

## GROVETON VIRGINIA CIVIC ASSOCIATION (GCA)

May 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Groveton Elementary School

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. **Roll Call of Officers.** The board members were introduced. Twenty people attended:

Drew McGuckin, Pres.	Areli Woody	Mira Marshall	Tom Castles
Jim Bailes, Vice Pres.	Annabel Baer	George Sisk	Lori & Jose Cruz
Bonnie Wilkins, Sec.	Jackie Cerio	Rick Kottemann	Pam Griffin
Charlotte Brown	Carla Crandall	Anna Bennett	Bradford Anker
Wayne Lloyd	Carol Crandall	Sara Dillich	Jack Connors

3. **Approval of Minutes.** The April 2017 minutes were approved and accepted by voice vote.

4. **Treasurer Report.** The current balance is \$4,491.88.

5. **Old Business.**

a. **Upcoming Speaker:** June 5 is the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). It is also our last meeting before the summer break.

b. **Beacon Shopping Center.** The GCA President sent a letter to the Beacon Shopping Center property management office (Saul Centers) on March 7. The letter addressed the non-ADA (handicap-accessible) sidewalks from Panera to Lowes and Giant and the dumpsters near the Giant off of Memorial where debris was going into the storm drain. The dumpster has been moved. We have not followed up with the status of the handicap cutouts.

6. **New Business.**

a. **Road Paving.** The end of Spring Dr., after the point where it intersects with Grove Road, is not being prepped for paving and does not have “no parking” signs posted. The Fairfax Water Authority map shows it is to be re-paved. (Supervisor McKay’s office followed up with this issue the following day and arranged for that portion of Spring to be re-paved.)

b. **The 2017-2019 Slate of GCA Board of Directors** who will be voted on at the June meeting are:

Andrew McGuckin, President (*Incumbent*)

Jim Bailes, Vice President (*Incumbent*)

Brandi Pensoneau, Treasurer (*Incumbent*)

Bonnie Wilkins, Secretary (*Incumbent*)

Larysa Kautz, Parliamentarian

7 Members at Large (*Incumbent “Block Captains”*)

c. **Lenclair Parking Problems.** The Beacon apartment complex instituted parking rules limiting parking to those who are on the lease and limiting each apartment to two spaces. This has caused tenants to park on Lenclair. Residents reported continual parking of boats, trailers and commercial trucks as well as vehicles on both sides of Lenclair and in the Lenclair Dog Park parking lot. Friday night there was a picnic party in the park after dark in spite of signs saying the park is closed after dusk. Residents continue to call the non-emergency police number on these violations. Lenclair does not meet the zoning criteria for No Overnight Parking signs or Residents Only signs. Residents attempting to sell their property are suffering from prospective buyers seeing lack of parking in front of their homes. Lenclair residents were urged to take

pictures and/or record the license plate numbers of out of state vehicles parked on their street to report to the non-emergency police number.

## 7. **Speaker.** Lee District Supervisor Jeff McKay

1. **Parking problem on Lenclair.** Jeff explained that the rules for no parking in residential neighborhoods are dictated by the Virginia state (VDOT). The areas the county has been able to enforce no parking signs have been around schools and metro stations. Signs in residential areas would have the adverse effect of preventing home owners' guests park on the street in front of their houses. He invited us to contact our state officials to propose they introduce and pass a legislative bill to give the local county governments authority to deal with residential parking issues for their local residents. Jeff explained that the Sheriff's office has license plate readers that will pick up out-of-state tags and he will ask the Sheriff's office to send their vehicle down Lenclair in the evenings to identify the out of state license plates.

2. **Budget.** The formal county budget will be adopted tomorrow, May 2. There will be no increase in the tax rate. The Fairfax public school system will receive 53% of the budget. This does not include school nurses, School Age Child Care (SACC), or school officers. Those programs are funded out of the General budget. Public Safety will receive 11.9% of the budget. The budget includes funding for new police officers who will be assigned to the Lorton South County station that will be built in about six years. The county invests about \$150K per officer in training before they are assigned to a station. There is an initiative to bring more county services to the South County area by placing services in the old ISA (original Mt. Vernon High School) building on Richmond Highway. They have begun a multi-department effort to coordinate the future use of this building.

3. **Embark Richmond Highway.** The Embark initiative will bring Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) down the center of Richmond Highway. The BRT will be for buses only. This will improve public transportation and improve the flow on the highway. The next section of Richmond Highway to be widened from four to six lanes will be from Roy Rogers at Woodlawn north to Buckman Road.

### 4. **Questions:**

**Q:** Resident asked about Jeff testifying on Capitol Hill before the House Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs.

**A:** Jeff testified about unfunded state and federal government mandates. He testified that Fairfax County spent \$1.4 billion on federal and state mandates in fiscal 2016, with \$834 million of that total unfunded. He also discussed how the proposed Federal budget options of laying people off, hiring freezes, etc. will impact the Federal Government employee workforce, and how the proposed tax changes such as not being able to deduct local taxes will impact citizens.

**Q:** Question about the gully by the cemetery on Kings Highway—why does the sidewalk end?

**A:** The Supervisor's office can verify the site plan. They will also look at acquiring the land where the sidewalk stops at the corner of Kings Highway and Memorial St. in order to have a continuous sidewalk.

**Q:** Has anyone told the Beacon Apartment management how their parking rules have impacted the residents of Lenclair?

**A:** Yes, the Supervisor has tried to persuade them to assist us but they have not agreed.

**Q:** There was a discussion about the ruts in the grass by the park caused by the apartment people parking their boats, trucks, vehicles on the grass.

**A:** Jeff suggested that they could talk to the Park Authority and/or VDOT about having a fence installed.

## 8. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.