

September 9th, 2003 WCA Quarterly Meeting

Agenda

- Phillips Farm Sale: status report by Cate Wyatt
- Presentation by Loudoun Hospital Center
- Minutes of last meeting of June 10th presented
- Committee Reports including VDOT drainage issues
- Other Business

Phillips Farm Purchase: Status report by Cate Wyatt

The Waterford Foundation Board voted to buy the Phillips farm for \$3.9 M. It goes through on Oct 31st. Eventually we will see tax records and know of whom Historic Fields is comprised. The Washington Post plans to do an article referencing Olivia Henry's newspaper. Christian Science Monitor's already did an article. Waterford is getting good national attention. Bond sales are up to \$35,000, with checks from as far as New Zealand. Cate then talked about the funding efforts which included large individual donors as well as small bond sales, lemonade stands, a Fair public relations effort (special request for money), etc. The drive has reached \$2.2M so far. How do we get the additional \$1.7M? Cate suggested we ask for \$3M instead and establish a visitors center where the Foundation can store documents et cetera. She then asked for comments.

One comment wondered if the money can't be raised, is the Foundation going to be forced to sell property in the town in order to cover its debt. Another question asked where the concept of the building on the farm came up. Cate talked about the lack of parking and public facilities for visitors to the town. In addition there is a need for a safe place to archive all the information collected already about the history of Waterford. Perhaps this is where we could put the interns who currently can't even be given a desk. The Foundation just received \$75,000 to work on shoring up the mill. But it can't be used as a permanent display because it is needed for the fair.

Another comment was made that this proposed building will lead to increased pressure to push Waterford as a possible "cutesy" town or a new Williamsburg. It was pointed out that if we take funding, we can't keep visitors out. Another question was asked about how many are visiting currently. It turns out Waterford gets about 25 people each Sunday. Cate suggested WCA increase their percentage of fair profits. A listener then asked if all the monies contributed to the Save Waterford Campaign are only going towards the purchase of the land. Cate confirmed that this is so.

Tony Raker—Community relations for Loudoun Hospital Center

Mr. Raker gave an overview of what the Loudoun Hospital Center is doing.

There is a new birthing unit on back of Lansdowne lot. That makes 54 beds available for other needs. There are roughly 37 patients in emergency department each day. Last year there was a 5 to 7 hour wait for a bed. This year they have had spare beds every day all summer. The delay is now down to 2.x hours from walking in the door to walking out fixed. When a hospital hits 80% bed use regularly the state starts thinking perhaps more beds should be allowed.

VA adopted Certificate of Need process. State divided into multiple districts. Each district must then have adequate needs for that area. Rural areas now have better access to acute care, but increased regulation slows the process down. An additional 15 acres are available for expansion in Leesburg (Cornwall) campus.

Old Business

Motion was made seconded, and approved to defer the reading and approve the minutes of the June 10th meeting.

Road Drainage: Paul Rose talked about VDOT drainage maintenance. Ditches are full of sand from last winters snow efforts. Glenn Kinny of VDOT spent two hours walking the village seeing all the problem areas. Paul listed the specifics. A maintenance engineer came out to survey the work needed. Paul said Glenn had a can do attitude. He was chagrined at the state things were in; he is new to the job and here for 5 years. Several of the culverts are completely stopped up and may need to be re-dug. Paul also mentioned that we are losing street signs. The entire post is being removed. We should try to be vigilant to catch the perpetrators in the act.

BBQ: Volunteers are still needed

Budget: The budget looks good because of extra donations made for 4th of July. (roughly \$6,122 spent, \$3,505 in membership dues, \$2,870 earned in July 4th gift giving, \$440 found in ad revenues, \$116 earned in caps, therefore ~\$700 in the black.)

Historic Preservation: Motion to expand the Simms house was denied by the Historic District Review Committee.

Beautification Committee: Nick Ratcliffe talked about tree replacement on the Hunley property on Second Street and the area next to Cate Wyatt's house where the trucks get parked. When construction is done on her house he hope to be able to plant there. Plantings might also be made on the hardware store property; the adjacent property owners are in favor of something planted there. All is set to plant trees right after the fair.

Other business

A nominating committee needs to be appointed to find a slate to be presented at the next meeting for election which is perhaps on Thurs, Nov. 7th. A minimum of three people is needed. They can be recruited and activated before the next meeting to vote on a slate of officers.

A WCA pot luck supper was suggested where everyone would bring a dish and \$10 dollars and all the funds would be donated to the Phillips Farm Fund. Some coordination should be done with the PTO and Foundation to find a good time to try this. Perhaps in January when everyone is hunkered down for the winter.

Ed Lehmann asked for comments on the purpose of the WCA meetings? Should we be trying to get more people outside of town to attend? How do we reach them? Do we want to reach them? It was suggested that perhaps sending out the minutes to those not present. It was suggested that WCA faces the same as all other groups, which is: some people attend regularly, some come and go, some can't be bothered. Another citizen mentioned that it is when individuals take up particular issues that things get done. Finally it was suggested that perhaps we should make an affirmative pitch that more people should come to the next meeting to vote in the new officers, and that maybe there should be more discussion on topic possibilities.

There was interest in the Sally Kurtz and her opponent debate. It was also suggested that the WCA might consider sponsoring a debate for the office of Supervisor since there are three candidates.

The meeting was adjourned.

Secretary
Anne Hardy