

WCA Meeting Minutes  
December 4, 2014

The member pages of the WCA website ([www.waterfordcitizens.org](http://www.waterfordcitizens.org)) can be accessed by:

username: wca  
password: waterford12

Meeting called to order by President Liz Hale @ 1930.  
2 Officers in attendance. 15 meeting members in attendance.  
Agenda and Treasurer's Report provided.

Meeting minutes unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report provided by Betsy Gibson and presented by Liz Hale. 2014 Year to Date reports a surplus of \$5,139. Budgets for 2015 requested from Committee Chairs to help provide guidance to new Officer Board. Treasurer report unanimously approved.

### **Committee Reports**

**Audit:** No updates

**Beautification:** Nick Ratcliffe reported on the American Chestnut project, 8 trees were planted through individual contributions. There was a high mortality rate and only 4 survived. The ACF returned today and replanted all the dead ones plus added one more. All those who made contributions will receive a subscription to the Foundation newsletter, new members and new contributions are needed to support project. There is a \$214 surplus for this project, to cover most expenses for 2015 in tree care. Trees require weeding and maintenance of fences from deer, squirrels and voles. Excessive water was the biggest problem the Chestnuts faced this year, leading to the high mortality.

Nick discussed the Village Green improvements and clearing, noting that the large spruce tree has been taken down after member approval at the September meeting. There has been a recent transfer of ownership of the green from the State to the County. Nick met with WF members, Geary Higgins and County legal authorities regarding management of the green. County will likely retain ownership of green and maintenance will fall under Parks and Recreation while usage of the green left to Village discretion. No formal decisions made at this meeting. The County is acting on the premise that they own it and the Beautification Committee will present more ideas to revitalize it.

Jeff Bean spoke with Abernathy and Spencer regarding tree planting in the Village. Abernathy agreed to give WCA 4 trees at a 10% discount, proposed budget for these trees is \$250.

Nick suggested that the Preservation Committee become involved in what is happening to properties in the Village that are undeveloped and/or not eased that may be coming up for sale. Specifically, noting the 12-15 buildable lots next to High Street and the 5-6 lots within the insurance company property. The WCA would like to see the property eased and then given to the WF. Nick would like to see WCA Preservation work with the Foundation land use committee on this project. Following this suggestion Nick spoke about zoning for the insurance company. He feels we should state our intent to support their zoning and let them know we are going to support them.

Jeff Bean followed up with a formal motion to send a letter to Loudoun Mutual Insurance and the County Board of Supervisors that states:

“TO: The Loudoun Mutual Insurance Co.

We the members of the Waterford Citizens Association herewith make known the following:

WHEREAS The Loudoun Mutual Insurance Company has been in business in the village of Waterford for over 150 years; and,

WHEREAS The Loudoun Mutual Insurance Company has been a significant benefactor to the citizens of, and property owners in the village of Waterford for over 150 years; and,

WHEREAS The Loudoun Mutual Insurance Company has expanded and is in need of more room to continue in business in Waterford;

NOW, THEREFORE, we the members of the Waterford Citizens Association declare our full support for the Loudoun Mutual Insurance Company in their desire to remain and grow in the village of Waterford.”

Motion is unanimously passed.

**Cemetery:** No updates

**Cooperative:** No updates

**Fundraising:** Edith Crockett reported a poor response from membership regarding fundraising ideas following the survey. She would like to try hosting a dance at the Old School to boost participation and see how that goes.

**Membership:** Ed Lehmann noted a total of 124 members.

**Preservation:** Liz Hale briefly discussed the historic house survey project spearheaded by Laurie Goddin. This is a joint effort between historic home owners, villagers,

WCA, and WF. WCA should endorse this effort. The project heads would like grant money for this project or perhaps individual contributions to photograph elements of historic homes.

Motion made by Laurie Goddin and presented by Ann Belland.

"I move that the WCA formally endorse the Historic Waterford Building Survey Project, lead jointly by the WCA Preservation Committee, the Waterford Foundation and the residents of our historic homes within the Village and surrounding area."

Motion unanimously approved.

**Special Events:** Ann Belland noted the Christmas tree on the Green has lights and is ready for decorating and the tree lighting to be held this Sunday evening at 5pm. Many thanks to those who helped put the lights on the tree. Saturday morning there will be ornament making and decorating for the kids in the basement of the John Wesley Church and Sunday evening will include decorating and lighting the tree, along with cookies and hot chocolate and Christmas caroling if participants are interested.

Laura Shaw included an event hosted by she and her husband, Jeff Bean, for an old fashioned Christmas sing-a-long with Mattie McNeal and her Dulcimer on December 13th at 4pm at the John Wesley Church. Children welcome as long as they are accompanied by an adult. Please bring a plate of cookies or a finger food to share.

**Streets:** Joe Keating reported "VDOT has done no harm or good." Paving of Old Wheatland Rd has been completed. He noted a large tree hanging dangerously over Clarks Gap Rd that has not been taken care of to date. Also, Old Waterford Rd has been tarred and chipped.

**Old Business:**

1. BBQ Booth Proceeds: The booth made \$100 more than 2013, but since we did not need to pay for tent rental this year, there was actually a \$500 improvement from last year. Good partnership with Red Hot and Blue, should follow up with them for 2015.
2. Village Green Update-Nick Ratcliffe included this above in Environmental updates.
3. Historic House Survey and Motion for WCA Endorsement: Included above in committee updates
4. The Hessians are not coming this year. The re-enactment of the Battle of Trenton was supposed to happen on December 27th this year. Unfortunately, they are not able to do it this year, but are working for 2015 instead. During re-enactment they are hoping to have Villagers move their cars down at the end of Bond Street for about an hour.

**New Business:**

1. Election of 2015 Officers: Slate presented and approved at last meeting.

President: Ann Belland  
Vice President: Annie Goode  
Secretary: JoEllen Keating  
Treasurer: Edith Crockett

Motion made to dispense with the written ballot. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve slate as presented, motion passed unanimously. Congratulations to our new officers for 2105!!

2. Open Forum: Wendy Roseberry introduced herself, she and her husband, Brian, have recently moved into the Village. Brian is an artist and has a show on Sundays for all of December, fliers passed out for location and times. Wendy also graciously volunteered herself where needed.

3. No updates from Officer Lopreto

Tentative Meetings in 2015: Jan. 22, May 14, Sept. 10, Dec. 3

Motion made and unanimously approved to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:21pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Caroline Malone  
WCA Secretary