

Minutes of the Waterford Citizens' Association Regular Meeting, September 18, 2014

Meeting came to order at 730

Minutes of Previous Meeting (posted on the WCA website) were unanimously approved.

Joellen moved, seconded. Approved unanimously

Treasurer's Report. Betsy Gibson provided the treasurers report that the WCA has a \$4,500 positive balance projected for 2014 and the BBQ is projected to earn 3500. She noted an extra expense for officer insurance – budgeted 550, but it was 972. Betsy tried to reprice but was not successful. Treasurer report approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Audit	Michelle Dunne
Beautification	Nick Ratcliffe
Cemetery	Paul Rose
Cooperative	Betsy Gibson
Environmental	Nick Ratcliffe
Fund Raising	Edith Crockett
Membership	Ed Lehmann
Preservation	Laurie Goddin
Special Events	Ann Belland
Streets	Joe Keating

No report needed on Audit Committee

Beautification committee. Nick reported that cleaning the green was a successful effort. In doing so, the committee surveyed items that needed attention and distributed list to attendees. They noted some dangerous situations (e.g. dangerous limbs) and contacted Dominion Power; VDOT and Dom came to take 4 trees down, so the green is much more open. VDOT crew helped clear out the drainage ditch (2 full dump trucks full of gravel). Volunteers worked from 9 am to 3 pm.

VDOT noted that historic drainage ditch still had to handle all the water coming down Water Street area and that it needed to be maintained clear. Offered to bring vacuum system up to ensure that the ditch stays unclogged. Rob and Andrew Hale fixed the bench by the Gaol. Railroad ties were removed.

Nick reminded us that removal of trees in the ROW is not responsibility of property owner, but if we report it to VDOT through the beautification committee, VDOT will contact arborist for evaluation and then reporting to dom.com (if its endangering powerlines). VDOT does work if powerlines are not endangered. Trees outside of ROW and not endangering power lines are responsibility of property owner.

Joe Keating reported that powerline between pole and meter will be pruned by dom.com. Nick

may call dom.com to confirm approach.

Pete Thomas noted that power to red barn comes from tin shop, and trees need pruning. Nick noted that foundation once pruned trees. Ed will inquire from Foundation about how tree management is handled.

Nick noted that the large spruce tree needs to come down; WCA once had a commitment from Dominion to take down the tree but it never happened. It is ugly and will be horridly pruned by Dominion so it needs to be removed.

Joellen moved that we ask Dominion to remove the tree, seconded by Pete Thomas. Jeff noted that tree is older. Unanimously approved.

Nick noted that the little spruce tree was planted once for kids and the Committee is going to leave it for now.

Cemetery Committee. Eagle Scout is almost done with the entrance gate; Rob Hale helped with design. All materials are mortised and nails are historic reproductions. Built in the basement of the church and taken apart and constructed on site. Nearly complete and very successful project; all construction debris to be removed upon completion. There was discussion about how to get a publication to report on this great project.

The foundation previously supporting the cemetery has withdrawn its support; private donations, especially from Mr. Hough have helped replace. Spent \$1400 on tree removal this spring. Boy Scouts have done a fantastic job cleaning the vegetation. Pete Thomas suggested a thank you letter; Paul noted that Fair booklet will have a thank you and a letter will come from the cemetery association. Liz agreed to provide a letter from the WCA as well, in addition to the official letter from the Cemetery Association.

Nick noted that exec committee approved the idea that the WCA should pursue adopting the highways coming into Waterford.

Fundraising. Edith still working on events that would bring people together and she is looking for ideas.

Membership. Up to 105 members. Starts again in December. Discussion of how to get more people to attend. Ed noted that PTO is also having trouble getting volunteers. Nick noted that we used to put flyers throughout the village but that difficult issues bring people out.

Preservation. Anne discussed the historic house survey and presented pictures of Sherry Satins house. Idea is to take picture of houses and document them and capture unique elements before renovations occur. Liz further discussed and encouraged people to contact Lori Goddin.

Special Events. Anne noted that next event would be Christmas. Liz will confirm date for Halloween. Anne thought a Christmas celebration in the green used to be held and we could do that again if people wanted.

Streets. Heavy spring rains resulted in lots of gravel; a street sweeper came but was not able to sweep where cars were and rain came again. Gravel a big problem for Keatings. Jeff noted that the WCA should lean on the County for support.

Old Wheatland road treatment was discussed and is considered maintenance, and the new surface is intended to keep road together. VDOT rep noted that additional changes to roads will need to be brought up to standards and that might affect historic characteristics.

Truck traffic. Joellen introduced Jerry Pauly from VDOT. There is a truck restriction in Waterford –through trucks are not allowed to come up Clark’s Gap Road and through Waterford; this was approved 1999, but there is not adequate signage, and VDOT is planning to add signs.

Peter Thomas asked whether trucks are paying attention. Officer Lopreto noted that they can enforce once signs are installed. Joellen has talked to the truckers at site on Old Wheatland and requested that they talk to company.

VDOT is reviewing the route and ensuring that signs are posted. Sherriffs office can enforce more. Local traffic OK; construction traffic not very controllable, however. Only true through-trucks are prohibited. Officer Lopreto recommended we contact the developer; send a letter and copy Lopreto. Annie recommended we send a letter to developer and contact Higgins office too.

Nick asked about weight limit of the bridge; Anne will ask Nestor what the limit is. Its not signed so there are no limits.

Linda recommended we revisit the traffic calming plan. Lopreto noted that County has some resources for traffic calming and we should get in touch with the County. He likes cobblestones (see Burkittsville). Stops signs are traffic calming and may be revisited. Joe Keating – picture from 1935 shows his house is 8” above street. Now 2’ above. Waterford has never been properly milled. Water goes into house. In 1964, front wall was undermined and fell away.

Nick noted that the Waterford Area Management Plan includes a bypass. Pauly noted that the County is in drivers seat for road funds, and a new law establishes a rating process for all new roads. Jeff Bean inquired about drainage and whether concrete/grated ditch in some areas of the village. Nick noted VDOT rules require current standards so we should be careful. Others noted that cars are coming so we need to plan. Kimley Horn report may not be perfect but it has lots of info. Report is online.

- Old Business

1. Review of Board Ruling on Fundraising and Fireworks - Liz Hale

Motion was clarified by the exec committee at July 13, 2014 meeting and included on this agenda.

WCA Meeting of the Board: 8 Members present, 4 Officers and 4 Committee Chairs (Hale,

Goode, Gibson, Malone, Ratcliffe, Belland, Lehmann, Crockett)

Final Word on the Fireworks:

“Membership dues, BBQ booth sales, and other non-specified fundraising dues shall not be used to fund fireworks. Separate and distinct fundraising is permissible as well as earmarked donated funds with the understanding that if there is not enough money it will roll forward to a future year until enough money is raised to pay for them. Monies must be available before the signing of the fireworks contract.”

BBQ Booth - Annie Goode reported the Red, Hot and Blue will provide BBQ and encouraged people to sign up to volunteer

New Business

Presentation of Officer Slate - Michelle Dunne/Tracy Balboni/Chet Gibson

President – Anne Belland

VP- Annie Goode

Secretary – JoEllen Keating

Treasurer – Edith Crockett

Open Forum

Paul Rose reported that Post Office is cutting way back on small post offices. Hours may be drastically reduced. Might be a 6 hour post office. FY16 is when changes will take place; a meeting will be held and surveys will be distributed. Hasn't been scheduled yet, but we should be on the look out for this. It was encouraged that people participate to preserve Post Office service level.

Joellen moved adjournment; seconded and unanimously approved.