



the Pioneer

news of the Western Fairfax County Citizens Association

Volume 15 Issue 1

"supporting planned development through public awareness"

Fall 2010

WFCCA-Area Associations



Braddock Downs
 Braddock Ridge
 Briarcroft
 Brookfield Civic Assn.
 Brookfield Woods
 Bryarton
 Bull Run
 Cabell's Mill
 Centre Ridge Owners
 Centre Ridge Regent
 Clifton Crest
 Clifton Manor
 Compton Valley Estates
 Compton Village
 Confederate Ridge II
 Crofton Commons
 Deerfield Ridge
 Fair Lakes Chase
 Fair Lakes Forest
 Fairfax National Estates
 Friends of CHD
 Gate Post Estates I
 Green Trails/Manorgate
 Heritage Crossing
 Heritage Forest
 Horseworks
 Leeton Manor
 Little Rocky Run
 London Towne
 Marian Woods
 Mount Olive
 Newgate
 Newgate Forest
 North Hart Run
 Old Mill
 Paterra
 Pleasant Hill
 Pleasant Valley NC
 Poplar Park
 Poplar Tree
 Rock Hill
 Rocky Run
 2nd Gate Post Estates
 Sequoia Farms
 Singleton's Grove
 Stonehenge
 Sully Station
 Sully Station II
 Sutton Oaks
 Union Mills
 Virginia Chase
 Virginia Run
 Walney Mills
 Walney Road
 Willoughby's Ridge
 Winding Ridge
 Woodgate Comm. Assn.
 Woodlands of Fair Lakes



From the President

Hello to all WFCCA member communities. Hope you had a great summer and enjoyed some vacation time off.

Our October quarterly meeting marks the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Western Fairfax County Citizens Association. The WFCCA began with a handful of residents in western Fairfax County who believed that a strong collective voice was needed in the shaping of our community from both a development, and quality of life, standpoint. The WFCCA, comprised of representatives from homeowners associations and civic organizations, was a vocal proponent of the 1982 Occoquan Watershed downzoning initiative that led to restricted development of some 41,000 acres with the intention of preserving the Occoquan watershed, and also led to the set-aside of significant parcels of land in western Fairfax County for parks and recreation. This effort made a significant contribution toward preserving the integrity of the water supply for some 1,000,000 residents.

(see *From the President* - continued on page 2)

Meetings Set for Southwestern Schools Boundary Study

The Fairfax County Public Schools will hold six meetings as part of the Southwestern Boundary Study. These meetings will be held on Monday, October 25, and Tuesday, October 26, from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in school cafeterias. The meetings are open to parents and interested residents and involve 23 elementary schools in the region, including the following in the WFCCA area: Brookfield, Bull Run, Centre Ridge, Centreville, Clifton, Cub Run, Deer Park, London Towne, Poplar Tree, Powell, Union Mill, Virginia Run, and Willow Springs. Meeting locations are as follows:

October 25, 2010

- Greenbriar West Elementary School, 13300 Poplar Tree Road, Fairfax
- Union Mill Elementary School, 13611 Springstone Drive, Clifton
- Virginia Run Elementary School, 15450 Martins Hundred Drive, Centreville

October 26, 2010

- Powell Elementary School, 13340 Leland Road, Centreville
- Fairview Elementary School, 5815 Ox Road, Fairfax Station
- Willow Springs Elementary School, 5400 Willow Springs School Road, Fairfax

Each meeting will feature an identical presentation followed by small group discussions. Staff members from the Departments of Facilities and Transportation and Instructional Services will be available to answer questions. Background information is available at www.fcps.edu.

The study continues a community engagement process that began last year when the Southwestern Regional Planning Study Committee was formed to identify potential solutions to overcrowding and underutilization at several schools in the this area. The Committee identified boundary and program changes and possible building additions as possible solutions. Those interested in attending any of the above meetings are asked to register at <http://www.fcps.edu/fts/planning/southwesternstudy/index.htm>.

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◆ WFCCA Items of Interest ◆

WFCCA Annual Holiday Reception to be December 12, 2010

The Western Fairfax County Citizens Association will host its Annual Holiday Reception on Sunday, December 12, 2010 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. at the home of David and Carol Hawn, 6500 Harvest Mill Court, Centreville. Directions will be included in the invitations mailed in the next month, or are available by sending an email to cahawn@verizon.net. As in past years, attendees are requested to bring non-perishable food or other items for contribution to the Western Fairfax Christian Ministries Food Pantry. We look forward to seeing you at this annual event. For more information, please contact Carol Hawn at 703-266-6872.

The WFCCA is open to civic, homeowner, and community associations within the following area of Fairfax County, including portions of Sully and Springfield Districts:
east of the Loudoun County line; south of Route 50;
west of Stringfellow and Clifton Roads; north of Compton Road east of Route 28, and north of Bull Run west of Route 28.

Treasurer's Report

On March 31, 2010, WFCCA cash on hand balance totaled \$5,002.09. Deposits totaled \$100.00 and disbursements totaled \$54.00. Therefore, the cash on hand balance for the WFCCA as of June 30, 2010 is \$5,048.09.

- Chris Terpak-Malm, Treasurer

happy halloween!

The objective of the Western Fairfax County Citizens Association is to support planned development through public awareness.

(From the President - continued from page 1)

Since then, the WFCCA has actively engaged with the development community as well as county staff and elected officials to insure that the development that occurred in our area proceeded with some semblance of order, providing much needed input in the development process. Many of us have witnessed the significant growth over the last decades (remember when Route 28 was a two-lane road?) and most will agree, thanks due in no small part to the efforts of the WFCCA, that we live in a great community! As a matter of fact, Centreville was ranked 30th in the top 100 "Best Places to Live" by *CNNMoney.com* in 2010.

Looking ahead, the WFCCA will continue to be the steward of western Fairfax County and its resources and also continue to be in front of issues that arise. But we need the participation, support and input from member communities to insure that we are representing your views and priorities, so I again encourage you to have your representatives attend quarterly meetings and provide input on behalf of your communities. With that, please join us on Monday, October 18th when our guest speaker will be Sharon Bulova, Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. Hope to see you then!

- Ted Troscianecki, President

the Pioneer

Newsletter of the Western Fairfax
County Citizens Association



WFCCA

Post Office Box 357
Centreville VA 20122-0357

www.wfccca-sully.org



Executive Committee

Officers

President

Ted Troscianecki *Virginia Run*

Administrative Vice President

Stephen Chulick *Virginia Chase*

Executive Vice President

Judith Heisinger *Bull Run*

Secretary

Carol A. Hawn *At-Large*

Treasurer

Chris Terpak-Malm *At-Large*

Standing Committee Chairs

Education

E. Mark McConnell *At-Large*

Environment, Parks & Recreation

Chris Terpak-Malm *At-Large*

Land Use

James Katcham *Centre Ridge Regent*

Social Services and Outreach

vacant

Transportation

Judith Heisinger *Bull Run*



Land Use Committee

(4 / 2010 - 4 / 2011)

Stephen Chulick *Virginia Chase*

Carol Hawn *At-Large*

Judith Heisinger *Bull Run*

James Katcham *Centre Ridge Regent*

Mark McConnell *At-Large*

Jim Neighbors *Sully Station I*

Chris Terpak-Malm *At-Large*



the Pioneer is the quarterly publication of the Western Fairfax County Citizens Association (WFCCA); its purpose is to provide information to member communities, elected officials, and interested persons within WFCCA boundaries and throughout Fairfax County. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted in association newsletters. Contact Carol Hawn, Secretary, at 703-266-6872 or cahawn@verizon.net with community name and address changes, comments, or suggestions.

wfcca/minutes/071910.doc

Western Fairfax County Citizens Association

Draft Minutes of the Quarterly Meeting
Monday, July 19, 2010

Richard D. Frank Community Room 2
Sully District Governmental and Police Station
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly

President Ted Troscianeki called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. No new communities requested admission in the WFCCA. *Stephen Chulick moved deferral of the April 19, 2010 quarterly meeting minutes to the next quarterly meeting. Mark McConn seconded; motion carried unanimously.* Mr. Troscianeki noted he has retrieved the software and rebuilt the WFCCA website; he has updated and simplified it and begun reloading newsletters. *CNN Money* has named Centreville the 30th most attractive place to live. He received a letter from Victoria Monroe, Fairfax County Wildlife Biologist requesting survey input. One question asks how many deer you've seen, however, it doesn't specify where you've seen them. Mr. Troscianeki will attend the pre-disaster recovery seminar on August 4, 2010, beginning at 9:00 a.m. It is scheduled to discuss disaster planning; anyone can go, but registration is required.

Treasurer's Report - Chris Terpak-Malm has the books, but cannot issue checks as she and Mr. Troscianeki have not yet visited the bank to change signators. The Treasurer's Report stands as shown in the July, 2010 newsletter.

Committee Reports

Education Committee - Mr. McConn discussed the School Board's decision to close Clifton Elementary School; it is a small facility with marginal well capabilities. It doesn't have a sprinkler system; one can't be installed off a well. Water lines end near the Twin Lakes golf course. The School Board will decide closure after completion of the school boundary study. Clifton's enrollment, like most southwestern county elementary school enrollments, is declining. Other elementary schools in the Clifton vicinity include Union Mill and Willow Springs; most Clifton-area students live south of the town, where there aren't any elementary schools and would therefore have to go through town to a different school. Judith Heisinger asked if School Board members ever ride school buses for the experience. Chris Terpak-Malm noted most Clifton-area students graduate from Robinson, so it would be preferable to keep them in that pyramid; Willow Springs Elementary feeds partially into Fairfax High School. Centreville High School is experiencing growth in enrollment. Carol Hawn believes the boundary issue needs to be depoliticized.

Land Use Committee - The Committee will not meet tomorrow evening. Mr. McConn noted the Harvest Christian Church lot is for sale. New Life Church has options on the property, but the congregation may move to Chantilly. An upcoming case is the enhanced signage plan for the Lakeside Apartments at the intersection of Machen and Centreville Roads.

Transportation Committee - Mrs. Heisinger noted that Korean Central Presbyterian Church began holding services in the new facility the past two weeks. The second left turn lane was constructed. Mr. Kim mentioned they are temporarily meeting there; invitations will be sent out for the ribbon-cutting later this summer.

Old Business

Brookfield Area Residential Parking Issue - Larry Leeds expressed his frustration that the Executive Committee doesn't support the Brookfield Association's request for a district-wide

Community Parking District (CPD). He noted Mr. Troscianeki had included a comment in his *President's Report* to reach out on the issue; he wanted the Executive Committee to do something simple and has a problem with their decision. It was noted a number of communities already have CPDs; there doesn't seem to be interest in pursuing a district-wide CPD. Many Sully residents are not affected by this and others aren't interested in more restrictions on their neighborhoods. Mr. Leeds knows Virginia Run would favor a district-wide CPD. One concern is how a CPD would be enforced in the RC district; a CPD would not pertain in those areas. Trailers, boats, campers, etc. should not be permitted in communities. Because Springfield passed a CPD, Greenbrier residents are now parking those in his community. Mrs. Hawn noted that over the past two years, he hasn't come to the WFCCA with exactly what his community wants banned; he replied it is not his responsibility to educate the WFCCA on parking issues. Mrs. Heisinger responded that over this time, he could have gotten the signatures to request a CPD in Brookfield instead of wanting the WFCCA to do the work. Mr. Leeds acknowledged he didn't want to knock on his neighbor's doors.

By-Law Amendment Merging Environment and Parks and Recreation Committees - Mrs. Terpak-Malm moved the bylaws be amended to merge the two WFCCA Committees; Mr. McConn seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Merger of Sully District Council and WFCCA - Mr. Troscianeki and Mr. McConn met to set up an outline and structure for the potential merger of the two organizations. This will be sent to the Executive Committee and then membership. Mrs. Heisinger mentioned that both organizations have far fewer land use cases to review; a merger needs to go forward this time. Neither organization is as strong as it was 15 or so years ago. Mrs. Terpak-Malm believes the issues are no longer those that get people involved; most are now maintenance or infrastructure issues. Because new districts will be drawn next year, discussions should be completed by June 2011; the WFCCA will take a vote on the matter at its July, 2011 quarterly meeting.

New and Miscellaneous Business

WFCCA's 30th Anniversary - Mrs. Terpak-Malm noted the significance of the WFCCA's 30th anniversary; it was initiated, and needed, as a separate organization that was citizen-driven and sustained. Mr. Troscianeki will reach out to Supervisor Michael Frey and Commissioner John Litzberger on a resolution to honor the anniversary. Mrs. Hawn will work on writeups on Jim McDonnell and Dick Frank for the two community rooms; newer community leaders may not have known them.

The Van-Hanh Buddhist Temple constructed a bridge and gazebo on their property near the Bull Run Regional Park, as well as walled off five acres with a seven-foot concrete wall, even though the courts ruled they were to cease and desist. It is a flaunt under the guise of religious freedom.

Adjournment

With no further business, Mrs. Terpak-Malm moved adjournment; Mrs. Heisinger seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Hawn

Carol A. Hawn, Secretary
Western Fairfax County Citizens Association

◆ Land Use Committee News and Notes ◆

Land Use Committee Presentations and Decisions

Below are the applications reviewed at the July, August, and September Land Use Committee meetings. If there are applications to review, the WFCCA Land Use Committee meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the James D. McDonnell Community Room 1 in the Sully District Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly. Area residents are invited to attend Land Use Committee meetings. The Land Use Committee does not meet if there are no presentations scheduled; for meeting status, contact Jim Katcham, Land Use Committee Chair, at jimkcv@gmail.com.

Agent/Applicant	Location	Use	Decision
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July 20, 2010

There were no presentations; the meeting was cancelled.

August 17, 2010

There were no presentations; the meeting was cancelled.

September 21, 2010

There were no presentations; the meeting was cancelled.

Absentee Voting in Fairfax County

Election Day is Tuesday, November 2nd; Polls open from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

If you meet any one of the following eligibility criteria, you are encouraged to cast an absentee ballot, either in person or by mail. The criteria for voting by absentee ballot is:

- you will be working and commuting for 11 hours or more between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Election Day;
- you will be away from Fairfax County on business, personal business, or vacation;
- you are a student or the spouse of a student attending school outside Fairfax County;
- you are unable to go to the polls due to illness or disability, or are the primary caretaker of a confined family member;
- you are on active military duty outside Fairfax County, or the spouse or dependent residing with a member of the military outside Fairfax County;
- you are an election official; or
- you meet other criteria listed at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/absentee.htm.

Deadlines to Vote Absentee by Mail

The deadline to submit a *signed* application to vote absentee by mail is Tuesday, October 26, 2010. **The application must be received at the Office of Elections not later than 5:00 p.m.** For more information, or to print out an Absentee Ballot Application, visit: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb/absentee.htm.

All voted absentee ballots sent by mail must be received at the Office of Elections not later than 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 2, 2010, in order to be counted.

In-Person Absentee Voting Locations

Below are the closest locations for in-person absentee voting; you can cast your vote at any in-person absentee voting site listed on the county website.

Sully District Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly

Monday - Friday
2:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Fairfax County Office of Elections
12000 Government Center Pkwy., Suite 323

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays, October 23 and 30
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**For more information on absentee voting in Fairfax County, visit
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/eb or call 703-222-0776.**

WFCCA Land Use Committee Over these Years

Although many WFCCA Land Use Committee meetings are now cancelled because there are no presentations to schedule, that has not always been the case. In reflecting on the 30th anniversary of the WFCCA, it is a good time to look back at what has gone on in these past three decades. Unfortunately, records are scarce for the first fifteen years. Records of each meeting are available since August, 1996. During that time, the most presentations at a single meeting occurred in February 2002, with nine cases heard in one evening; eight presentations were reviewed at four meetings between 1998 and 2002.

In the past 15 years, the Committee has heard approximately 600 presentations on development in western Fairfax County, and cast about 306 votes.

These votes can roughly be divided into the following categories, and include many of our homes and the businesses and facilities we now use everyday in the WFCCA area:

Commercial, Retail, and Industrial, including many zoning ordinance amendments	118
Residential	66
Places of Worship	34
Parks, Recreation, Environment	29
Office (mainly Trinity Centre and the Westfields area)	17
Telecommunications	11
Hotels	10
Child care, Day Schools	9
Transportation-related	8
Schools	4

Since 1996, at least 37 residents have served on the Land Use Committee from over 27 WFCCA-member communities. There have been three Chairs during that time: James McDonnell, James Hart, and James Katcham (however, I don't believe a prerequisite for serving as Chair includes a first name of 'James'). The community room where meetings are held is named after Mr. McDonnell, who passed away in January, 1998; he was a founding member of the WFCCA and over the past 30 years, the longest-serving Land Use Committee Chair.

◆ *What's on the Ballot in the WFCCA Area* ◆

United States House of Representatives

10th District

Frank R. Wolf (R)*
<http://wolfforcongress.com>

Jeffery R. Barnett (D)
www.jeffbarnettforcongress.com

William B. Redpath (L)
www.redpath2010.com

11th District

Keith S. Fimian (R)
www.keithfimian.com

Gerald E. "Gerry" Connolly (D)*
www.gerryconnolly.com

David William Gillis, Jr. (IG)
www.votejoinrun.us

David L. Dotson (L)
www.dotsonforcongress.com

Christopher F. DeCarlo (I)
www.honestyandethics.com



Fairfax County Transportation Bonds

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov for information on the Fairfax County Transportation Bonds, below.

QUESTION: Shall the Board of Supervisors contract a debt, borrow money and issue bonds of Fairfax County, Virginia, in addition to the bonds previously authorized for transportation improvements and facilities, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$120,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds to finance the cost of constructing, reconstructing, improving and acquiring transportation improvements, including improvements to primary and secondary State highways, off-street parking, pedestrian improvements, and ancillary related improvements and facilities, and including capital costs of land, transit facilities, rolling stock and equipment in the Washington metropolitan area allocable to Fairfax County, Virginia pursuant to the provisions of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Compact?

Commonwealth of Virginia Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The Virginia General Assembly has approved each of the following three proposed amendments to the Constitution of Virginia at two regular sessions separated by a general election. The explanations are provided by the Virginia State Board of Elections. For more information, visit the State Board of Elections' website: www.sbe.virginia.gov.

Article X, Taxation and Finance.
Section 6, Exempt Property.

QUESTION: Shall Section 6 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to authorize legislation that will permit localities to establish their own income or financial worth limitations for purposes of granting property tax relief for homeowners not less than 65 years of age or permanently and totally disabled?

EXPLANATION

Present Law

Under the Constitution, the General Assembly may give localities the power to grant full or partial exemptions from real estate taxes to persons 65 years of age or older or for persons permanently and totally disabled. The exemption applies to owner-occupied property used as the sole dwelling of such persons. The exemption is currently available only to such persons who bear "an extraordinary tax burden" in relation to their income and financial worth.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment (i) removes the requirement that tax exemptions are available only to such persons who bear "an extraordinary tax burden," and (ii) gives the General Assembly authority to permit localities to determine their own income or financial worth limitations for tax exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or for persons permanently and totally disabled.

Article X, Taxation and Finance.
Section 6-A, Property tax exemption for certain veterans.

QUESTION: Shall the Constitution be amended to require the General Assembly to provide a real property tax exemption for the principal residence of a veteran, or his or her surviving spouse, if the veteran has a 100 percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability?

EXPLANATION

Present Law

Currently, the Constitution does not grant real estate tax exemptions specifically to veterans. However, the Constitution does allow the General Assembly to give localities the power to grant full or partial exemptions from real estate taxes to persons 65 years of age or older or for persons permanently and totally disabled who "bear an extraordinary tax burden" in relation to their income and financial worth. This exemption applies to owner-occupied property used as the sole dwelling of such persons.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed amendment would require the General Assembly to pass a law exempting from local taxation the principal residence owned and occupied by any veteran with a one hundred percent service-connected, permanent, and total disability. The veteran's surviving spouse could continue to claim the exemption so long as he or she does not remarry and continues to occupy the home as his or her principal residence.

Article X, Taxation and Finance.
Section 8, Limit of tax or revenue: Revenue Stabilization Fund.

QUESTION: Shall Section 8 of Article X of the Constitution of Virginia be amended to increase the permissible size of the Revenue Stabilization Fund (also known as the "rainy day fund") from 10 percent to 15 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues derived from income and retail sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years?

EXPLANATION

Present Law

The Revenue Stabilization Fund (also known as the "rainy day fund") is used to offset shortfalls in anticipated revenues in any given year, and thus is designed to provide a cushion in the event of an economic downturn. The Constitution currently limits the Fund to 10 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues from income and sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years.

Proposed Amendment

The proposed constitutional amendment increases the maximum size of the Fund from 10 percent to 15 percent of the Commonwealth's average annual tax revenues from income and sales taxes for the preceding three fiscal years.

the Pioneer
Western Fairfax County
Citizens Association
Post Office Box 357
Centreville VA 20122-0357

In this Issue . . .

*Election Day is
Tuesday, November 2, 2010*

*Polls are open between
6:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
(or by absentee ballot)*



*Elementary School Boundary
Meetings Set for
October 25 and 26, 2010*

WFCCA Quarterly Meeting

Monday, October 18, 2010

7:00 p.m.

Sully District Governmental Center and Police Station

4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly
The James D. McDonnell Community Room 1
(across the hall from the Sully District Supervisor's office)

Our Guest Speaker will be The Honorable Sharon Bulova

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.

There will be a question and answer session.

All area residents are invited to attend.

*The WFCCA Land Use Committee meets the third Tuesday
of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Sully District Governmental Center.*