

**Waterford Citizens Association  
Minutes of the Business Meeting  
22 May 2001**

President Jim Behan convened the business meeting at 7:40pm. Motion was made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes of the meeting of 27 February 2001 as submitted.

Treasurer Steve Rubin provided the First Quarter Report for the fiscal year; a copy is attached to this report. Steve reported that memberships were running ahead of projections, and that the expected IRS refunds have been received. Sandy Skyta has made a \$100 donation to the WCA, in appreciation of the retirement potluck supper hosted by the WCA for her. It was agreed that the WCA would award Sandy a lifetime associate membership in recognition of her generous contribution. No sales this year have been made this year yet of the Waterford caps, and opportunities to sell more caps are sought. Draw downs for the July 4<sup>th</sup>. activities and payments to the Waterford Foundation and other designated recipients of WCA support will be made shortly.

Secretary Edith Crockett reported that the response to the membership renewal campaign had been very positive, and that a considerable number of new members were signing up. This was attributed to the strong support shown at Sandy Skyta's retirement party, which generated considerable community enthusiasm. Jim Behan commended the WCA secretary and Ed Lehmann on their efforts to ensure a good return.

Jim Behan reported for Chet Gibson Chairperson for the Barbecue Committee who was unable to attend the meeting, that a group of volunteers had evaluated and selected a new vendor for the WCA Barbecue stand at the Waterford Homes Tour and Craft Exhibit in October. The new vendor- will be Red, Hot & Blue.

**OLD BUSINESS:** President Behan reported that:

- No new information has been received on the WCA's request to VDOT to reduce the speed limit on Rte 662 to Route 9.
- The issue of through traffic on Church St. has not been finalized. (See below).
- The request for the removal of the tree in front of the Ratcliffe property -was approved and the tree has been cut down.
  
- **Land Use:** Steve Rubin reported that the ordinance drafted for the Goose Creek Conservation district has been made public. The Catocin Conservation District Association (CCDA) has reviewed the ordinance; changes are being made for the version being drafted for the Catocin area, to broaden the approach and to meet objectives of particular interest to the CCDA. Jack Robbins, attorney for the Goose Creek, has agreed to the ordinance being reviewed by other organizations, for the purpose of considering it as a model for others. Steve reported that Sally Kurtz has been very supportive of the CCDA's efforts. The Loudoun Board of Supervisors, (BOS) will only approve ordinances, if there is evidence of strong local support, such as petition drives. Demonstrated support is considered by the BOS as critical, in light of a highly probable need for higher taxes in the event of approval. A large outreach program in Goose Creek area was to begin the first week in June, and had strong grass roots support. Ordinances will probably not be in place before next year, beginning with Goose Creek. The BOS is meanwhile proceeding with its long-term use planning. Jack Walter- reported that the Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources, who is monitoring these initiatives closely, appears to favor them, and anticipates that the State will be providing matching funds.

President Behan introduced Logan Doane, president of the Catocin Preservation Alliance, (CPA) and his wife, Nancy Doane. The CPA was organized when it was learned that the three new developments in the vicinity of Stumptown and Taylorstown, particularly on and

around Loyalty Road, would involve about 250 new houses. The impetus behind the alliance comes from major health and environmental concerns, including the impact of additional septic fields, increased nitrates in the soil, requirements for additional schools and other infrastructure support requirements, along with safety issues as traffic grows. The CPA views the A-3 acreage designation as not appropriate for the area; it plans to issue a newsletter shortly. Although the CPA will not be a party to any lawsuit that may be brought against the County concerning the proposed new zoning, Mr. Doane stated that it may support 3 lawsuits currently going forward. The plaintiffs in these lawsuits own properties that abut the new developments of Waterford Ridge (150 houses planned), Waterford View, and Woodburn Estates. The lawsuits claim that the County is not enforcing existing environmental and engineering statutes with respect to land development. The County has asked for dismissal on technical grounds; no decision had been rendered as of 22 May. Discussion ensued on A-3 and A-6 or A7 zoning options, including clustering. The CPA intends to propose to the Loudoun BOS that the Catoclin valley also be included in the A-50 zoning that has been specified for the Middleburg area. A CPA web site was in the process of being created: [www.catoclinpreservation.org](http://www.catoclinpreservation.org). Donations are being solicited for legal activities being supported by the CPA; the address to which donations may be sent is PO Box 75, Waterford, VA 20197.

- **Streets Committee.** Paul Rose reported that VDOT has been very responsive to requests for a cleanup along Waterford streets. They have also agreed to re-open drainage ditches that empty into streets and which had become filled with debris. In addition, the missing High Street signs have been replaced. A meeting on traffic calming for in the Middleburg/Aldie areas of Route 50 is scheduled with VDOT for May 23 & 24; we will be monitoring the outcome of those meetings for possible application in Waterford. Peter Buck contacted and received responses from all property owners (except the Waterford Foundation), along Church Street that would be affected by a proposal to limit access to that street. It was noted that Church Street is presently required to be a through street and the installation of any signs or barriers to limit access would be a violation of VDOT regulations. Paul also reported that the County is launching a partnership program with local organizations concerned about water quality issues. As many as thirty organizations are expected to join; the WCA will also participate.
- **Youth Activities Committee-** no report.
- **Beautification Committee:** Chairman Jeff Bean reported that he had researched a number of trees that could be used to replace silver and other maples that are declining or have been taken down along Waterford's streets. The trees were evaluated for sensitivity to ozone, salt, and drainage, as well as climate issues. Primary selection factors included color, drought and moisture tolerance, strength of wood, and pollution tolerance. He recommended selection of an improved maple variety: Acer 'Autumn Blaze' a cross between a silver and a red maple. An 'Adopt a Tree' program was proposed, in which tree preferences for specific locations would be identified, and the costs of their replacement & maintenance would be shared between the WCA and the homeowners on or adjacent to whose property the trees would be planted. The Committee plans to plant some trees this fall. Nick Ratcliffe noted that the intent should be to plant in the "no man's land" along the streets, since VDOT has relinquished its claim to such areas, but continues to maintain responsibility for maintaining and, when necessary, removing trees growing there at its expense.

- **4<sup>th</sup> July Committee.** Charlie Brock reported that volunteers had been lined up for the festivities, candidate speakers had been approached, and Jeff Bean had volunteered to provide music. Publicity included notices to Waterford Elementary School students, emails to WCA members, and posters in the post office, and other locations in Waterford.
- **Cemetery Committee:** No report.
- **Water & Sewer Committee:** Paul Rose noted that he was continuing to monitor recent zoning issues that particularly focused on water quality and availability. He also reported that the open wells on the Huntley property had been capped. Jim Behan complimented Ken Dunn for capping the wells. Nick -Ratcliffe suggested that the County be asked for information concerning regulations on the construction of additional buildings suitable as living spaces, on existing properties, including as well apartments over garages, and whether these were potential water issues. He recommended that the WCA invite a representative from the County zoning board to discuss this at future meeting. President Behan suggested that the topic be further researched prior to issuing an invitation.
- **Fundraising Committee.** In the absence of Chairman Bern O'Dell, Jim Behan reported that the Waterford Foundation had received \$95,000 from the County for the Bury the Wire/Tame the Traffic initiative. This amount is the 20% match needed to use the T-21 funds to begin the environmental/design phase of the project. In addition, it was noted that the Committee would work to sell additional hats at the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Ed Lehmann asked that anyone having suitable photos for the cover of the new Waterford phone directory make them available.
- Paul Rose made a motion that Sandy Skyta be made a life member of the WCA, in light of her generous contribution to the WCA and the unique contributions she had made to Waterford as postmistress. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Kitty & Paul Rose offered to create a certificate for presentation to Sandy.
- In response to an inquiry from Terry Arney, Jeff Bean reported that the new owners of the Dennis house on the corner of Second and Factory streets, Joel and Sherry Satin, planned to bury the above-ground tank on that property. Discussion ensued concerning similar other aboveground structures in the village.
- Jim Behan noted that with the recent changes to the WCA Bylaws, there were now two apparent conflicts between language in the Bylaws and in the Articles of Incorporation. One area was with respect to the classes of membership: the Bylaws identify 2 classes of membership (regular and associate), while the Articles identify only one. In addition, according to the Articles of Incorporation, the WCA membership as a whole elects the chairpersons of the various committees; in the Bylaws, it states that the president appoints them. It is the recommendation of the WCA Board that the Articles be changed to reflect the two classes of membership and to empower the president to appoint the committee chairs. A vote on the changes will be taken at the next meeting of the membership.

The meeting was formally adjourned at 9:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith Crockett  
Secretary, Waterford Citizens' Association