



WATERFORD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION Board Meeting 2nd Quarter Minutes June 16, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Stup at 6.32pm on 16th June 2025

Mike Stup opened the meeting by apologizing that the members meeting will be held on a public holiday. Deputy Gerber will be out of town for the members meeting. There have been a couple of reported incidents of raucous driving by the owner of red Camaro reported, the driver has been spoken to by the sheriff.

Ed asked if the driver could not be given a ticket.

Mike was not sure but confirmed that they had had a stern talking to.

Mike shared the agenda for Thursday's meeting.

Minutes

Traffic Updates

Nominating Committee

Beautification

Updates for 4th July

Memberships

WFI updates

Preserving the Landmark Update

Adjournment

Nick reported on the status of byways around the village and that the 4 trees planted by the American Chestnut Foundation on Phillips Farm are doing very well, the ones on Water Street are not doing as well.

Ed reported that membership is way down on last year, currently stands at 60 usually 120.

Jane provided an update on the Preserving the Landmark, the RFP is currently being reviewed by County lawyers.

Ed stated that the County was currently not doing a good job on the Luckett's Bypass.

Mike reported that everyone is supposed to have received information about the water project. The design for the Sewage Treatment plant is going through historical review.

Christy has volunteered to be the Treasurer until the end of the year.

Jane advised that she had attended two retreats with the Village Alliance.

Fiona confirmed that preparation for 4th July is moving forward and is on track.

Linda advised that the work on the gravestone restoration is in its final stages. The cemetery looks very different.

Nick asked how the citizens and Foundation were going to proceed with the easement for the Bond Street barn. Previously we have had a hearing to discuss such changes, the residents will need to have an input when the time comes.

Mike ended meeting at 6.56pm



WATERFORD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION Meeting

2nd Quarter Minutes June 19, 2025

Mike Stup called the members meeting to order at 6.58pm at the Old School.

Mike Stup advised that there was no projector for tonight's meeting and so he read out the agenda and the mission statement.

The mission of the Waterford Citizens Association is to foster community action, to further the common good and general welfare of the community, to secure improvements, to preserve its unique history as a Historic Landmark, and to maintain the Waterford Area as a desirable and attractive community in which to live.

Jeff Bean proposed that we approve the minutes of the previous meeting and dispense with the reading of those minutes.

Proposal was seconded by Sue Manch and approved by all those present.

Mike Stup explained the process for deciding and voting on a new slate of board executive officers. In Quarter 2 a nominating committee is selected to suggest a slate of nominees, people can also nominate themselves to be on this committee. In Quarter 3 the nominating committee presents the slate to the members and at that point can also nominate themselves. The nominating Committee this year consists of the following:

Ray Dafner
Jonathan Daniel
Kay Chewing

Nick Ratcliffe stated that he did not think that the President should decide on the people who form part of the nominating committee.

Mike Stup confirmed that he had received communications from people volunteering to be on the committee or nominating others that he had not selected the committee himself. He went on to ask if there was anyone present who also like to put their names forward.

Whitney Chamberlain confirmed that she would like to be considered.

Nick Ratcliffe stated that he has a strong disagreement with how the committee is formed and that all of the nominating committee should be picked from those present. He went on to nominate Mat Donolley and Ann Belland.

Ann Belland confirmed that she did not wish to be considered for nomination to the committee.

Sue Manch Nominated Kay Chewing for the committee.

Nick Ratcliffe suggested that all the names put forward by the President be removed. No more kings.

Mike Stup moved on to voting for the nominees put forward and asked everyone present to confirm that they are a member in good standing. 26 people were present and able to vote. Voting was conducted by a show of hands and the results were as follows:

Whitney Chamberlain – 11 votes

Kay Chewing – 19 votes

Mat Donolley – 17 votes

Jonathan Daniel – 14 votes

Ray Dafner – 3 votes

Mike Stup confirmed that Kay Chewing, Mat Donolley and Jonathan Daniel will form the nominating committee for this year.

Mike Stup introduced Sheriff Deputy Brian Leppert and advised that Nathan Gerber is out of town at the moment and that Brian had volunteered to come in his stead.

Kay Chewing commented on the excellent work being done and the speed of the response.

Ann Belland reported on the 4th July Events. Everything is going smoothly. Additional volunteers are still needed particularly in the less desirable slots. One pop up tent has been provided for the band but we could do with another one.

Paul Rastas informed those present that it was previously decided that the WCA would not have an actual firework display but that alternative options would be looked into. He had carried out some research and found a company that would come and set up equipment for us to project the national firework display on to the side of the barn at a cost of \$2200. This option is cheaper than fireworks and better for the environment. This expenditure would need to be voted by the members. The 4th July program starts at 8.30pm and the fireworks are then broadcast at the end.

Whitney Chamberlain offered to allow the use of her projector.

Nick Ratcliffe advised that we were going to consider alternatives as the WCA was not organizing fireworks this year but as they were happening anyway there was no need to consider this option.

Paul Rastas confirmed that he had acquired the estimate to give the residents options but that it is up to the membership to decide and that nothing had been paid for so far. Payment was required in two installments, half now and half after the event.

Ann Belland thanked Paul for his work in securing the estimate and stated that she believed that we should either do this with professional set up or not at all, trying to cobble together equipment provided by residents would lead to frustration.

Jeff Bean proposed a motion to commit \$2200 in funds to project the national firework display on to the barn. Seconded by Fiona Sullivan.

6 yes votes

11 no votes.

The motion was not approved.

Paul Rastas proposed a motion to continue researching the options and come up with a plan to be presented at the end of the year. Seconded by Rick Bright and approved by all those present.

Mike Stup advised those present that the RFP for the traffic taming, safe streets, potable water, storm water management, burying the wires and sewage treatment was likely to come out in Oct.

Jane Williams reported the Loudoun Historic Village Alliance had held two retreats to re write the small area plan which helps villages like ours that do not have a formal governing structure.

Mike Stup confirmed that the sewage treatment plant upgrade is being handled as a separate issue. Loudon Water will be presenting to the Historic Review Panel, details of which will be on their website.

Nick Ratcliffe stated that there should be a community meeting about it.

Mike Stup thanked Nick for offering to spearhead that initiative.

Waterford Foundation Report - Sue Manch started by tanking everyone who worked on the Trail Run this year, there were over 500 runners which is a big increase on previous years. Carpenter Beach will start work on the trace at the Mill shortly. RFP to be issued for work on the John Wesley Church. Volunteers still needed to show their homes. The Foundation is considering adding a bike race to their fundraising efforts. There is a chance that this will happen this year, if not definitely next year.

Beautification Committee Report – Nick Radcliffe – In 1997 VDOT recorded Scenic Byways all across the State in order to help preserve rural and historic settings

along the roads. Dry Mill, Clarkes Gap, Old Wheatland and Milltown roads were among those. Over the years signs have come down and not been replaced. Those missing signs are now due to be replaced after contact with VDOT. Supporters of the Foundation along Clarkes Gap have expressed their concerns about the installation of water/sewage lines regarding extended widths if ROW that will result in the loss of trees and roadside cuts that will affect their properties. These potential changes will greatly affect the rural gateway to Waterford that we treasure.

Good news – As a result of our review of the American Chestnut Foundation (AFC) trees in Waterford, the AFC is willing to donate 4 additional saplings to us this fall. Our previous plantings have mixed results, some are showing signs of blight but others are in good condition. Our plantings were paid for by citizen contributions of \$1200 and maintained on WF properties by volunteers. If we find a site for new trees we will also have to find volunteers willing to look after them for multiple years.

VDOT Along Factory and Second Street trees have been taken down by either VDOT or County assisted funds. Those trees on private land are the responsibility of property owners, those in VDOT ROW are the responsibility of VDOT. All of the trees planted by the WCA outside of VDOT ROWs are within a no man's land in front of private properties. A standard policy that allows home owners to request County action threatens all of our street trees. This is no small issue.

Rick Bright asked where the chestnut trees will be located and what care is involved.

Nick Ratcliffe advised that the location is not yet known.

Sue Manch confirmed that the care involves mowing around them and watering.

Carl advised that the Open Spaces Committee has offered to sustainably plan for the care of the trees and asked Nick to confirm in writing what care is required.

Nick Ratcliffe stated that the WCA should be able to manage this on their own. The rules regarding the removal of trees is inequitable depending on which side of the road you live on.

Mike Stup proposed a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8.37pm, motion was seconded by Tom Hertel and approved by all those present.