

Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, March 4, 2025

Type of Meeting: Monthly Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Kelli Emerick

Invitees: Board of Directors, Officers, & Committee Chairs

Attendees:

Margot Dehn

Kelli Emerick

Paul Munch

Jen Nance

Mary Ellen Rotondo

Marc-Anthony Signorino

Matthew Weber

Jeff Winborne

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Treasury Report

The checking account stands at \$9,648.38. The CD stands at \$14,320.68.

Our CD matures on March 6, after which we have one month to either move to another CD or let it roll over. Matt will research options and send an email to the Board with his findings.

Membership

Membership levels remain at 70%. Mary Ellen will meet with Matt to discuss timing and comms for the new membership year and present at the next meeting.

Civic Affairs

Vianair Consulting (<https://www.vianair.com/vianairconsulting/>) completed its study on aircraft noise issues in Mount Vernon, but did not distribute the report. Jeff is working on obtaining a copy from MVCCA. Neither Vianair nor the County plan to provide a public hearing on the report.

The state legislature has scheduled hearings on allowing State Police to patrol the GW Parkway. In the meantime, we have anecdotal reports of a greater Parkway Police presence in our area.

Jeff is still waiting for an announcement for the proposed March public briefing on VDOT's plans and design for the 495 Southside express lanes.

Jeff attended Supervisor Storck's Town Hall meeting on February 8, where the Supervisor reviewed 2024 accomplishments and discussed upcoming challenges. Of note, he provided an overview Penn Daw Fire Station, Emergency and Supportive Housing Project planning process. The concept design phase is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2025 and the project will proceed into the schematic design phase. Estimated construction timeline is 2028. In addition, two virtual budget

town meetings were held in February to discuss the proposed FY 2026 budget. These can be viewed on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zb9RU2pvXal>

Jeff also shared that Kaine/Warner held a recent town hall with an open "mic" for Q&A. Topics covered were DOGE, supporting our local workforce. Congressman Beyer held a similar Q&A, and has established support mechanisms such as a job fair, and resourcing for legal and medical advice. Some of the resources can be found here:

<https://beyer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=6378>.

As always, Jeff will share relevant details with Lisa Aramony, who regularly updates our VCA website with civic information.

Communications

There were ideas from multiple individuals regarding potential upcoming communications, including 1) a request for people to update their online directories, 2) a reminder about yard waste pick up resuming, 3) a reminder on restrictive covenants and the process (to include a reference to solar panels), 4) sharing dates for upcoming events/activities, 5) asking for volunteers to join the 2025/26 BOD, etc.

Margot will follow up with Chris and Lisa to determine how to bundle and disseminate information.

Public Works

Paul, Jeff and Margot will meet with Chris on March 5 to discuss an approach to addressing Dominion's decision to place the Strategic Underground Program on "hold" for Villamay.

Security

No update at this time from Scott Newman. Marc-Anthony provided an update on efforts to create an Emergency Preparedness plan for the neighborhood, using a template provided by Fairfax County. This will include a survey to our community to identify needs (individuals to look out for), and resources (individuals with skills, equipment such as generators, tools, etc.).

Community Parks

Planning for a work day on 19 April from 0800-1600 continues. The focus will be on invasive plant removal, specifically Tree Rescue. May have some mulch to scatter around as well. 25 members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Beta Alpha Omega Chapter will be assisting for about 3 hours. Steve will ask Lisa to send out more info next week.

The county continues to investigate a cheaper way to install a drinking fountain, as the initial estimate was \$26K. More to follow.

A Scout from Troop 996 (Aldersgate Methodist Church) will be doing his Eagle Scout Project in the Park TBD April/May

Jerry Ford's sewer line has been repaired.

Restrictive Covenants

No update at this time.

Social Affairs

We were unable to secure a host for this year's soiree, so discussed potential options including not hosting an event this year, moving it to a summer month and having in a cul de sac, a back up of hosting it outside at the Nance home on April 25. Considerations were identifying liabilities if not holding it at a private home, whether budget for it could be applied to the annual dinner, among others. No decision was reached.

The Easter Egg hunt will be held in the park on April 12 at 10 a.m.

Kelli has found availability for Cedar Knoll for Wednesday May 7, 14 or 21. All on the call said they could do May 7. The minimum spend is 5K, and we reaffirmed that we decided not to do a subsidy when we approved the budget in October 2024. Kelli asked for input on whether we should sell drink tickets. A suggestion was made that we could potentially request sponsorships for wine service. No decisions were made regarding the event.

Other

- 1) Jen shared that there has been a third incident of a dog attack from the home of 1311 Gatewood Drive. In this instance it was over the past weekend. The front door of the home was open and the dog escaped and attacked a neighbor's dog, resulting in \$1,200 of veterinary charges, which the homeowners covered. The neighbors on the street have made police reports, and based on what Jen understood, do not feel the County is doing much. They are looking for assistance from the Board.

We discussed approaches, and whether there was a covenants approach as the neighbors have a decorative fence on their property at the sidewalk area which isn't really a fence, but could run counter to covenants. Ultimately, it was determined that an appropriate response would be for a Board member to have a discussion with and/or send a letter to the homeowners stating our concern for the safety of our neighborhood.

Jen will gather details regarding the history of the dog attack incidents and share it with the Board.

- 2) Margot reported that Chris has formed a nominating committee for the Board for 2025/26.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm.