

**McLean Hamlet Community Association**  
**Minutes of Annual Membership Meeting**  
**April 28, 2014**

**Board Members Present:** Alan Holmer, Michelle Blanton, Jeff Shivnen, Behram Shroff, Tara Vold, Eric McGinley, Rick Law, Denys King,

**Board Members Absent:** Wayne Tate, Paulette Rainie

**Chairpersons and Others Present:** Wade Smith, Lee Rainie, and many other Hamlet neighbors. With proxies and submitted ballots, a quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order at Spring Hill Elementary at 7:11 pm.

1. President Alan Holmer opened the meeting with introductions of Board Members and chairpersons.
2. Tara Vold introduced the nominees (Michelle Blanton, Behram Shroff, and Jane Severn) for terms as Board members from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017. Motion to approve the slate of nominees was seconded and passed unanimously.
3. Supervisor John Foust was introduced and spoke to the audience regarding the following:
  - a. Transportation: Last year, the VA transportation funding bill passed, approving \$1.2 billion spread out over 6 years. Priority projects include improving pedestrian sidewalks/trails; widening of Route 7; Silver Line construction (looking at opening by July, 2014); and new bus service to the Hamlet. Concerns regarding parking near the Metro were discussed. Supervisor Foust has been lobbying for temporary parking (711 spaces) until Tysons development is complete. More than one member voiced concerns about parking problems arising near bus routes (such as parking on Lewinsville Road and the Hamlet neighborhood). Many neighbors are concerned that Metro riders will be parking in front of our homes and using Spring Hill Rec Center as a “slug hub.” Supervisor Foust said he believes the Rec Center will prevent this from happening. He also explained there is excess parking available in Tysons, which may end up alleviating some of these concerns. Alan Holmer proposed that our community work closely

with Supervisor Foust's office to monitor the issue, and develop an action plan in case our concerns become reality. A member also asked Supervisor Foust to also reach out to the Park Authority.

- b. Pedestrian Projects: Supervisor Foust updated the community on the completed and funded pedestrian paths, sidewalks, and trails.
- c. The 2015 Fairfax County budget was discussed.
- d. Park Projects: The Park Bond was approved. Spring Hill Rec Center will have a 12,000 square foot gym and new fitness center, completed by December. Plan is to close the Rec Center at the end of August, 2014, for six weeks for construction.
- e. Group Homes on Lewinsville Road: The Lewinsville Coalition and the Hamlet coordinated with them to help preserve trees and design them to "fit in" with the surrounding neighborhoods. A member thanked the Supervisor for the successful construction.
- f. A member asked about the new Capital One building, which will reach a height of 40 stories.
- g. A member asked if there were plans to increase the libraries' funding. There will be a slight increase in library funding, and staff salaries will increase at the same rate as that of county employees.
- h. A member asked, with the Tyson's development, what is being done to alleviate the increased crowding in our schools, particularly Spring Hill Elementary? Supervisor Foust said the school board has secured a site for a new school; he did not know further specifics.
- i. Power Reliability: Supervisor Foust, Jeff Shivnen, and Jane Edmondson discussed efforts to improve power reliability, including "isolating" power interruptions to specific areas and trimming of trees to reduce power outages
- j. Helicopter Noise: There are no plans for pads or office buildings containing new helicopter pads. In fact, one helicopter pad has been eliminated at the Gannett Building.
- k. Future Tysons Development: Concerns over height of buildings were addressed. Wade Smith briefed the audience on the history of previous projects (such as the Gannett building) and noted that height

restrictions have not changed in the Tysons area. However, we must be vigilant regarding upcoming projects.

- l. Beltway Noise: Under the Lewinsville Bridge (at the Beltway) there is a section of the wall that has not been replaced. The opening and placement of the wall appears to be channeling noise and light pollution into the Hamlet. Supervisor Foust and Jane Edmondson have brought this issue to the attention of VDOT.
  - m. Wegmans Arrival: A new store is being considered close to Capital One.
  - n. Parks Committee: Brett Blanton updated Supervisor Foust on the condition of Hamlet Park, and if there is a way we can return to a “Park Status” rather than a “trail.” Supervisor Foust will set up a meeting with MHCA and the Park Authority to discuss this problem. A concern was raised to “create balance” between providing shiny new soccer fields for the new “green areas” of Tysons while at the same time supporting existing green areas like Hamlet Park and Falstaff Park.
  - o. Silver Line Construction Painting: Supervisor Foust shares our concerns about efforts to “beautify” above-ground metro stops that may be problematic.
  - p. A Member asked if it was possible to see a map of the proposed Tysons’ Development in the next 20 years. With many different developers, there is no “one” site plan. Supervisor Foust informed the audience of a meeting May 19, 7pm at Spring Hill Elementary, to discuss Tysons development.
  - q. Concerns were expressed about traffic at the Lewinsville/Spring Hill intersection; on Lewinsville approaching Dolley Madison; and “cut-through” traffic on Lewsinville.
4. Classified Ads and Website: Eric McGinley noted that classified ads are now up on the website; members can submit ads to [mhcaclassifieds@gmail.com](mailto:mhcaclassifieds@gmail.com). He noted ads would stay up for 90 days. For continuing services, one would simply need to resubmit after 90 days. The Online McLean Hamlet Directory is up and running. A hard copy will be going to print soon, but Eric would really like people to check their information and add emails, and more.
  5. Discussion of the website, welcoming new residents, and establishing a renewed “Block Captain” network.

6. Yard Sale on May 17, Large Item Pickup on June 14.
7. Hamlet Park Update: Brett Blanton explained the mission of the Hamlet Park Committee. (1) A Boot Brush (to help remove mud, etc., from boots/shoes) will be provided by the county, and will be installed by an Eagle Scout Project. (2) Local 4-H chapters have been in touch to help with Park Clean Up (3) Brett solicited support for the upcoming landscaping to prevent erosion at the Hamlet Park entrance. (4) The Park Authority has approved a trellis to accommodate our Virginia Grapes growing in the park. (5) Brett welcomed help, ideas, and announced that we set a County Record for the most bags ever (93) collected during a county park clean-up last August. A member raised concerns over the state of the creek, and the decreased wildlife. Suggestions were raised to form a "long range" committee to develop a comprehensive plan. Other concerns were raised concerning dumping, planting, and Invasive Species.
8. Tara Vold reminded everyone about the Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup> Fun Run in the Hamlet.
9. A suggestion to discuss Snow Meadow Plantings was tabled until the May 5 MHCA Board meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.