

WCA Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm By President Ed Good. 32 in attendance, plus 3 officers.

Meeting agenda provided to membership

Motion made and passed to approve posted minutes from previous meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Brief description made of proposed budget, copies passed out to membership. Motion made to approve Treasurer's report, motion passed with one opposition

Committee Reports:

Report below provided by Nick Ratcliffe:

WCA Beautification and Environmental Committee 2012-2013 planning meeting 12/3/12

Nick Ratcliffe Chair

JoEllen Keating(Joe Keating substitute) present, William Mularie (Former chair Historical/ Preservation Comm) present, Skip Causer present, Peter Thomas present, Ed Croft (former Chair Environmental Com) present, Matt Custer(former member of Loudoun County Historic Review Board) consultant for architectural review items.

Action items: voted affirmative for committee consideration during 2013

Beautification:

1. Tree plantings 3 trees at Main Street phone Co, Denicore replacement, Factory St Crowley. Budget request \$600. Spring planting flowering trees or Willow Oaks.
2. Area clean up brush / tree area along Fairfax Street on Foundation property- vine and small trees clear view to pasture to east
3. Sewer plant get fence moved back and plant along road- skip Laurel – hide rusted fences opposite Philips Farm parking area. Expressed interest to see replanting plan of hedge row and shielding for parking area Old Wheatland Rd, Philips Farm. Request that in future, development plans of WF be fully aired through WCA before implementation.
4. Improve Corner Store area in evenings, some subdued lighting needed -private funds

5. Curb and sidewalk area Tin Shop and Livery Stable area planning VDOT/private funds

6. Thanks to Jinny Friend for cleaning brush along Main Street pasture where WCA planted trees in 2010-2009. Looks great!

Sewer rate issue- formulate response and fact finding before May rescheduled meeting: Determine accurate occupant/house/ sewer connection figures, contest accuracy and rationale of 90% build out formulation of Loudoun Water, seek uniform County-wide rate schedule

Open Space and easements in Village: press W F and VDHR to provide current information about planning for sale of eased open spaces and planning for easement alterations that would affect value of properties before potential sale. Inform Village property owners of potential changes to WF easements and possible effects on value/use of privately owned buildings or land in the Village. We were previously assured by VDHR that citizens would be notified about pending VDHR Board considerations of open spaces easements in Village. That has not happened.

Phase 2 WIP(EPA Watershed Improvement Plan) : Citizens Advisory Committee representation Jan- March 2013 Nick Ratcliffe (representative to 30 member County – wide committee)

Mr. Ratcliffe made a motion that foundation will notify WCA of any changes of open space easements. Motion approved that WCA President request from the WF an updating of status of easements.

Cemetery: No report made

Cooperative: Betsy Gibson was not in attendance, but noted to Caroline Malone, WCA Secretary, that any updates can be viewed on the WCA membership page.

Fundraising/Membership: No report made.

Preservation: No report made

Special Events: No report made

Streets: Tom Edmonds reported there was nothing new. Ann Belland has street concerns. Planned to set a date for a meeting b/f end of WCA meeting

Old Business:

1. 2013 Budget presented by Caroline Malone for Betsy Gibson, Treasurer. Only change noted was to include \$100 charitable donation to the fire department. Questions raised regarding purpose of the COD. No resolution made on this point.

New Business:

1. Officers for 2014: Next meeting will vote on nominating committee. Membership needs to know that current officers will not run again. Need new people. No officers, no WCA. This will be on May's agenda.

2. Bill in VA legislature regarding Waterford alleys (Geary Higgins, Ken Rosenfield):
Copy of the bill presented to WCA membership. President presented an overview explaining the ownership or lack thereof of Waterford alleys and introduced the discussion of the bill that will vest title to real property of the former Town of Waterford to the County of Loudoun.

This bill has been proposed, and has been voted out of subcommittee.

Geary Higgins interested in preserving the status quo. Alleys have encroachments on them now. The county could then have the power to allow encroachments and to authorize existing encroachments. Neighbors would agree on boundaries, the county would recognize this and the alleys would go away and the problem goes away.

Geary Higgins: bottom line, no clear chain of title on roads and alleys. If county has clear title, then it can drop rights to it, this will in theory give neighbors ability to agree on boundary. County has no desire to create problems. Survey would be needed b/f sale, if survey required, hope to have group discount.

WCA approves motion to support this bill. President to write a letter in support of the bill. Urge citizens to make voices known.

3. WF will allow WCA to hold meetings at no charge. Thank you, Waterford Foundation for your generosity.

4. Easter Activities: these have been cancelled this year secondary to the the majority of the committee being away on Spring Break.

5. Waterford Foundation director, Ken Rosenfeld gave a Corner Store Property status update. Staff is being moved to Old School. Staff will leave the Corner Store. They will not abandon the property, see the change as an opportunity for a new use. What would the community like to see there? Meeting place for the community. Second floor looking to rent this space...rent depends on numbers....perhaps artist space sharing.....\$1000 for full space. In the interim there will be some events to keep the doors open. New committee of the WF board, there will be lots of opportunities for input. Hope to find a use that the village likes and is excited about.

6. 4th of July Activities: Sharon Knipmeyer not present

4th of July permits being filed for road closing and fire works. Motion to hold pot luck at the Old School depending on successful negotiation with WF.

7. Brainstorming for new fundraising to raise money. Would like to see more village based fundraising....

Bob Bocek, Joellen, and Sarah Douglas to collaborate.

Nick Ratcliffe commented that the balance b/w entertainment and "needs" of the village is upside down. Would like to see needs come first, for example, tree planting.

Joe Keating: CODs to cover lean years! Take it out and spend it. Why not?

Dave Parker: Things that help drive membership are events that people love, for example fireworks at 4th of July.

Michelle Dunne: find the voice of the community...do we need/want to sustain the fireworks.

Bryan Hardy: Brought out topic of raising membership dues

Ed Lehman: Zip code mailing, people out of town to increase donations

Final decisions being left up to the fundraising committee.

8. Sarah Douglas: accomplished actress offering classes for adults and kids! 3 classes: 2 for kids, 1 for adults. 6-8y, 9-11y, an intro to adult classes 7-9pm....1st class to come and try. 7 week session, Fashion the class for those that gather. Flyers available. Monday the 28th at 7pm first class for adults.

Next meetings: May 16, September 12, December 5.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Malone
WCA Secretary