

GROVETON VIRGINIA CIVIC ASSOCIATION (GCA)

June 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Groveton Elementary School

1. **Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

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

Drew McGuckin, Pres.

Valentina Lukin

Jackie Cerio

Bonnie Wilkins, Sec.

Carol & Carla Crandall

Phyllis Friedemann

Brandi Pensoneau, Treas.

Mira Marshall

Mike Baer

Areli A. Woody

Charlotte Brown

3. **Approval of Minutes.** The May minutes were approved with an amendment to the Treasurer's Report. The May minutes were amended to show a deposit of \$20 and a check written for \$40.34 to GoDaddy for the GCA website domain name.

4. **Treasurer Report.** The current bank balance is \$4,698.98.

5. **Old Business.** Last month, residents on Pollins Court reported that their street is being used for overflow parking from the nearby townhouse development and Lafayette (formerly Groveton) Apartments. Two of our guest speakers were Fairfax County Traffic Enforcement officers who said they would work with the residents on this problem. There is no update concerning the status.

6. **New Business.**

a. This is our last meeting before summer break. We will resume on the second Monday in September, which is September 10, 2018.

b. The Habitat for Humanity groundbreaking for Clayborne II, 3301 Clayborne Street took place on April 6th. This is where the house fire occurred several years ago. Two homes will be built. A number of officials attended including Adam Ebbin, Virginia State Senate, Mark Sickles, Virginia House of Delegates, Dan Storck, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, Mount Vernon District, and others.

7. **Speaker.** The following representatives from the new South County Police Station and Lorton Animal Shelter facility were our speakers. Lisa Gossard, Project Manager, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services; Dr. Karen Diviney, Director, Fairfax County Animal Shelter; Captain Paul Norton, Fairfax County Animal Services Division; and Tae Choi, Development and Land Use Aide for Supervisor Dan Storck, Mt. Vernon District.

a. To meet the needs of the growing population in the southern part of the county, funding for building the South County Police Station and Animal Shelter was approved in 2015. It will be located on Lorton Road on a parcel known as the "Triangle," between the intersections of Workhouse and Hooes Roads. The police station will be 39,000 sq. ft. and the animal shelter will be approximately 22,000 sq. ft. There will be 20,000 sq. ft. of outdoor space for the animal shelter, a fuel island to support fleet vehicles, and associated parking. There will be community rooms for use by the Mount Vernon and Lee District Supervisor's meetings and similar events. Zoning approvals and permits are planned to be completed in late 2019. Bids will go out in early 2020 and construction should be complete by mid-2022.

b. Captain Paul Norton described the police station operations. There will be 125 patrol officers working three 11.5 hour shifts with an overlap at midnight. There will be very minor noise and activity impacting the

nearby neighbors. The detectives primarily work property crimes. When offenders are brought into custody, they are put into secure interview rooms, then taken to Fairfax to the Adult Detention Center, if detained.

c. Animal Protection Police Officers are uniformed trained law enforcement officers who work in the field. There are 5-6 officers and 1 supervisor for the entire county. They will be split between the facility on West Ox Road and the South County facility. They bring in dogs running at large, address cruelty and neglected cases, and handle emergencies involving sick or seriously injured animals, including potential human exposure to rabies.

d. The wildlife biologist deals with wildlife such as coyotes, foxes, and bears. They conduct surveys of the number of deer to limit the population, protect human health and safety, reduce environmental damage, and maintain healthy deer herds. They are also involved in the Canada Geese Management program to humanely reduce the population using a technique called addling. Addling prevents embryos from developing by coating the eggs with corn oil to keep them from hatching.

e. If you see a pet in extreme heat conditions such as in a car, dog on dog attacks or dog bites to humans, call the non-emergency number (703-691-2131).

f. Dr. Karen Diviney talked about the new animal shelter. Currently 38% of the pets who come into the Ox Road shelter come from South County. Many are not re-claimed due to the distance and a lot of people don't know their pet would be taken to Fairfax. The shelter tries to get the animals back to their owners by advertising and checking for microchips. The new facility will have a full adoption program, spay/neuter clinic and a trap/neuter/release program. They will host birthday parties, scout tours, family activities, and education programs. There will be no crematory.

g. The West Ox Road shelter receives 4,400 animals a year (close to 3,000 from Fairfax and almost 2,000 from South County). There are about 300 volunteers at West Ox Road shelter with 8-10 on duty at a time. Fees for the Fairfax shelter are about the same as other municipalities (\$125-\$175). This cost includes shots, spaying, microchipping, and a free first vet check-up.

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