

Waterford Citizens Association

Minutes of the 4th Quarter 2019 Regular Meeting

The fourth quarter regular meeting of the Waterford Citizens Association (WCA) was held Tuesday December 10, 2019 at the Old School. Social began at 6:30. Shortly after 7:00 pm, the meeting was called to order by Christy Hertel, WCA President, who chaired the meeting. A quorum was present.

Agenda. The Agenda was distributed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes. Richard Rogers, Secretary/Treasurer, presented the draft minutes for the third quarter meeting, as attached. A motion to adopt the minutes as drafted was made and seconded. A voice vote was taken, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Election of 2020 Officers. Kathleen Hughes presented the slate of nominations for the 2020 officers: Ray Daffner (President), Jill Kadish (Vice President), Carol Smoots, (Secretary), & Betsy Gibson (Treasurer). The slate was approved by written vote overseen by the Elections Officer, Ed Lehmann.

Update on Budget/Expenditures. Richard gave an update on 2019 dues, contributions, assets and expenditures. He made the comment that net assets were down from last year, primarily because of expenditures for preparation of the Fair BBQ booth; even though Fair receipts were up, expenditures (which included some capital expenditures) were also up, resulting in a loss.

Committee and Event Updates.

Fundraising. Tim McGinn, VP and Chair of the Fundraising Committee, gave an update on the WCA's fundraising efforts at the Waterford Fair. Tim stated that the effort this year was not disappointing because in some significant ways the BBQ stand was a success: revenues were up, and the location was more favorable, resulting in increased revenues and visibility for the WCA. He made the point that even though the net revenues were a loss, the expenses included the cost of materials (lumber, etc.) for the new BBQ stand, a capital expenditure. He said that if the WCA decides to continue with the stand next year, the Fundraising Committee would have to make provision for reassembling the stand: Tim has stored the materials for the stand and said he would help to construct it next year.

There was some discussion of a dispute with the Waterford Foundation about calculation of the payment of the Foundation's share of gross revenues. The Committee decided to pay the \$250 that would have normally been paid as the deposit to the Foundation to Linda Landreth for

the use of the Waterford Market's side lot, which was the location of the BBQ stand. Tim understood that the \$250 would be a credit against the Foundation's share (10%) of the gross revenues, but the Fair Director, Tracy Kirkman, disagreed, suggesting that the 10% should not be reduced by the \$250. Ultimately, the \$250 was paid to Linda, and payment of the 10% of gross revenues for the Foundation was reduced by \$250. It is expected that there will be more discussions with the Foundation in anticipation of the 2020 Fair; among them being the possibility of reducing the 10% to 5% (an amount that was in place in some previous years) because of the special relationship among the WCA, Waterford citizens, and the Foundation.

Beautification, Nick Ratcliffe, Chair, reviewed the activities of the Committee. See attached. He reported that Dominion was considering the possibility of burying the electric lines in the old Village if Dominion could get funding. This could result in additional hook up costs. Another issue is that poles would not necessarily be removed but would remain in place for telephone and cable connections.

Social. Jill Kadish, Chair, reported on the October 25 party held at the John Wesley Church basement and on the Friday get together at the Corner Store. Both were fun (!!) and well-attended, especially the October party (40 – 50 people). Richard reported that \$85 was contributed at the October party.

Events. Ann Belland reported on the ornament decorating event with Santa. This is an old Waterford tradition – thanks to Chris Geaneas (also Uncle Sam from the 4th of July) who took on the role of Santa. Around 15 happy children were in attendance.

Traffic. Meredith Imwalle, Chair, reviewed an exhibit with the results of the online traffic proposal questionnaire. The exhibit is attached. She said that there was significant support for enlarging the entrance signs, putting in temporary electronic speed signs until chicanes/chokers can be designed and approved (a 2-4 year process). There was support for putting in raised crosswalks at the center of the old Village (intersection Post Office, Corner store, Pink House); although this intersection does not have a lot of foot traffic, VDOT thinks it might be appropriate because of the unusual configuration of the intersection. VDOT would design the crosswalks in cooperation with the County. Mary Sheehan noted that VDOT and the County are showing more flexibility in reviewing the

Traffic Committee's proposals and that some of these proposals have a good chance of being approved by VDOT and the Board of Supervisors; she attributed that to the persistence of the Traffic Committee.

Water. Mark Sullivan, Chair, reported that several of his subcommittees had been formed with leaders: Ray Daffner, financial resources; Paul Rastas, water resources (a guest speaker may be invited to the next meeting); and Jonathan Daniel, developing an interview questionnaire.

Motion to Continue Water and Social Committees in 2020. The Water and Social Committees are *ad hoc* committees approved by the membership in 2019. *Ad hoc* Committees are not mentioned in the WCA bylaws, but they have been appointed from time-to-time for special purposes to operate on a short-term basis. Richard suggested that the bylaws be changed to add a permanent Social Committee. He then made a motion to approve the continuation of these committees through 2020. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous vote.

Announcements – Paul Rastas invited everyone to join in Christmas caroling in the old Village on December 17 at 6:30.

Close. There being no further business, Christy made a motion to close, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

Richard Rogers, Secretary

WCA Beautification Committee Report Dec 2019

In November we planted 4 roadside trees 3 as replacements for trees lost over the past 3 years. The replacement trees are: Two at the Weavers Cottage, and one at Erickson's.

A new tree at Sarah and Matt's compliments Erickson's and an existing tree between Sarah's and Erickson's. The NW side of Second St. has no power lines and is a prime location for large overarching trees to develop.

Erickson's sidewalk was repaired in the process by Kurt. This was the target for the first repair under our (WCA) plan to encourage homeowners to fix sidewalks. The plan called for as much \$175/ per household. The budget allowed for \$350 in 2019. Kurt paid for all of it. If the Ericksons and the membership agree, the WCA could contribute a token \$175 to the Ericksons.

See the original 1970's map of trees in the village and VDOT's calls on which ones are/are not within VDOT's right of way. Some of these numbered trees are no longer with us, but many are. Check the trees by your property and see if they are your responsibility or VDOT's. Rule of thumb most roads in village have a 30' right of way. Measure from the centerline of the paved portion of the road and extend 15' out from the centerline to find the limit of the right of way. A clue--- the telephone poles are placed at the outside limit of the VDOT right of way. The land beyond the right of way may be county property or in narrow sections may in fact encroach on private property. On the Big Hill, Village Green and at Linda's store that appears to be the case.

Joe and Meredith should be thanked for removing two dead almond trees on their property at no cost to the WCA. The Committee suggested removal in 2018 and planned for paying for removal costs in the 2018 budget.

More on Dominion Electric (DE) and tree cutting----- Workers from DE are assessing the cost for coring to bury the electric lines in the village. No real funds yet-- but they are seeking funds. Sounds great! However, neither the cable nor Verizon telephone land lines agreed to pitch in money. So it looks as if the poles would be left standing in any DE burial. Be on the lookout for coming public meetings on this subject. The Beautification Committee contacted the WF for cooperation on this issue but there has been little response. In case you have not thought about it—when every car in the village will run on electric recharges – how much new energy will be needed and where will the improved hi-tension wires be put through Waterford? Is this part of the underground planning of DE?

The WF asked if the WCA could help with cleaning up the pull off area at Milltown intersection. Clearing brush, raking gravel was mentioned, some suggested tree removal or additional shrubs. The WF PP Farm Committee likely will be meeting with the WCA Beautification Committee to establish guidelines for joint participation for action in the spring.

Nick Ratcliffe for the Beautification Committee