

**Waterford Citizens' Association
Minutes of the Business Meeting
28 August 2001**

President Jim Behan convened the business meeting at 7:45pm, after a well-attended social gathering to welcome new members. Jim asked all new members to stand and introduce themselves and all attendees joined in a round of applause in appreciation of their support. The minutes of the August meeting having previously been distributed were approved as written.

Treasurer Steve Rubin reported that income for 2001 was well ahead of projections, thanks to a sizeable increase in membership as a result of a strong membership campaign by Ed Lehmann and Edith Crockett, and by Bern at the July 4th festivities. In addition, expenses to date have been lower than anticipated, particularly for the July 4th activities.

Vice President Chet Gibson reported that arrangements for the Waterford Fair WCA BBQ stand were well under way. A new vendor - Red, Hot & Blue – had been retained. The BBQ accounts for 60-70% of WCA revenue each year. Chet expressed appreciation for the efforts by Greg Stuessi and Ed Lehmann, and noted that because the Gibson family would be relocating to France at the time of the Fair, he was turning over the mechanics of the BBQ activities to Ed Lehmann. Jim Behan thanked Chet for all his efforts to date.

Secretary Edith Crockett reported that response to the membership campaign had been excellent, with many new members signing up. Followups to members who had not responded to the initial mailing were made by mail, email and telephone, resulting in an almost 100% renewal rate (some people had left the area). As of the date of the meeting, membership stood at 201, up 61 from 2000. The 2001-2002 WCA Directory had been updated with information from individual families, and distributed to all members. In addition, a brochure about the WCA is under development, and will be distributed to local real estate offices with clients interested in relocating to the Waterford area. Copies will also be made available via the new bulletin board next to the post office. Jim Behan expressed the thanks of the WCA to Ed Lehmann and Edith Crockett for their efforts that resulted in the highest membership rate ever achieved by the Association.

Committee Reports.

4th of July Celebration—Charlie Brock reported that the fireworks and other expenses had come in well under budget, and thanked the many volunteers who helped with the various activities, ranging from children's games to music to the potluck supper and more. The committee is always looking for new members. Jim Behan thanked Charlie Brock and Lynda and Peter Buck for managing a great July 4th celebration.

Fundraising: Chairman Bern reported that several memberships were renewed at the 4th of July activities. WCA caps were offered caps for sale on the 4th, and the Committee plans to sell more at the October fair.

Land Use: Steve Rubin reported for Committee Chair Kathleen Hughes. The Loudoun Board of Supervisors (BOS) revised the comprehensive plan in July. Rural areas of the county have been divided into 2 sectors: the southern sector (Middleburg/Aldie to the Fauquier County border) is designated as a 50/20 area; i.e., 20 acres are the minimum size for cluster housing, with 50 acre lots as a minimum for other forms of housing. At least 3 homes are needed to qualify as cluster housing. The Waterford area is designated as a 20/10 sector (20-acre lots per unit, or 10-acre lots for cluster homes). The rationale for this designation was that the BOS considered our area already more developed. Attempts made by communities in our area to match Middleburg's designation were

rejected by the Board; however they suggested we come back with an amendment in the fall, if we thought the A20/10 zoning is not appropriate. Several meetings were held with the CCDA and CPA organizations; however, it was proposed that the immediate WCA area stick with the A20/10 zoning. Several large local landowners support the latter zoning, but object to the larger 50/20 zoning.

However, 10-acre clustering is difficult, it is not possible to cluster unless each house is represented by 20 acres of open space. Houses themselves need to be on 3 acres or fewer, and sitings need to be such that the houses don't intrude on the viewscape. The CCDA had been working for the adoption of an ordinance that would allow self-taxing by a district for the purpose of buying acreage; this has been put on hold temporarily;. Instead the organization will focus now on appropriate zoning, and then address the easement process, on the basis that zoning is temporary but a conservation easement is permanent. If the 3 new developments (Waterford View, Waterford Ridge, and Woodburn Estates) forward as planned, they are expected to negatively affect traffic through Waterford. Suit has been recently brought against the BOS and the developers of these properties concerning state groundwater quality regulations that have not been followed by either body. Steve noted that new developments with respect to land use, including CCDA activities, will be kept up to date on the WCA web site. President Jim Behan asked for a vote of hands in support of the 20/10 cluster option from membership. Support was almost unanimous.

On the topic of 'next steps', Steve suggested that Jim Behan write to the BOS as official WCA representative indicating the community's support, and that Jim and other members speak at upcoming public hearings on land use. In response to a question regarding the position of local large landowners, Steve noted that an area map shows that a large part of the Waterford area is already in conservation easement granted by landowners. In addition, a large portion of the area is designated and used for agriculture. He also indicated that the majority of the local owners are sympathetic to our cause; they are not interested in the cluster option, but support the A20/10 zoning.

Streets Committee: Paul Rose asked that anyone having any problems with VDOT or other street-related issues contact him directly. With respect to traffic calming, Margaret Good reported that Waterford didn't get the T-21 grant this year it had applied for, but we are getting the \$95,000 which requires a 20% match. The study costs \$425,000. Connie Moore noted that we need to focus more strongly on traffic calming, as a survey taken several years ago showed that traffic is a major problem; since then, it has only gotten worse. Laura Shaw reported seeing increased policing activities in Waterford at random times & locations. Diana Arney suggested the WCA send a letter of thanks to the Sheriff's office; motion was made by Terry Arney, and seconded by Paul Rose. Paul Rose will write the letter. Recommended as next steps were:

- (1) Look at other communities that have been successful in traffic taming. Middleburg has made progress on this. Ken Dunne, Connie Moore, and Paige Cox, agreed to work as a committee to identify and recommend solutions.

Possibly retain an expert consultant. Gene Scheel noted that there are local graduate schools that specialize in transportation; we should consider approaching them with a view to using one or more of their graduate students..

Joe Keating noted that a study made around 20 years ago, a copy of which is in Waterford Foundation records, showed that the only solution was to create alternate routes. Several routes were proposed at the time and diagrammed on a map; they are still there; He suggested the WCA and the Waterford Foundation collaborate to get one or more of the routes put on VDOT's 6-yr (statewide) plan. Paul Rose noted, however, that in the interim much of the proposed route areas has since been built upon, and implementation would be doubtful. Laura Shaw made a motion, seconded by Jeff Bean, and passed unanimously, that Ken Dunn form a committee to look into traffic calming ideas, past and present, and to seek to identify issues and costs.

Water & sewer: Paul Rose reported on a new organization sponsored by the Department of Water Conservation with an interest in streams, surface water problems, and related issues is meeting monthly. The Loudoun County Stream Monitoring Program is currently taking stream samples and measuring flows; at present, it is not looking at well issues, but may in the future. The WCA should be represented; interested individuals are asked to contact Paul at 882-3696.

Youth Activities: Ken Dunne reported that although the summer had been quiet, his group was exploring the idea of a Fall Sports Day, sometime after the Waterford Homes Tour and Crafts Exhibit. Cate Wyatt announced the formation of a new Waterford Foundation committee for children's programs. Made possible by a generous donation from the Lea family, they are planning a family oriented square dance in the fall. WCA members are encouraged to volunteer to participate in the program.

Beautification Committee – Jeff Bean reported that the Committee is creating a list of 10 trees, approved by a professional arborist for use as road tree plantings. He described a new program developed by Edith Crockett, the Waterford Tree Remembrance program, whereby Waterford area residents can have a tree planted in approved locations to commemorate anniversaries, graduations, births, as well as memorials to individuals of their choosing. Donors will be recorded in a distinctive Waterford Remembrance Tree book, which will be kept at the Waterford Foundation. Samples of special announcement cards for specific events were passed around; a brochure describing the program is in development and will be made available shortly to all members. In addition, there will be detailed information available at the WCA web site. The Committee is moving forward with reviewing and revising the survey of road trees made a number of years ago, with a view toward selecting sites and planting some trees this fall.

Old business:

- Jim Behan reported that he sent a second letter on July 10 to VDOT concerning lowering the speed limit, but has had no response to date.
- A vote on an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation was deferred until the next meeting.

New Business

- Margaret Good reported for the Waterford Foundation that the 67-acre Carr property will be brought into the Waterford district, by formally extending the Waterford boundary to include that property.
- Jim Behan appointed Paul Rose, Laura Shaw, Bern O'Dell as a Nominating Committee for the slate of 2002 WCA officers. Paul Rose will serve as chairman.
- Paul Rose reported that Julie Lea has donated plexiglass and a location on her fence to host a new Waterford Bulletin Board, to replace the one lost in the post office. Propose that WCA take this on as a project - need roof, sliding panel, etc. to be able to put notices up. Ken Dunne will build the bulletin board, and will coordinate the design with Julie Lea. The WCA will purchase the necessary materials.
- Jim Behan reported that, with the publication of the WCA Directory, use of the WCA email list by the WF, the PTO, and others for their publicity would no longer be accepted. He encouraged other organizations to create their own email lists from the phone directory.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Edith Crockett
Secretary,
Waterford Citizens' Association