

Waterford Citizens Association

Minutes of the 2nd Quarter 2020 Regular Meeting

Date/Time: April 30, 2020, 7:00pm-9:00pm

Location: Video conference call hosted on Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Ray Daffner, WCA President, who chaired the meeting. A quorum was present.

Agenda. The agenda was presented and reviewed.

Approval of previous meeting minutes. Carol Smoots, Secretary, presented the draft minutes for the 1st quarter meeting. A motion to adopt the minutes as drafted was made.

Jill Kadish suggested an amendment to include when village entry sign design was finalized, that it would be approved by WCA prior to being produced. Carol confirmed obtaining of the sign was approved and stated an amendment that the design would come back to the WCA before completion. Carol confirmed by voice vote. No objections were made, and the minutes and amendment were approved unanimously.

COVID 19 response update. Ray Daffner thanked Mary Sheehan, Peter Thomas and team for their efforts in supporting the community during this challenging time. Mary provided an overview as follows:

- Virginia is not among most affected in the US, however the state has not yet plateaued and the stay at home order is in effect until June 10th
- Loudoun is similar overall, one of the lowest counties in DC region. In terms of a public health network, Loudoun County has shown a good response
- It is expected that the actual number of cases are 10-15 times higher than known cases
- 16 families responded to the WCA volunteer effort, and are monitoring needs (groceries, masks, etc.)

Peter confirmed there are no reports of cases in the village, or persons under quarantine. And that there are no calls for volunteers at this time. He asked the group to stay thoughtful about keeping food and other emergency supplies in the house.

Pastor David Douthett from the Catoctin Presbyterian Church thanked the community for donations as they have been collecting food for Loudoun Hunger Relief. At least 3 deliveries of collected food have been made and the Church plans to continue the effort. The Church has also made contributions to the Community Foundation of Loudoun and Fairfax counties, who provide direct assistance to families affected by the pandemic to assist with rent, medications, etc. Pastor David encouraged others to contribute or request support if in need by contacting Catholic Charities, Salvation Army or Loudoun Cares directly.

Peter made a motion that the WCA provide funding to local food banks, in that the WCA provides \$1500 to food pantry organizations split amongst at least 3 organizations of the WCA

choice. Betsy Gibson, Treasurer, confirmed that the WCA has \$12,000 in the account. Carol asked for clarification on who decides what charities to give it to and suggested that decision is made by the board. Peter agreed board is capable to make decision. Carole restated as, **WCA will provide \$1500 payment to 3 food pantry orgs to be decided by the WCA board, and each org receives \$500.** Ed commented that the WCA had tried to discourage special calls to raise money since it affected the budget. He suggested that we need to take the money out of another line item in the approved budget to keep it balanced. It was agreed that we give each charity \$500 and revisit the motion in 3-4 months instead of providing a recurring donation. It was also suggested that the board consider Western Loudoun, Mobile Hope, Loudoun Hunger Relief, Tree of Life (Baptist) and others when making their final decision. Carol confirmed the motion by voice vote. No objections were made, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Committee Updates.

- **Social Committee.** Jill Kadish reported food trucks from local businesses are now delivering directly in the village. WCA is planning this effort in partnership with the Waterford Foundation. Jill explained the plan, how to order food, that this supports local businesses, and that Ford's Fish Shack was very appreciative of last week's support.
- **Membership.** Ed Lehman reported we had a good membership sign-up response from reminder email on dues. He is working with Julia Thompson to reach out to neighbors that aren't yet members.
- **Traffic.** Meredith Imwalle was not in attendance but provided written updates on what's happening with the county and confirmed that she has been invited to be part of the by-way study preparation. Mary Sheehan confirmed that the removable pole mounted speed signs will be put up soon, that this is a 2-3-year solution while we design something long-term.
- **Water.** Mark Sullivan updated the group that the start of the feasibility study is slightly delayed. A draft scope of work was shared with the water coordinators and they, along with Mark, are working to ensure content includes all factors the village brought up in previous meetings. Next steps include an upcoming email campaign from the water committee to share all materials before anyone moves forward with feasibility study. This is dependent upon public release of scope of work for the feasibility study for us to make comments.

Miriam Westervelt asked if there will be an opportunity for us to come together as a community to discuss? Mark confirmed that Loudoun included a community meeting option for community to make adjustments, comments prior to moving forward with feasibility study.

Jeff Bean asked if all of the properties within Loudoun sanitation community will be included. Mark confirmed there is an intent to extend boundary to sewer district.

- **Events.** Ann confirmed we will wait for Governor updates as we get closer to July 4th. Our fireworks are ready to go if things change. The group thanked Ann for all her hard work! Ray suggested if anyone has ideas on how we could do things differently to reach out to Ann directly.
- **Preservation.** Mary announced that the new committee includes Ann Belland, Edith Crockett and Mary Sheehan. They are working to develop WCA preservation strategy from what has been underway over the last years and collaborating with the Foundation. Mary announced that the 50th NHL, Waterford National Historic Landmark Anniversary is coming up and that the committee is considering low-key, mini events. Suggestions include virtual scavenger hunt with historic focus. If anyone has ideas, please contact Mary.

Waterford Foundation Update. Stephanie Thompson, Executive Director of the Waterford Foundation, confirmed that the Foundation recently elected 4 new directors in April, Ron Campbell, Paul Lawrence, Sharyn Frank, and Forest Hayes. Ed Lehman and Wendy Roseberry have rolled off the board. She shared that Foundation staff are working from home and that they received Paycheck Protection Funds, so all staff have been maintained.

The Foundation is making contingency plans for the 2020 Fair, the trail run has been postponed to September 12, 2020 and the April/May craft school classes have been rescheduled or cancelled. Stephanie and Foundation staff are planning workshops for Fall that may make-up for Spring cancellations.

She also provided an update on **Loudoun Mutual zoning status**, informing everyone that a proposal was held before the planning commission pre-lock-down that proposed a zoning adjustment to 'rural commercial' from residential, and that exceptions were being made for parking spaces and a larger building footprint option. The proposal had been supported unanimously, with allowable uses discussion with new owners to protect character of Waterford moving forward. Stephanie confirmed the Foundation is still working on that language.

New Rural Loudoun County quarterly meetings. Richard Rogers was our representative at the new meetings set up by Chair Randall to discuss issues facing Western Loudoun. Richard shared that this is a coalition of organizations with the goals to preserve the rural character of the county. He shared that they stated a commitment to keeping development out of rural Loudoun county. The main topic of the meeting was clustering in South Loudoun by Middleburg. Developers are taking advantage of this zoning and putting houses on 'prime ag' land to capture best views. This is a big concern for farmers, horseman, BBB and others.

Jeff Bean asked if there was any discussion around the purchase or transferring of development rights to preserve the better parcels of land. Richard explained there is a 10 to 1 ratio of development to conservation easements and a concern that easements aren't as viable as

more direct regulation. There is objection to changing clustering rules because the value of easements may be reduced.

Richard encouraged us to get involved in the Loudoun Preservation Coalition as a good way to get our viewpoints considered.

WCA Nominating Committee. Ray Daffner put forward the motion that this committee be composed of Kathleen Hughes, Jonathan Daniel and Peter Thomas. Jeff Bean seconded the motion. Carol confirmed the vote. No objections were made, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Update. Betsy Gibson confirmed that everyone had received budget beforehand, and that it included numbers from 1-week prior to this meeting. She shared that \$250 was re-entered since we didn't have an Easter event. Ray asked if there were any questions or concerns. No questions or concerns were voiced.

Hutchinson Barn Fire. Ray suggested a barn raising and asked everyone to reflect on how we can support the family. Edith Crockett updated the group that the main loss were the family's tools and that they will be putting up a metal barn to replace the wooden barn. They are grateful for the \$10,000 donated via a Facebook fundraiser page.

Ray asked if there was any new business and there was no response from the participants. Ray adjourned the meeting.