

GROVETON VIRGINIA CIVIC ASSOCIATION (GCA)

May 7, 2018 Meeting Minutes - **AMENDED**

Groveton Elementary School

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call of Officers.** The board members were introduced. Nineteen residents attended:

Drew McGuckin, Pres.	Areli A. Woody	George Newbury
Bonnie Wilkins, Sec.	Valentina Lukin	Mattie & Jimmy Jenkins
Brandi Pensoneau, Treas.	Carol & Carla Crandall	Suzanne Lynch
Larysa Kautz, Parliamentarian	Mira Marshall	Tara O'Brien
George Sisk	Charlotte Brown	Donna Echols
Wayne Lloyd	Rick Kottemann	

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

4. **Treasurer Report.** The current bank balance is \$4,648.64. **Amended as follows:** This balance includes a deposit of \$20 and a check to GoDaddy for the GCA website domain name in the amount of \$40.34.

5. **Old Business.** There was a home with zoning code violations discussed at the April meeting. Some of these have been resolved, so it was agreed to not report the remaining issues to the county at this time. The home owners at 3421 Groveton street have also corrected their violations.

6. **New Business.**

a. June 4, 2018 is our last meeting before summer break. The South County Protection Force and Lorton Animal Shelter will be our June speakers.

b. Residents from Pollins Court reported that their street is being used for overflow parking from the nearby townhouse development and Lafayette (formerly Groveton) Apartments. The street is so congested that cars wait for another car to pull out in order to park in the vacated space. Many cars have out of state license plates on the vehicles. Residents were told they can contact the non-emergency police number to report the out of state vehicles and any cars parked within 10 feet of their driveway. Officer Urps who was our guest speaker informed the residents that the Parking Enforcement officers are working on this problem. He told the residents they could email him concerning the Pollins Court problems or to FCPDMTVtraffic@fairfaxcounty.gov. He emphasized that the emails should include the time of day with speeding or other violations occur. If cars are parked in the Huntley Meadows or Lenclair Parks, that is a Fairfax County Park Authority responsibility. The VDOT phone number 1-800-367-7623 was provided for residents needing to contact VDOT.

c. The Lenclair Dog Park gate or fence is bent allowing dogs to get out. Brandi volunteered to contact the Park Authority to request it be repaired.

7. **Speaker.** Master Police Officer Robert Urps, Mount Vernon District Station, Fairfax County Police Department. Two traffic officers also attended who patrol Harrison Lane and other streets in our area.

a. Officer Urps discussed the Fairfax County Crime Statistics Incident Based Reporting (IBR) for 2017 <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/chief/crimestatistics>. You can look at the report online by area.

b. For the Mount Vernon District, the 2017 crimes compared to 2016 were:
Serious Crime (Homicides) Down 5.4%, this decrease is twice as much of the countywide decrease
Assaults Up--1310 in 2016, 1293 in 2017 -- ½ of these are domestic violence cases

Sex offenses	Down--37 in 2016, 33 in 2017
Property Crimes	3480 in 2016, 3824 in 2017
Robberies	118 in 2016, 113 in 2017
Traffic Stops	Increase of 3,000, means officers are stopping violators more
Drugs & Narcotics	Increased due to drugs and narcotics found during other types of arrests
DUIs	Down -21.62%, vs 11.34% countywide
Fatalities	3 in 2016, 2 in 2017

c. Mount Vernon station has a new Parking Enforcement Officer, Officer Z. Officers Winter and Masterson are still patrolling Queens Road and Groveton Street for moving violations as well as Memorial, Lenclair, and our other streets.

d. Officer Urps discussed personnel losses of about 96 per year and the need to recruit new officers. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is a relatively new community-based approach to train officers in different types of crisis intervention and de-escalating techniques. It includes recognizing mental illnesses, psychosis and different learning disabilities.

e. A question was asked about disability events. Mount Vernon station held a family autism event on Saturday, April 28, called Community Sensory Day. It was designed for individuals with developmental disabilities and to teach parents best practices to keep their children safe.

8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.