

LRCA Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 15, 2008

Board Attendees: Connie Griffin, Frank Judnich, Derrick Chamlee, Linda Smith, Nancy Gordon, Paula Weiss, Jon Parker, Ivan Dietrich, Nancy Hahn

Regrets: Maryann Fox, Anne Richardson,

Location: Nancy Gordon's house, 4513 Mullen Lane

LRCA Board Business:

Review of June 11 Annual Meeting Minutes: Minutes were approved without changes.

Treasurer's Report: Linda distributed the treasurer's report, which showed a balance of \$12,493.03 on July 15th, noting LRCA had spent more in the previous month (4566.58) than "in a long time." According to her written report, LRCA Directory design and printing expenses, insurance fees, Casino Night food subsidy and 4th of July celebration expenses accounted for the bulk of the expenditure. Linda noted that in a survey of ILDA's Casino Night, there was a lot of positive response, including from non-ILDA members, 90 percent of whom said they would come again next year. 58 percent of attendees were ILDA members, 42 percent from the general community. The report was approved.

July 4th Parade and Carnival review: Connie reviewed the event, and all agreed it had gone smoothly. There was discussion about the role of Mort, the mysterious self-proclaimed auxiliary officer from West Springfield station.

Tour of Homes: The tour is set for Sunday, 5 October, from 2-5 PM. The board brainstormed a list of names of homeowners who might be potential candidates to add to the tour. If anyone has suggestions, they should let Connie know. Nancy G. said that once we have a list, we can start drawing up maps. Connie suggested the tour ticket holders could start at her house. Derrick asked Connie to write an article for the LRCA website about how the tour would work, including security measures to protect homeowners.

Neighborhood Watch report: Jon said he had placed an article with a plea for volunteers on the website. He is seeking four team leaders, and would like another 20-30 people overall. He is seeking ways to recruit more watchers and team leaders. We discussed several possible ideas, including another evening potluck event, placing flyers at neighborhood events, or asking our neighbors to participate. Jon also continues to talk with West Springfield police station to take them up on their earlier promises to put up NW signs, or at least continues to leave messages that go unreturned. He says at this point he'd be happy to buy and put them up himself; Linda said she could reimburse him. Connie said she would ask a neighbor's son who is a police officer about whom to contact at West Springfield.

Community Affairs Report: Ivan Dietrich discussed Sharon Bulova's annual party at which eight awards for 'Best of Braddock' were given. One awardee was the Canterbury Woods Civic Association, for beautification. Ivan recommended other LRCA board members try to attend the meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday of the month. Ivan noted that LRCA has paid its Braddock District Council dues of \$75.

HOT update: Derrick relayed news from an informational meeting about HOT lane construction he had attended the previous night. The bridge that crosses 495 at 236 will be under construction from 2008 to 2011, although pedestrian and bike lanes will remain throughout and the road will never totally be shut down. Four lanes will be added to the Beltway at this point. The same kind of construction will take place where Braddock Road crosses the Beltway. A question was asked about the baseball fields down by the Beltway and 236 interchange.

LRCA Link: Derrick will give Anne a call about the next deadline for the Link and discuss the next publication date. A goal for the timing of the Link is to publicize the Home Tour. It was decided the Link should next be published in late August and delivered in early September when readers will have returned from vacations and are more likely to notice announcements. Several more graduates will have their good news published, as it worked well in the previous issue. There will be a HOT lane report, kids relating their favorite summer experience, Fourth of July photos, and perhaps an article on the house with the bonsai. Jon agreed to write an article reminding neighbors about school safety issues, particularly traffic safety with children now returning to school.

LRCA website: Derrick reports it was updated the previous Sunday with Fourth of July articles including about the Tour of Homes and trash rate negotiations.

Membership Report and Directory Update: Frank reported on a glitch where because responsibilities for directory listings were split up between two people, some reports fell between the cracks, resulting in complaints from people who had paid their dues but were not included in the directory. Many did not turn in sheets because their information had not changed, and others didn't realize that you don't get to be included in the directory if you are not an LRCA member. We will send out a supplement in the next Link with names that were wrongly omitted. Frank suggested running off the current listing so homeowners can review and make changes, an idea everyone liked. Nancy H. suggested putting instructions for volunteering on the supplemental sheets. Frank will draft a welcome letter for new neighbors for Derrick to sign.

Mastenbrook Grant Update: No update. Derrick will e-mail Bob to find out the most recent developments. Connie said Bob had dropped the neighborhood signs off.

Potluck Dinner: There will be a potluck dinner for Board members and spouses at Nancy G's home on August 29 (date determined after the meeting).

Next meeting will be 11 August at Linda Smith's, 8905 Braeburn.

Adjournment at 8:40 PM.