

# BMCA General Meeting Minutes

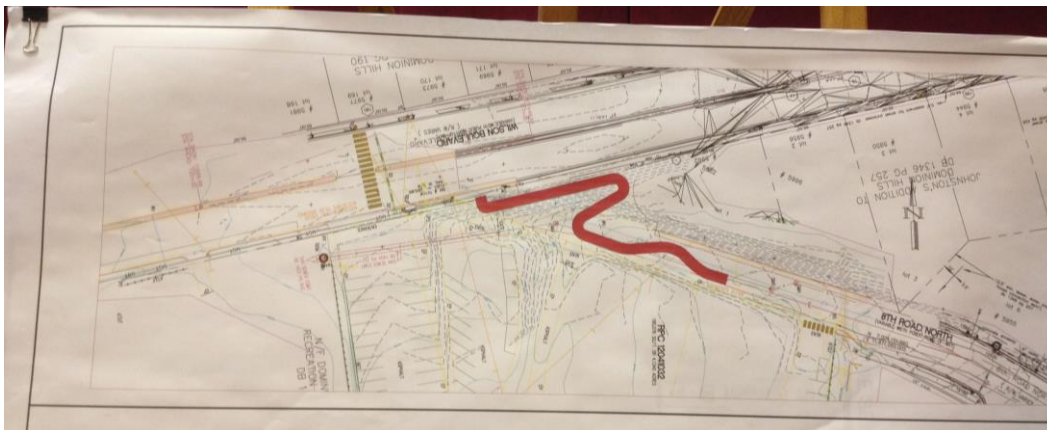
**Date/Time:** Monday, June 23, 2014 / 7:00-9:05 PM

**Location:** Church of the Brethren

**Attendance:** 35

**Minutes:** (Note: not necessarily in chronological order as presented during the meeting)

1. **Welcome and introductions (7:16 PM):** Ms. Claudia Maloney, Boulevard Manor Civic Association (BMCA) President, welcomed the members and guests in attendance.
2. **Guest Speaker – Officer R. Kelly, Arlington County Police Department.** Officer Kelly introduced our neighborhood’s new liaison officer, C. Ruiz. Officer Ruiz is reachable at 703-228-3300 ext. 9716 for voicemail or by email at [cruiz@arlingtonva.us](mailto:cruiz@arlingtonva.us).
  - a. Officer Kelly ran through the crime report. He wanted to warn us especially about what he called “woodchucks,” scam artists who knock on doors offering to repair gutters or roofs. They are a big problem in Arlington and can steal thousands from unwitting homeowners. Please call the police to check on any questionable people plying their services.
  - b. In consultation with another guest at the meeting, Mr. Roberts, he agreed to look into the problems associated with the traffic signal at the access road to Rte. 50 near Target. A resident reported that there have been a number of accidents at that intersection.
3. **Guest Speaker – William Roberts, Arlington County Transportation Program Manager,** provided a report on the plans for a pedestrian ramp and new stairs from Wilson Blvd to N. 8<sup>th</sup> Road for use by Ashlawn students and parents.
  - a. The County has rejected plans for a lengthy switchback ADA compliant ramp because they doubted anyone would travel that distance. Instead, they are examining this:



- b. Rich Engel, who serves on the Dominion Hills Pool Board, suggested reversing the direction of the ramp. Mr. Roberts has agreed to work with the Pool Board to come up with a workable solution.
  - c. Members of the Civic Association thanked Mr. Roberts for his responsiveness to our concerns with the 8<sup>th</sup> Road project.
  - d. Another member raised the potential attractiveness of any ramp system to the skateboarders up the street. Mr. Roberts suggested that they might include truncated domes in the ramp to discourage skateboarders.
  - e. Asked about the improved access from Bluemont Park to Manchester Street which is part of the Ashlawn renovation, Mr. Roberts reported that he understood that the Parks Department was working with APS to get the access moved closer to the 5<sup>th</sup> Road intersection because the slope is too steep nearer to 8<sup>th</sup> Road. This is not his project, though.
  - f. Finally, asked about the easement requested of the Pool Club off of Montague for the sewer pipe, another project that is not his, he answered that he understood that repairing and improving the storm sewer system at that location was required under the APS use permit.
4. **Approval of Minutes (Sandra Spear for Tony Ermovick):** Copies of the February 24, 2014 BMCA General Meeting minutes were posted on the BMCA website (<http://www.boulevardmanor.org>) in advance of the meeting. No comments or exceptions to the minutes as drafted were noted, and a motion to accept them as written was made, seconded and unanimously approved.
5. **Treasurer's Report (Rob Pilot):** The BMCA Treasurer (Rob Pilot) provided a written and oral Treasurer's report (with copies available for all present, see Attachment (A) to these minutes).
- a. The balance as of June 23, 2014 (accounting for a check that was issued but had not cleared) was \$9,831.75.
  - b. Questions were raised about two one-time expenses, an incorporation fee and design costs for improving the frontage along Rte. 50. Rob explained that the incorporation was to protect Board members and Officers from potential liability. All legal work for the incorporation has been provided *pro bono* by a member. The beautification expenses were addressed by Josh Handler in his committee report.
6. **Old Business**
- a. **Improvements to N. Manchester/Rte. 50 Intersection.** Claudia reported that VDOT has chosen a contractor to design and implement the upgrades to the intersection.
    - i. The bus stop will move to the west (Target) side of the intersection. VDOT will fill in the large hole and build a sidewalk.
    - ii. The design phase will be completed by December 2014 and construction will occur in spring 2015.
    - iii. The Pedestrian cross buttons were installed in the wrong place. They will be relocated to their proper position during construction in 2015.

- b. Arlington Villages Project. Gail Kutner reported on the Arlington Villages Project. The project went live on April 7.
  - i. It has an office on Military Road and one employee. The office is open from 10 – 3 Monday – Friday.
  - ii. As of June 23, it has 76 members. Membership is available to any Arlington resident aged 55 or older. They accept volunteers aged 18 and older. They are looking for Board members to help raise money.

7. **Standing Committee Reports:**

- a. Communications (Lee Dioso). Not present / nothing to report. Claudia thanked Lee for the great job he again did in editing and publishing the June BMCA newsletter.
- b. Conservation and Beautification (Josh Handler).
  - i. The membership had previously authorized \$1000 to study how to improve the frontage along Rte. 50. Josh reported that Meadows Farms will consult on design for \$65. VDOT will approve most any plan that meets some basic criteria such as not causing safety problems or planting invasive species, but needs to see a plan. Josh reported that it made sense to wait until VDOT completes the bus stop changes in 2015 before designing a plan.
  - ii. Claudia and Josh asked to be able to spend \$500 of the \$1000 on hiring a contractor to clear invasive species, brush and trash from around 5 pine trees on the East corner of the Manchester/Rte 50 intersection. The motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously.
  - iii. He reported that the erosion in Upton hill near the Wilson/Livingston intersection will be addressed by the park authorities with 6x6 timbers. Once that is complete, Josh will consult with them on plantings for the area.
  - iv. As reported in the newsletter, Josh organized an Earth Day cleanup of the Reeves Run area behind the skate park. The Master Naturalist found unique native plants in the area and believed that this area could be cleaned up to be a great example of a natural native plant haven. Something similar has been funded near Barcroft. Josh plans a further cleanup at Reeves run in the fall.
- c. Membership (Matt Smith)
  - i. Reported that we now have 228 active members, about 30% of whom pay by PayPal. Donations are down, but perhaps because we don't have specific projects to be completed.
  - ii. He encouraged members to submit fresh content for the web page. Contact Matt or Claudia to do so.
- d. Parks (Phil Klingelhofer).
  - i. The butterfly garden in the Bluemont Park parking lot nearest Wilson Blvd is up and running.
  - ii. The Parks department is planning to enhance the park across the footbridge from the 4<sup>th</sup> Street parking lot in Bluemont. They will move the backstop to the ballpark to the opposite side of the field and improve the field itself.
  - iii. Phil has drafted a letter from the Board to the Parks department requesting a sidewalk from Manchester at 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the bike path. The entrance to

the parking lot at that location is not wide enough for two lanes of traffic plus pedestrians.

- iv. The Board is taking no position on zoned parking near the park. The fear is that creating zoned parking for the block adjacent to the park will simply move the problem a block.
  - v. Invasive species (English Ivy in particular) are smothering the native species in Bluemont Park and Reeves Run. The problem is too great for volunteers to attack it in the first instance. Phil recommends that we staff the Neighborhood Conservation Plan spots with a member and alternate so that we can apply for funds for professional eradication of invasive species in parkland adjacent to our neighborhood.
  - vi. Phil volunteered to serve as the member and Josh Handler volunteered to serve as the alternate. Both were then appointed to their positions by the President, Claudia.
- e. Safety (Chuck Norton)
- i. Chuck asked that we all pay attention to any suspicious activity around transformers or substations. Dominion has asked that we be alert to threats against the electrical grid.
  - ii. He also encouraged members to volunteer for CERT training to be trained to help emergency responders. Training is at the Fire Academy near Shirlington.

**8. Special Committees Reports:**

- a. Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) (Vacant). Claudia appointed volunteers Phil Klingelhofer and Josh Handler to be member and alternate to this Committee.
- b. Reevesland (TBD / Joan Horwitt).
  - i. Reevesland's garden is now up to 8 raised beds. Volunteers needed weekend of 6/28 to move more soil into beds. Wheel Barrows especially welcomed.
  - ii. The County is funding the stabilization of the Reeves House.
  - iii. Reeves' birthday will be celebrated on August 24 with his favorite food, garden-fresh tomatoes on Wonder Bread with Mayo, cakes and cupcakes. Visit his front porch between 3 and 4:30 for carbohydrate overload and songs.

**9. Election of Officers:** Tony Ermovick, Chuck Norton, and Sandra Spear have nominated the following residents to serve as Officers, who were elected unanimously:

- a. President – Ann Wilson, N. Lombardy St
- b. Vice President – Claudia Maloney, N. 8<sup>th</sup> Rd
- c. Secretary – Julia Ovando, N 5<sup>th</sup> Rd
- d. Treasurer - Rob Pilot, N 3<sup>rd</sup> St

**10. Election of Board Members (2014-2016 term) the following nominees were elected unanimously:**

- a. Courtney Collard-Meltzer, N 2<sup>nd</sup> St
- b. Tony Ermovick, N. 3<sup>rd</sup>. St
- c. Nicole Frost, N 5<sup>th</sup> Rd
- d. Sandy Horwitt, N 5<sup>th</sup> Rd

- e. Darcy Reid Trick, N. Manchester St
- f. Sandra Spear, N 6<sup>th</sup> St.
- g. Paul Sverel, N 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

11. **Continuing Board Members** (term ends June 2015):

- a. John Eckrote, Wilson Blvd.
- b. Tamara Gelboin, N 6<sup>th</sup> St
- c. Josh Handler, N. Livingston St
- d. Phil Klingelhofer, N. 1<sup>st</sup> St
- e. Matt Smith, N 3<sup>rd</sup> St

12. **Conclusion.** Meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

**Next BMCA General Meeting:** October 20, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

*Sandra Spear for Tony Ermovick*  
BMCA Secretary

**Attachments:**

- A. BMCA Treasurer's Report of June 23, 2014

**Boulevard Manor Civic Association  
Treasurer's Report  
June 23, 2014**

**Beginning Balance as of 1/01/2014:** \$ 7,716.88  
(Combined Balance of BB&T Checking & Savings Accounts)

**Membership Dues/Donations Income (Y.T.D.):** + \$ 2,720.00  
**Interest credits Y.T.D.** + \$ 1.13

**Revenue Balance** (Beginning Balance + Income) **as of 6/23/2014:** \$ 10,438.01

**Expenses to date:**  
cleared Bank account (\$ 556.26)\*  
issued, not yet cleared Bank account (\$ 50.00)

**Total Expenses Y.T.D.** - \$ 606.26

**TOTAL Balance as of 6/23/2014:** = \$9,831.75

\*Figure includes \$100.00 item which cleared Bank account in 2014, but was part of 2013 expenses.

**CURRENT BB&T BALANCE as of 6/23/2014:** \$ 9,881.75  
(see bank online overview on reverse page)

**Submitted for Approval by Rob Pilot, Treasurer  
June 23, 2014**

Attachment (A)

**Boulevard Manor Civic Association**

**Report of 2013 Actual Income & Expenses and 2014 Budget/Actual Income & Expenses**

	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Actual
<b>Income</b>			
Membership & Donations	3,050.00	3,000.00	2,720.00
<b>Ongoing Expenses</b>			
Annual Legal Fees for Incorporation	-	100.00	
Ashlawn Fun Fair Donation (Brick purchase)	150.00	150.00	100.00
Beautification	-	200.00	
Civic Federation Membership	50.00	50.00	
Meeting Refreshments	-	100.00	19.53
Meeting Space	250.00	250.00	100.00
Newsletter Printing	-	270.00	
Signage	-	200.00	
Supplies	-	50.00	
Website Reg & Maintenance	-	150.00	
Welcome Committee	79.90	200.00	
Social Events ( <i>detail below</i> )	-	-	-
Easter Egg Hunt	108.46	150.00	123.98
Ice Cream Social	115.26	150.00	
Fall Picnic	989.06	1,200.00	162.75
Veterans Day Social	401.00	550.00	
Misc	205.62	-	-
Ongoing Expenses Total	<u>2,349.30</u>	<u>3,770.00</u>	<u>506.26</u>
<b>One Time Expenses</b>			
Corporation Formation Fees		750.00	
Route 50 Frontage Improvements/Design		1,000.00	
One time Expenses Total		<u>-</u>	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u>2,349.30</u>	<u>3,770.00</u>	<u>506.26</u>
<b>Net Income</b>		<u>(770.00)</u>	<u>2,213.74</u>

*Note:*    Beginning Balance as of 1/1/14:                   \$7,716.88  
             Current Balance as of 6/23/14:                 \$9,881.75

Submitted for Approval by Rob Pilot, Treasurer  
 June 23, 2014