

# **BMCA General Meeting Minutes**

**Date/Time:** Monday, 28 February 2011 / 7:30-9:00 PM

**Location:** Church of the Brethren

## **Minutes:**

1. Welcome and introductions: Conducted by Boulevard Manor Civic Association (BMCA) President, Mr. Mike McComis.
2. Approval of Minutes: Copies of the minutes were made available to all attendees. In the future, they will be posted on the BMCA website for viewing as well. No comments or exceptions to the minutes as drafted were noted.
3. Treasurer's Report: The BMCA Treasurer was not able to attend this meeting. However, he did provide a written report with copies available for all present. His report (summarized below) was approved as submitted.

Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2011 .....	\$ 5,743.49
<u>Membership Dues/Donations/Interest Income (Year-to-Date)</u> .....	\$ 0.45
Revenue balance as of 27 February 2011 .....	\$ 5,743.94
 <u>Expenses Year-to-Date</u>	 (\$ 100.00)
Total Balance as of 27 February 2011 .....	\$ 5,643.94

4. Committee Reports:

- a. Membership (Judy Norton): BMCA membership drive started in January. Fifteen new memberships have been received to-date, plus about the same number during this meeting. February newsletter included a membership form and envelope which has proven very beneficial.
- b. Hospitality (Claudia Maloney): Important to continue to notify Claudia of any new BMCA residents so that she can provide them with a BMCA welcome aboard package. Two significant upcoming events – April 23 at 1030 will be the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Church of the Brethren and on July 4<sup>th</sup> the annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July community party (both held in conjunction with the Church of the Brethren). Working ways to better advertise these events, to include street signs and possibly a banner to display at the Church along Montague Street. Claudia to look into some more.

c. Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) (Matt Doyle):

- i. Reevesland: The BMCA Board approved submission of a project under the Arlington County Neighborhood Conservation Program to renovate the Reevesland house. This project is projected to cost approximately \$500K-\$750K, and will require considerable coordination with the County, Parks, and Historical staffs.
- ii. Lawns-to-Lettuce: Through the dedicated efforts of Ms. Joan Horwitt, a proposition has been presented to the County Board, the Parks Department, and the Schools to use the Reevesland facility to establish an agriculture based learning center. This proposal would be primarily focused on using the facility as an educational center to promote agriculture and growing local food, but also many other community friendly uses and opportunities. This project and potential use of the facility is moving forward simultaneously with the above mentioned Reevesland NCP project to renovate the facility.
  - 1) Lawns-to-Lettuce-to Lunch Reevesland Garden: An interim project to construct and maintain a raised garden on the Reevesland property has been approved, with construction to start in March. Volunteers will be solicited to help with the garden's wood structure (which is being constructed with recycled lumber). Lettuce will be planted and used for lunch at Ashlawn Elementary School to promote local agriculture and sustainable & healthy food production and habits.
- iii. 1<sup>st</sup> Street and Montague Traffic Calming Project: This project, which provides for lighting and traffic safety measures along Montague and 1<sup>st</sup> streets, was approved for implementation in the last round of NCP projects. However, the County Manager has now indicated that they will no longer support the 1<sup>ST</sup> Street portion of this project. Consequently, the BMCA President, supported by the Board, has submitted a letter in protest of this decision.
- iv. 4<sup>th</sup> Road Traffic Calming Project: The County has decided that this project, which provides for traffic safety measurers along 4<sup>th</sup> Road, will be done in conjunction with the construction of the Montague and 1<sup>ST</sup> Street projects (for economies of scale reasons).

d. Safety (Chuck Norton):

- i. Neighborhood 25 Initiative (Mike McComis): Four streets in Boulevard Manor participated in the initiative, which included placing Neighborhood 25 signs in the front yards for approximately a week last Fall. The results and effectiveness of this program are under review by the County.
- ii. Crime Watch (Mike McComis): The Crime Watch program was discussed in general. No specific additional action on this program is required or planned at this time.

**Note:** Along these same lines, Mike let all attendees know that there has been a recent spike in vehicle larceny in Arlington County, and all residents are urged to take protective measures to ensure their vehicles are protected.

- e. Parks (Phil Klingelhofer):
  - i. Bluemont Park Playground: The new Bluemont Park playground is now open for use (though some fence work is still required and will soon be installed). There has been some problems with skateboarders using the playground previously, but no such problems have been reported lately. **The ribbon cutting is schedule for May 14<sup>th</sup> (time is TBD).**
  - ii. Parks Budget: The Arlington County Parks Department is under considerable budgets strains, and funds will be expended more judiciously this year.
- f. Zoning (Dormant): Though this Committee is currently dormant, Mike did let all attendees know about a recent noise issue that involved a refrigeration truck belonging to Target that was parked in the back of the store last December causing significant noise issues for some BMCA residents. Through quick action by the residents, Target removed the truck.

5. New Business:

- a. Safety Concern – Livingston & Wilson Intersection: An attendee brought up a concern of a large truck being parked on the south side of Wilson near the intersection of Livingston that was causing a safety concern for traffic trying to enter onto Wilson from Livingston. Mike said he would bring this up to the County for their review & action.
- b. Nominating Committee: Mike will work to establish a nominating committee to help identify new BMCA Officers and Board members to replace those whose term expires this summer.
- c. Annual BMCA Community Picnic: Tony Ermovick brought up the need to make picnic pavilion reservations soon for this fall's BMCA Annual Community Picnic. Consensus was to have it at the same location (Upton Hill Regional Park), and a date of September 18<sup>th</sup> was proposed. A motion made as follows:  
**Motion:** to proceed with committing the funds to reserve the Upton Hill Park picnic pavilion on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 for the annual BMCA Community Picnic.

*In favor:* Unanimous   *Opposed:* 0      Motion Carried.

6. Upcoming Meetings. The tentative schedule for upcoming BMCA General Meetings is as follows:

June 6, 2011   October 17, 2011

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Next Meeting: June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

*Tony Ermovick*