

Luxmanor Citizens Association

Minutes of the Bi-Annual General Membership Board Meeting

May 25, 2017 7:15 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church

Present at Meeting: The General Membership of the LCA from Luxmanor, Windermere, and The Oaks

Location of Meeting: Trinity Lutheran Church; 11200 Old Georgetown Road, Rockville, MD 20852

The minutes from the October 13, 2016 LCA Bi-Annual General Membership Board Meeting were distributed and approved by the general membership.

Frank Kingsley: MC DOT Sidewalk Discussion: Sidewalk request made for Marcliff Road from Cushman Rd. to Tuckerman Rd. Process: Inspect, Impact Study (i.e., trees (need for removal?), ground elevation). If “doable”, MC DOT to give feedback requests from neighbors/affected residents at a Public Hearing at Rockville. Based on testimony of affected residents of this proposed project, the Officer of the Public Hearing will decide whether or not “to proceed/not to proceed”. MC DOT will keep us informed. Timeframe of Process: Inspection and Impact Study: completed. Soon to be mailed out to affected residents. Public Hearing to be scheduled in a few months (community as a whole invited). Construction, if approved, will begin next Spring (Spring, 2018). Features of Sidewalk: concrete, 5’ width standard; typically sidewalk constructed on one side only (based on Impact Study findings).

MCPD Officer Oliver Janney Neighborhood Traffic Study/Enforcement: Thank you to LCA Exec. Board and community for supporting this effort. Reports a positive impact on neighborhood safety: less warnings and tickets written for traffic violation. Goal of this program is to “change behavior” so our streets are safer with less traffic violations occurring.

Congressman Jamie Raskin: “ At Your Service” Kathleen Conner, District Office Manager, Rockville. Discussion followed describing his latest efforts in Congress and a Q&A session allowed Congressman Raskin to respond to our LCA community members’ concerns. Recent efforts in Congress involved: promoting quiet skies, restoring funds to NIH in the domestic budget (after proposed cuts), his support for Chesapeake Bay funding for continued clean-up, continuation of the Meals On Wheels program support for the ACA and Health Care, and advocacy for an Infrastructure reinvestment plan. Citizens’ concerns expressed: VA programs and problems with access, Federal Hiring Freeze in effect.

Proposed Budget: Discussion and Vote: Burman Berger, Treasurer: The FY 2018 LCA Budget was presented, reviewed and discussed.

Taxation: actively resolving not for profit status. New Tax ID # re-issued. Filed for 1023 “not for profit” status. ? back tax status liability (taxes not paid in past): TBD

Audit: RFP sought for Independent Audit/Auditor for LCA: received 3 proposals to RFP: 2K, 2.5K, and 3K. According to Bylaws, a vote by LCA is needed to approve a line item expenditure of 3K. Line item for **NEXT** LCA Board to approve 3K for outside Independent audit : **Motion made and 2nd motion; Voted and Passed.** NEXT LCA Exec. Board is not obligated to spend 3K for audit. LCA Exec. Board is now authorized after May 31, 2017 to fund this project to fund an independent external audit up to and including 3K without the need to seek a vote for approval by the general membership.

Budget: continuing police presence in neighborhood: budgeted 10K last year and this year (expected to be slightly less this year (\$ and scope); IT: costs decreasing as technology is maturing; printing costs and Directory costs are decreasing to LCA. Workman Comp. insurance expenses/policy: funded from Traffic study monies., Special Events: LCA Board wants to remain responsive to community and will continue

Mark Buenavista: Josiah Henson House Project: Architect on this project from Montgomery Co. Parks. Located at 11420 Old Georgetown Road.

Brief History of Josiah Henson with literary connection: (**1st person narrative of JH's story will be told at the restored House project): Slave lived on location; fled plantation, escaped to Canada; basis of character in book, Uncle Tom's Cabin.

4 parts of the JH House Project: Restoration/Preservation of House; Museum, Visitor/Orientation Center, Park/Grounds. Indoor and Outdoor exhibits.

Past and Future Planning process: Land bought in 2006. Masterplan- 2010; Facility plan. 2013: approved Facility Plan in the Capitol Improvement project. Capitol Bond funded Henson House. Now: 60% designed. Design and Regulatory process involves the coordination with 23 organizations. Mark Buenavista would like to complete the planning phase by Fall, 2017. Followed by putting out bid to construct project.

Construction of project aiming for Summer 2018 to minimize disruptions (Utility, power and water lines, etc.). Construction time expected to take 1.5-2 yrs. to complete.

MCPS Curriculum for 4, 5 and 8 grades coordinated with educational programs at JH House; \$ from MCPS for this project.

Intersection safety at Tilden and Old Georgetown Rd and Nicholson Rd: critical concern. Parking at Shriver Aquatic Park (across intersection). Bus drop-off: on Old Georgetown Rd. Public access: only Old Georgetown Rd. Walk on access: either Tilden or Old Georgetown Rd.

Meghan Gloyd: Old Farm Creek Restoration Update: Presentation of the Plans:

Stream is primarily on commercial properties. Abuts private residences. Scope of project is upstream, where there are failing sewer lines, TO Luxmanor school property. Downstream from school is NOT WITHIN the scope of this planned restoration project. Community members voiced concerns of erosion of creek banks due to recent storm damage. Also, heavier storms are more frequent than in past and erosion and damage is noted with concern within the community. There was also expressed concern for the integrity of sewer lines downstream of the school as well. M. Gloyd offered to provide names of personnel who could be appropriately contacted re: these concerns.

Work done in the 70's has not withstood the test of time.

This restoration project takes into account local development.

Construction Timeline: Spring/Summer 2018. Expected to take 10 months, ending 3/19.
Minor repairs/tweeking: up until 10/2019.
Access for project will be via Luxmanor ES
Pictures on project are online

New Business: Michael Strauss reported on the Montessori School Alef-Bet located on 6125 Tuckerman Lane, scheduled to open this September, 2017 with 90 pupils, and 10-20 faculty/staff; property is .6 acres. 3 families, including M. Strauss have worked together to voice their concerns to the school (Dir.) and the community; they have hired an attorney to track issues on the county and state levels. They will keep the LCA and neighborhood updated on developments.

- * Religious organizations can bypass zoning process in MoCo
- * Safety concern: traffic- AT location of school, 4 lanes merge into 2 lanes. No traffic study was conducted prior to purchase of school. Drop-Off/Pick-Up on Tuckerman: neighbors' concern for safety and impact on local traffic and delays/problems.
- * school still needs construction permit
- * needs license to open school
- * school leader met with neighbors to address concerns, answer questions.

Coming Soon: The 7th Annual Paul and Celine Silver Memorial 5K Run/Walk:
Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at Tilden Woods Park.

VOTING ENDS FOR ELECTED OFFICERS of the LCA EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2017-18

ELECTION RESULTS for 2017-2018 LCA EXECUTIVE BOARD:

President: Sharon Plotnick

Vice President: Sheri Steisel Weiss

Treasurer: Burman Berger

Corresponding Secretary: Edward Farber

Recording Secretary: Rachel Manchester

3-year Trustee: Abbe Milstein

Currently Serving as Trustees: 2 yr. Trustee: Jerry Ostrov; 1-year Trustee: Ken Hurdle

- * Nomination Committee's slate of officers were voted into office.

Prepared and submitted by Carin Cooper, Recording Secretary, LCA Executive Board