

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting
February 7, 2024, at Cranford Methodist Church

Attendees

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	Nancy Wilochka	Peter Weyland	Annie Collins
Vice President	Marvin Miller	Dick Kennedy	
Secretary	Jim Martin	Rick Hutson	
Treasurer	Bruce Scott	Hillary Clawson	

President Nancy Wilochka called the meeting to order at 7:33 and presented the agenda. The following were discussed:

Nancy noted that Scott is out of town. Jim noted that Annie will be late. The Board welcomed Hillary back from her post-surgery absence.

Minutes from January Meeting: A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the January 2024 Board meeting minutes.

Treasurer Report: Bruce reported that MNCA has \$3746.65 in its account.

BLM/Meadowood Parking Lot Action and MNCA Appeal: Marvin updated the Board on the status: BLM made its decision to go ahead with the original parking lot design; MNCA appealed, with copy to Secretary of Interior. BLM filed motion to dismiss saying MNCA did not have standing and did not include a Statement of Reasons. Marvin filed a response in January saying BLM was wrong on both counts, as MNCA had cited reasons, had provided comments on the proposal, and clearly has standing as a representative of the community. H has not yet heard a BLM response.

Caisson Horses: Peter noted he had heard the Army has abandoned the idea of using either the Mustang Loop or the Hidden Pond areas at Meadowood SRMA. Others noted the Hidden Pond Area pasture is still being maintained. Nancy suggested the Board should send thank you letters to people who have been helpful on this issue, particularly Dale (Rumberger?), Ann Elise Sauer, and Lynn Taylor. Marvin suggested we wait on sending letters until it is 100% clear the Army has abandoned the idea. Jim noted that the first Army briefing to the Armed Forces Committees, required in the FY 2024 NDASA, is due no later than February 20, and we should try to get a read-out.

Digitization of MNCA Files: Nancy suggested we turn the Caisson Horses GoogleDocs folder into an MNCA folder (Board-only access). Dick noted he has folders with MNCA documents going back to 2011, which he is slowly going through. We will want to create folder (e.g., Minutes by year, correspondence by year, etc.). Hillary will forward copies of letters she sent during her tenure as President to Peter. Minutes should also continue to be posted on the website and should be sent to Peter for that purpose.

Updates to Accomplishments List: Jim noted that there are two different lists – one in bullet form and a second in narrative form. Although the two have similar content, they are useful for different purposes. Nancy noted that the website shows the bullets and notes the upcoming 2023 Annual Meeting those bullets should be updated to reflect recent achievements, such as the Caisson Horse issue, and the upcoming April 30 Annual meeting.

MNCA General Membership Meeting: The Board discussed topics for this proposed Annual 30 meeting, Possibilities include the Wetlands RPA issue (perhaps Dan Storck’s new Environmental Committee), status of Old Colchester Road flooding/deteriorating railroad underpass, updates from our State Senator and Delegate on the current legislative session, and an update from Scott

Stroh on both Gunston Hall's plans and Virginia's plans for the United States 250th anniversary (Sesquicentennial).

Annual Elections Meeting: Dick noted that our Annual Elections Meeting usually is held in May or June to elect Board members. The Board then discussed the possibility of simply combining the proposed April 30 meeting with the Elections meeting and hold it in early May and agreed to pursue this option. Nancy will talk to Scott about availability at Gunston Hall.

- **UPDATE:** The Board subsequently voted in an email exchange February 12 that the proposed April 30 meeting double as the Annual meeting, as no dates were available at Gunston Hall for the Annual Meeting in May or June. In the same exchange, the Board also voted in favor of making a one-time exception to the MNCA bylaws requirement that the Elections meeting be held in May or June.

Gunston Hall Updates: Gunston Hall has two capital projects in the works as part of its Master Plan and has a funding request before the state legislature for support of these projects. Gunston Hall also will play a major part in the Virginia celebrations of the United States' 250th anniversary of independence and has several other events planned. Scott offered to brief the Board in more detail at a future meeting.

Equestrian Contact List: Nancy mentioned an incident when a horse was reported running loose at Gunston Rd. around midnight. She contacted the Fire Department. No one subsequently reported finding or losing a horse, but Nancy is trying to put together a list of stables/horse owners in the immediate area and relevant Fairfax County agencies to be prepared for any similar events the future.

ACTION ITEMS

- Reach out to Sen. Surovell/Del. Henson offices about General Meeting (**Marvin**)
- Reach out to Environmental Committee about its potential participation (**Peter**)
- Talk to Scott Stroh about: a) Gunston Hall/Sesquicentennial; b) possible May dates (**Nancy**).
- Decide what to put on postcards announcing Annual Meeting (**March Meeting**).
- Get update on Caisson Horse briefing to Congress (**Nancy/Bruce**)
- Update Bullet Points (**all**)
- Provide documents to Peter for MNCA Board GoogleDocs folder (**Dick, Hillary, Jim**)

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 6 at Cranford Methodist Church

Motion to adjourn: Passed at 8:33.