisis. An example would be H1N1. September 29 is a town hall meeting at Lee District Government Center.

Fairfax Citizens for Better Schools had a representative with a flyer on the top 10 reasons to vote in the upcoming election on the school bond.

A question was brought forth by Mike Bevenour (Thetford Place) regarding placing a sign at the front of Bush Hill identifying Bush Hill estates and its history. There is currently a plaque depicting the history of Bush Hill Estates on Eisenhower Drive that is part of the Heritage (Bike) Trail. A discussion ensued and it was agreed that it might make better sense to have it erected at Bush Hill Elementary school. Mike Bevenour will research the cost and design of an historical sign and report back at the next meeting.

- **Edison High School Renovation** – Our guest speaker was Martin Grimm, Deputy Principal at Edison High School (Martin.Grimm@fcps.edu). He talked about the construction currently taking place at Edison High School. Edison High School’s renovation will take approximately 3½ years. The renovation was made possible by a bond issue raised two years ago for \$63 million. Twenty three companies bid on the construction.

The entire school is being renovated, which includes the classrooms. The school was constructed in 1962. There are currently 44 portable classrooms. The tennis courts in the back of the school will probably be moved toward the back of the running track behind the visitor bleachers. A road will encompass the perimeter of the school. The plan includes adding a television production studio and a mini theatre, a new fitness center and wrestling room.

There will be 6 phases. The first phase is changing the front to make a two story glass enclosed library and adding an administrative and counseling wing. This is expected to be completed by December 2010. The 2nd phase is renovation of 32 classrooms, followed by the theatre. The last phase is the gym. For every tree that is removed, a new one has to be planted. The electrical and plumbing are being upgraded to “green” and all windows are being replaced with energy efficient windows. The roof is also being replaced.

A question was asked about parking. There will be enough parking spots for students. Those that have cars can purchase a parking spot for \$200/year. Brookland residents are finding that some students are parking in the neighborhood at the entrance of Brookland on both sides of the street. The parking along the McDonald’s side of the street is considered commercial but those cars parked further down on Pratt and across the street from McDonalds are parking in a residential neighborhood. The school has a Fairfax County police officer assigned to them and his name is Officer Justin Dellow. His phone number is 703-924-8037 and it is suggested that if this remains an issue that the community, via the Civic Association Board, contact Officer Dellow to ask how we can work with the school to stop the parking along Brookland and Pratt. He is authorized to issue tickets and has done so in the past.

- The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.