

**McLean Citizens Association (MCA)**  
**Annual Membership Meeting**  
**May 23, 2019**  
**Draft Minutes**

**Call to Order**

MCA President Dale Stein called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm in the McLean Community Center, and recognized the existence of a quorum (at least 25 Members present). Dale remarked that Committees are the heart of MCA's work, and he encouraged attendees to participate in MCA by joining a Committee

**McLean Community Foundation (MCF) Report**

Mr. Ali Khazai, MCF Vice President, reported on the activities of the MCF, a philanthropic organization which makes grants for local community and charitable purposes. The MCF operates two grant cycles each year, and granted \$114,000 in the recent fiscal year. The Winterfest parade is a beneficiary activity. A complete listing of beneficiaries can be found on the MCF website. The MCF Board is aiming at increasing MCF financial assets to \$2 million. The endowment has recently earned a return of 6.4%. Proceeds of the McLean 5K Run go to the MCF.

**Welcome Remarks by Membership Chair**

Martin Smith, Second Vice President and Chair of the Membership Committee, welcomed the attendees to the meeting. Martin reminded the attendees that they can help increase MCA membership by informing their neighbors about the MCA. He urged local businesspeople to display MCA brochures in their businesses.

**Remarks by Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust**

Supervisor Foust commended MCA for providing well-researched analysis of local issues. He then provided his perspective on some topics of local interest:

- ***Mental health treatment facilities for teens proposed by Newport Academy.*** The Supervisor remarked that the original Davidson Road application last summer had been for a single property. The applicant subsequently purchased two adjoining properties, contemplating to offer residential treatment services on the three Davidson Road properties for up to 24 persons at a time. The Zoning Administrator had recently issued a Determination, finding that the proposal was substantively for a Congregate Living Facility, which is not a use allowed "by right" in the single-family residential zoning district. Newport's application to operate on a single property on Kurtz Road remains under review.

- ***Transportation.*** A public meeting had recently been held on the Environmental Assessment for the 495 Northern Extension (NExt) project. The next public meeting on the NExt project will be held in the fall, when more information is expected to be available. The County is devoting attention to filling missing links in pedestrian provision along Dolley Madison Boulevard. An important sidewalk project had recently been completed on Baron Road. Work will be starting soon on widening of Route 7 from Jarrett Valley Drive to Reston Avenue. The new Jones Branch Connector over the Beltway provides a convenient way to reach the north side of Tysons from McLean. The allocation by the State of transportation funding to WMATA is having an impact on the availability of funding for local road projects.
- ***McLean business district Comprehensive Plan review.*** County Staff and the citizen task force are meeting monthly, working toward a Comprehensive Plan amendment for the McLean Community Business Center (CBC). There is need to find a “median” which will enable the density needed to incentivize redevelopment, without being too dense.
- ***Lewinsville Center.*** A ribbon-cutting ceremony for this intergenerational facility will take place on June 1. A public-private partnership with the Wesley company has enabled the old buildings to be demolished and new buildings to be constructed on this County-owned property. The new buildings will accommodate: housing for low-income seniors; a day center for seniors; and child care.
- ***Metrorail Silver Line Phase 2.*** Construction is well under way. Three of the Phase 2 stations are in Fairfax County.
- ***Dead Run stream restoration.*** This project has recently been completed, and has been well received.

## **Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Bill Crosby presented the Annual Treasurer’s Report on the past MCA financial year. Revenues had been \$7022.07, while expenditures had been \$5900.89. MCA’s net worth (financial assets; no liabilities) reached \$37,070.51 at the end of the period. Bill also presented the budget for 2019/20 that had been approved by the Board of Directors, showing estimated revenues of \$7300 and estimated expenditures (including a contingency reserve) of \$7300. Finally, Bill reported on the financial review carried out by David Grayling, a CPA and former MCA Treasurer. The review found that the financial records had been maintained in good order.

## **McLean History Portal**

MCA Board member Merrily Pierce spoke to this topic. Several longtime McLean Residents, including former Supervisor Lilla Richards, had accumulated documents relating to McLean history, which they wished to made organized and accessible to the public, hopefully in a “McLean Room” in the Dolley Madison Library. The Library Board turned down the proposal for a dedicated room in the Dolley Madison Library, on the grounds that the “Virginia Room” in the Fairfax County Regional Library in Fairfax City is the designated repository for such collections. The documents provided by those donors are now in the Virginia Room, and a grant obtained from the MCF via the Virginia Library Foundation had paid for the indexing and archiving of the documents.

The online index to the document collection is called “The McLean History Portal”. This is a web-page accessible through the Fairfax County Public Library website.

## **Approval of Minutes of Prior Meeting**

The Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting of May 24, 2018 were approved.

## **MCA Board Nominations and Election**

As provided in the Bylaws, the MCA Board of 40 persons consists of 6 Officers, 20 Directors proposed by neighborhood associations (a Homeowners Association or a Civic Association), and 14 At-Large Directors. Candidates may apply for either a one-year term or a two-year term, at their option. The number of seats up for election in May 2019 was 29 – all 6 Officer positions, and 23 Director positions.

***Nominating Committee Report.*** Chairman Jim Robertson delivered the Nominating Committee’s report, recommending a list (following page) of candidates for the available positions. In deciding on its nominations, the Committee had taken into account experience and qualifications, and geographic distribution within MCA’s defined area.

***Election.*** There were no nominations by petition. Accordingly, the nominees proposed by the Nominating Committee were elected by voice vote.

## **Election of MCF Trustees**

The six persons proposed by MCF for MCF Trustee positions were elected by voice vote.

**McLean Citizens Association  
Officer and Board of Director Nominations – May 2019**

**Note:** All Officers and Directors not shown below were elected in 2018 for a two-year term.

**Officers**

President	Dale Stein	Incumbent	1-Year Term
First Vice President	Glenn Harris	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Second Vice President	Martin Smith	Incumbent	1-Year Term
Treasurer	Bill Crosby	Incumbent	1-Year Term
Corresponding Secretary	Peggy Flaxman	Incumbent	1-Year Term
Recording Secretary	Bruce Jones	Incumbent	2-Year Term

**Board Members Representing Associations**

John Adams	Georgetown Pike & Potomac River	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Jim Beggs	Shouse Village Community Assoc.	Incumbent	1-Year Term
Steve DelBianco	Franklin Area Citizens Association	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Francesca Gutowski	Lynwood	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Kent Holland	McLean Hunt Owners Association	NEW	1-Year Term
Sally Horn	The Reserve	Incumbent	1-Year Term
David Pritchett	Treeline Association	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Jim Robertson	Evans Mill Pond	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Mary Schrodt	Chesterford	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Linda Walsh	Dominion/Brookhaven	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Camille White-Partain	The Palladium of McLean	NEW	1-Year Term
David Wuehrmann	Ellison Heights-Mt. Daniel	Incumbent	1-Year Term

**Board Members At-Large**

Jeff Barnett	Incumbent	1-Year Term
David Fiske	NEW	1-Year Term
William Henneberg	NEW	1-Year Term
Rob Jackson	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Kelly Green Kahn	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Paul Kohlenberger	Incumbent	2-Year Term
David Lee	Incumbent	2-Year Term
John Neumann	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Merrily Pierce	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Patrick Smaldore	Incumbent	2-Year Term
Scott Spitzer	Incumbent	1-Year Term

**McLean Community Foundation Trustee Nominations – May 2019**

Steve Bloom	Incumbent	3-year term
Jennifer Feinstein	Incumbent	3-year term
Leo Jardot	Incumbent	3-year term
Kelly Green Kahn	Incumbent	3-year term
William Henneberg	Incumbent	3-year term
Jennifer Salopek	NEW	1-year term

## Revision of the MCA Bylaws

This topic was introduced by First Vice President Glenn Harris, who had chaired a temporary working group on this subject. Many of the revisions are largely aimed at aligning the Bylaws with current practice, rather than at changing current practices.

*Article III, Membership.* Proposed changes include: (a) Removing a provision making persons living “contiguous” to the MCA defined area eligible for full Membership in MCA at the option of the Board, while enabling such persons to become “Associate Members” who would be able to receive MCA communications and information, but without voting rights; and (b) reforming the Dues clause to reflect that dues are now assessed throughout the year, and no longer correspond to a fixed term of June through May, and authorizing the Board to establish special dues categories and allow multi-year memberships.

*Article IV, Officers and Directors, Conflicts of Interest clause.* Add a reference to “any other disqualifying conflict identified in the MCA Policies and Procedures Manual”.

*Article IV, Officers and Directors, Vacancies clause.* Make it mandatory (rather than discretionary) for the Executive Committee to refer to the Nominating Committee any vacancies occurring less than two months prior to the Annual Meeting.

*Article V, Meetings.* Revise the current provision requiring Membership Meetings in October and in January or February to a requirement that MCA hold “Membership Information Meetings” during those months. Such meetings would not be restricted to members but would, instead, be open to all local residents. These meetings would not be subject to Membership Meeting Quorum, Bylaw Revision, or Notice requirements. Also, provides that 25 MCA members (increased from 12) may call for a special membership meeting.

*Article VI, Committees.* Change “The specific dues and rules of each Committee shall be prescribed in the MCA Policies and Procedures Manual . . .” to “The general duties and rules for committees shall be prescribed in the MCA Policies and Procedure Manual . . .” (reflecting actual practice, and the fact that some large Committees with a high volume of business adopt Committee-specific procedures for themselves, apart from the Manual). Also, adds in the conflict of interest provision a reference to “any other disqualifying conflict identified in the MCA Policies and Procedures Manual”.

*Article VII, Nominations and Elections.* Adds that persons seeking ballot access by petition must submit an “Application for Officer or Board Member Trustee” form. Adds that the slate of nominees proposed by the Nominating Committee will specify the term being sought by each nominee (one year or two years). Changes the process for “write-in” candidates who submit a petition to be elected to the Board, provides that Board candidates will be voted in by plurality rather than majority, and authorizes the Board to make other election changes in the Policies and Procedures Manual.

The Bylaws revisions were approved by the members present at the meeting.

## **Committee Reports**

***Budget and Taxation.*** Jim Beggs reported for the Budget and Taxation Committee. This year's annual budget resolution commended the freeze on property tax rates, improved teacher salaries, and increased school bond funding. The user fee for garbage collection, which the Auditor had found was less than full cost recovery, is increased for Fiscal Year 2020. Some pension reforms have been introduced, but overall the sustainability of the pension system, including the need for more realistic assumptions about investment returns, remains a concern. The County and the school system have been skimping on maintenance, and the resolution urges increased maintenance expenditures. In the school system, boundary changes can contribute to efficiency in utilization of school facilities.

***Education and Youth.*** Committee Chair David Lee reported. On McLean Day, Supervisor Foust had presented MCA Teen Character Award certificates to several local teens, recognizing their donations of time to community and charitable purposes. The E&Y Committee had enlisted some high schools students as volunteers researching issues such as student mental health, and class size. The MCA-sponsored forum with Superintendent Dr. Braband and School Board member Jane Strauss had been well attended, with students asking many of the questions. The Committee had prepared a resolution, passed by the MCA Board, urging the School Board to proceed with a boundary study for McLean High School and Langley High School, to address enrollment projections well above capacity at McLean and unutilized capacity at Langley. Finally, the Committee was beginning to look into policies and practices for restraint and isolation.

***Environment, Parks, and Recreation.*** Committee Chair Ed Monroe spoke. Resolutions prepared by the Committee and passed by the MCA during the past year were: a resolution urging the Friends of Claude Moore Colonial Farm and the National Park Service (NPS) to resolve their differences, to enable the "living history museum" to continue to operate on that site; a resolution concurring with the Environmental Quality Advisory Council in opposing residential development, using landfill, on a floodplain; and a resolution calling for conversion of streetlights to Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) to following lighting standards aligned with the natural nighttime visible light spectrum. In the actual event, the Friends organization and the NPS were unable to resolve their differences, and the Committee is participating in the NPS consultation process regarding future use of that site.

Committee members have participated in all phases of the Dead Run stream restoration project. The Committee is looking into trails in Turkey Run Park, and trail maintenance generally. The Committee has supported environmental education activities at Churchill Road Elementary School. The Committee is taking an interest in

the McLean central business district Comprehensive Plan review, regarding planned provision of parks and greenspaces.

**Planning and Zoning.** Committee Chair Rob Jackson reported. During the past term, the P&Z Committee had prepared resolutions, approved by the MCA, on the following topics: a Zoning Ordinance Amendment (ZOA) for Continuing Care Facilities and Adult Day Health Care facilities; rezoning for a mid-rise condominium building on the Benchmark parcel on Old Dominion Drive in McLean; rezoning for a mostly residential mixed-use building on the Westbranch parcel in Tysons, with associated parkland; and rezoning for a Continuing Care Facility within the Arbor Row development in Tysons.

Two P&Z Committee members are on the Task Force, appointed by Supervisor Foust, that is working with County Staff, assisted by consultants, on revising the portion of the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan applying to the McLean central business district. The Task Force meets monthly. When an actual Comprehensive Plan amendment becomes available, the Committee will prepare a resolution on the proposal.

Ongoing and upcoming matters include: a proposed ZOA for Community Gardens and Farmers Markets; teen mental health facilities, proposed by Newport Academy, on Davidson Road; the County's Zoning Modernization (zMOD) project; proposed revision of the Comprehensive Plan relating to WMATA and Virginia Tech properties near the West Falls Church Metro station; a proposed senior living facility on the site of the Wolf Trap plant nursery on Route 7; and additional rezonings in Tysons.

**Transportation.** Glenn Harris reported for the Transportation Committee. During the past year, intersection improvements, traffic congestion, and Beltway expansion have absorbed much of the Committee's attention.

Either MCA resolutions or Committee letters, with assessment and recommendations, have been sent to VDOT and FCDOT regarding proposed improvements at the following intersections: Balls Hill Road and Old Dominion Drive; Lewinsville Road and Spring Hill Road; and Route 7 and Towlston Road. The Committee is monitoring other planned intersection improvements within the MCA area identified by the FCDOT study on "Tysons neighborhood" intersections (outside Tysons, but within the vicinity of Tysons).

The Committee devoted much time to the VDOT proposal for 4-month piloting of rush-hour closure of a ramp from Georgetown Pike to 495 North, to deter cut-through traffic in residential neighborhoods. Reflecting the controversial nature of the pilot proposal, the Committee's resolution supporting it was not passed by the Board.

Maryland, under the leadership of Governor Hogan, has launched a multi-year process to expand the Beltway in Maryland, including the American Legion Bridge (ALB). Relatedly, Virginia has proposed a Northern Extension (NExt) project to extend the

495 express lanes northward by 3 miles to reach the ALB. VDOT and Transurban officials briefed the Committee on these plans, and a public information meeting was also held.

The Committee continues to devote attention to sidewalk needs, and a Committee member serves on a National Airport noise working group.

**Public Safety.** Patrick Smaldore reported that, as MCA Public Safety Liaison, he works in coordination with Fairfax County departments such as Police, Fire & Rescue, and the Office of Emergency Management, to address public safety issues. MCA co-sponsors Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training offered by the Fire and Rescue Department. The County's consideration of whether the County Police should adopt Body-Worn Cameras is being followed.

**Tysons.** Sally Horn reported. The MCA Tysons Committee chairs the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition (GTCC), which meets bi-monthly. Issues of concern to the GTCC include: provision of parks and recreation facilities within Tysons, in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan; traffic congestion, including mitigation by Transportation Demand Management (TDM); Police service for this growing area; and schools.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at about 10 p.m.