



Williamsburg Civic Association Newsletter

OCTOBER 2009 * WWW.WCA-ARLINGTON.ORG

Future of EFC Metro Tops Oct. 27 General Membership Meeting Agenda

After more than a year of being in a dormant state, the Williamsburg Civic Association (WCA) is again active and will hold a General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 27 in the library of Nottingham Elementary School.

The future of the area around the East Falls Church Metro station is the featured topic, as many WCA members have expressed an interest in learning whether that area may be developed into an urban, mixed-use community much like the Rosslyn-Ballston corridor.

For the last two years, a planning task force has been working to develop a land use and transportation vision for transit-oriented development in the East Falls Church area of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church. The 19-member task force, which meets about once a month, includes membership from Arlington County (appointed by the County Board), Falls Church, WMATA and VDOT.

WCA is represented on the task force by **Mark Moran**, immediate past president of the WCA. Mark will give a presentation on the goals of the study, some of the plans that have been proposed in the area, and the schedule of the study.

To provide feedback on the EFC planning process, you can share your comments with Mark after his presentation, or write to him at webmast@wca-arlington.org. You also can attend an upcoming public meeting in person or attend any of the monthly task force meetings, which are open to the public.

To learn more about the study, visit:
(www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CPHD/forums/columbia/current/CPHDForumsEastFallsChurch.aspx).

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, October 27

7:00 – 9:00 PM

Nottingham Elementary School

In the Library

5900 Little Falls Road

Arlington, VA 22207

Featured Speaker:

Mark Moran

WCA Representative to

East Falls Church Planning Task Force

What Project Should WCA Promote?

As a member of the WCA, you have the opportunity to help our association recommend improvements in areas such as curbs, gutters and sidewalks; parks; traffic calming; street lights and beautification.

Paul Cullen is WCA's new representative on the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC), the Arlington group that works to enhance residential areas by providing citizen-initiated public improvements to neighborhoods.

At the October 27 general membership meeting, Paul will distribute a survey to gauge community interest in a variety of projects, such as a landscaped median on Sycamore Street between 26th Street N. and Williamsburg Blvd., and/or a new park in the neighborhood.

Paul is interested in your thoughts on what local neighborhood improvement project we should promote. If you have any ideas that you would like to share with him in advance of the meeting, please email him at ncacRep@wca-arlington.org.

Listserv Facilitates Discussions of Interest by WCA Neighbors

Want to keep up on breaking news affecting our community? Need a neighborly recommendation for a roofer, painter, or babysitter? Then consider joining the WCA listserv - an online bulletin board for posting important neighborhood information, sharing concerns, and providing advice. This free tool, started in 2006 and now up to 110 members, is open to anyone in the WCA. To join, visit: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/arlington_wca/

In order to prevent spammers from joining the group, you will be asked to include your reason for joining. At a minimum, please include your FIRST and LAST NAME, and WHERE YOU LIVE (either the street and/or address). And when you post, it also is helpful if you identify yourself and the street you live on. Members are asked to be civil and courteous in all postings.

Please join the listserv today, as it is an effective way for us to communicate and to get information out to the community quickly and inexpensively.

WCA Sponsors Candidates Night on October 28

The fourth week of October is shaping up to be a busy week for WCA members. On Wednesday, Oct. 28 – the night following the General Membership Meeting – WCA is pleased to join 12 neighboring civic associations in sponsoring Candidates Night in the parish hall of Resurrection Lutheran Church, located at 6201 N. Washington Blvd.

Prior to casting your vote on November 3, come and hear from the candidates running for the Virginia House of Delegates from our (48th) District: **Bob Brink** (Democrat) and **Aaron Ringel** (Republican), as well as those running for the 47th District: **Eric Brescia** (Republican), **Patrick Hope** (Democrat) and **Joshua Ruebner** (Green). The delegate discussion will run from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

At 8:30 p.m., Arlington County Board candidates **Jay Fisette** (Democrat) and **John G. Reeder** (Green) will speak. The program will conclude at 9:20 p.m.

Williamsburg Shopping Center Welcomes Backyard Barbeque

Backyard Barbeque and Catering Company recently opened in the Williamsburg Shopping Center, bringing to our neighborhood a nice variety of choices to eat in or take out.

Open Tuesday through Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., the restaurant serves pulled pork, smoked brisket, jerk chicken, Jamaican grilled salmon, Italian sausage, hot dogs, and a foot long beef dog. Sides include baked beans, potato salad, mac & cheese, coleslaw and cornbread. Ribs are served Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Most popular is the pork, followed by the brisket. Family packs (\$20 and \$25) are big sellers.

Owners Anne-Marie and Michael Schmidt are 14-year residents of the community, whose sons, Liam and Eamon, go to Williamsburg Middle School and Nottingham Elementary, respectively. "We're thrilled to open this business in our backyard, where we already know our customers by name," said Anne-Marie. "We look forward to meeting many new neighbors in the months and years to come."

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ISO Block Captains

Producing and mailing the WCA newsletter to all 1,100 households costs approximately \$700 per issue. If we intend to publish on a regular basis, those costs will deplete our budget. Eventually we would like to move to an e-distribution method, but until we have more email addresses, that will not be possible.

Many Arlington civic associations rely upon block captains to hand deliver their newsletters. We would like to try this, too. If you or one of your kids (great civic activity!) might be interested in volunteering to distribute in your area, please email WCA President Sonia McCormick at sonia.b.mccormick@gmail.com or call her at 703.237.2611.

Make the Civic Association Yours by Sharing Your Time, Talent and Ideas

At a recent meeting of the WCA executive committee, a number of ideas were shared for strengthening the civic association and creating camaraderie among our members. On the substantive front, we acknowledged the fact that we've been pretty fortunate in that we do not have a lot of controversial issues keeping us awake at night for which we must galvanize. That said, if such an issue were to arise (like the cellular tower that

once was proposed for Minor Hill), would we be ready? By getting to know each other a little better, sharing information on a regular basis, and volunteering for various civic and social events, we'll all be in a much better position to rally together if and when the time comes to act on an issue affecting our community. Please join the WCA, and when you do, share with us your time, talent and ideas.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR WILLIAMSBURG CIVIC ASSOCIATION

The purpose of the Williamsburg Civic Association is to promote the welfare of our community and its residents. We do this by holding meetings, issuing this newsletter, and interacting with the Arlington County Civic Federation, Arlington County Board, and a variety of local and regional organizations. You can support our efforts by paying your annual dues of only \$10 per household. Please tear off this sheet and mail it along with your check (made payable to Williamsburg Civic Association) to our treasurer, Jim Toronto, at 3577 Powhatan St., N., Arlington, VA 22213. You also can pay at the general membership mtg.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

I am interested in: Receiving this newsletter electronically vs. hard copy in the future

Working on conservation plan projects Organizing social events Helping with the newsletter

WCA Officers:

President: Sonia McCormick
Vice President: Coral Gundlach
Treasurer: Jim Toronto
Secretary: Jim Finley
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) Representative: Paul Cullen
Immediate Past President, Webmaster and Representative to the EFC Planning Committee: Mark Moran

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