# Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 8:00 PM, January 4, 2014

#### Attendees: (no absentees)

Officers		Board of Directors	
Lucia Ferguson	President	Hillary Clawson	Marvin Miller
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Adam Dameron	Missy Salisbury
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Michael Devlin	Bruce Scott
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland

President Lucia Ferguson called the meeting to order at 8:04 PM and the following were discussed:

**Approval of minutes: Motion passed** to approve the December 4 Board meeting minutes (Bruce/Sergio)

Mason Next State Park--plans for a new Visitor Center exhibit--by park manager Jess Lowry: MNSP has the only visitor center on the Neck and provides programs and interpretive use. In the state park system, five visitor centers have been renovated, and MNSP is working with the Virginia Association for Parks and with Imperial Multimedia, which has done the design work for the other parks. There will be a public presentation at the park on Jan. 14 to outline the plan.

CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)—presentation by Jonathan Kiell, a CERT volunteer on Mason Neck: CERT was formed 15-20 years ago to provide help in local emergencies before FEMA, fire department, etc. can arrive, and also helps in non-emergency situations. Fairfax has been teaching CERT course since 2003 and about 1000 people have taken them. The basic course is 3-4 hours per week for 7-8 weeks, and students learn basic safety practices and disaster preparations, and there are optional follow-on courses. Volunteers mainly help in their neighborhoods but can go outside them, so several teams would be necessary to cover Mason Neck. Marvin suggested a handout about CERT at the next general membership meeting.

Fairfax History Commission--presentation by Sallie Lyons: Talked about several areas of concern: 1) VDOT has closed public access to the Occoquan at the end of Old Colchester; 2) The Park Authority is planning to demolish the Roylston(?) house (next door to Sallie) but the neighbors and the Colchester archeology team are opposed; 3) possible creation of a Conservation District for Mason Neck, based on environmental and historical concerns.

**Indian Springs:** Sallie also raised this issue, which was discussed at a meeting with Sup. Hyland yesterday. He raised the possibility of getting compensation from the developer for its requested easement to connect Indian Springs (where nine homes are planned) to the Mason Passage sewer. Sallie noted that the money could be used to do an archeological survey of the site, since one has not been done so far. The

Board discussed the issue at some length but did not take a position--a special meeting of the general membership to get community input is a possibility.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 5, at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion passed to adjourn at 10:13 (Sergio/Adam)

### Mason Neck Citizens Association

### Minutes of Board Meeting held February 5, 2014

#### In Attendance:

Michael Devlin	Lucia Ferguson	Sergio Diaz-Briquets
Hillary Clawson	Missy Salisbury	Adam Dameron
Marvin Miller	Peter Weyland	Bob Lee
Rick Hutson		

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm.

Motion made by Lucia to approve the minutes of the January 2014 board meeting. Second by Sergio.

Motion to write a letter of appreciation to James Cullum of the Lorton Patch carries unanimously. Letter to be prepared by Dick.

Discussion to recap what transpired during the the January 27<sup>th</sup> emergency meeting of the Association regarding the possible extension of public sewer to Indian Springs. More than 100 people attended on short notice, establishing Mason Neck as a united community. The majority of the community expressed the opinion that sewer should not be extended. Lucia will ask Dick to write a summary of that meeting for the website and list serve.

Michael recommended we write letters to Gerry Hyland and Beth Teare (county attorney) for attending the January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Marvin noted that MNCA gives money to support Gunston Hall, the Eagle Festival at Mason Neck State Park, and the Cub Scouts. He suggested that we post income and expenditures on our website.

Peter made a motion that MNCA joins Gunston Hall.

The board discussed ways to improve the dues collection process based on recommendations by Bob Lee. Rick will talk to the printer about the best mechanism for mailing notices and encouraging returns. Adam noted that he collects MNCA dues from the Cub Scouts families as the scouts re-charter.

Hillary and Adam volunteered to conduct the annual audit of the MNCA books and will meet with Bob on February 15<sup>th</sup> to do so.

Scott Stroh of Gunston Hall will talk to the board during our March meeting.

Michael said he, Marvin, and Missy are engaging the USO. Missy noted that Carol Corso of Simple Changes has approval from BLM for a riding program for up to 20 Warriors in Transition on April 27<sup>th</sup>. \$500 is needed for insurance. Lucia noted that Dave Kyle had offered to pay for it.

Sergio suggested that MNCA displays some of Jerry Lyons' documents depicting the history of Mason Neck at our booth at the Eagle Festival on April 19<sup>th</sup>. A decision will be made at our March meeting.

Bob will complete a membership form for the South County Federation and send them MNCA's dues.

There was discussion of ESI's SEA-2 that was submitted to Fairfax County - a request to expand the landfill and extend its operations to 2040. A public hearing is to be held in April. The board needs to start informing the community of the details and encourage MNCA members to attend the hearing. Peter and Lucia will provide more information as it becomes available.

Marvin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. Sergio seconds the motion.

### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Lucia Ferguson	President	Hillary Clawson	
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Adam Dameron	М
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Michael Devlin-absent	
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Р

President Lucia Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:35 and the following were discussed:

**Approval of minutes: Motion passed** to approve the February 5 Board meeting minutes, recorded by Hillary (Marvin/Bruce)

New Business: Guest speaker Scott Stroh, Director of Gunston Hall-Scott outlined his background--growing up near Philadelphia, attending Randolph-Macon, and almost going into teaching. He talked a bit about George Mason, his various writings, his multiple talents, and his love of family, and the history of GH after his death. The Virginia budget, now pending final passage, has \$2 million allocated for GH, part of which would go for a new roof--wood, as in the original building. Scott also talked about making GH a more "vibrant" part of the community and noted that both the current governor and his predecessor have been very supportive. Motion passed to send letter to Sen. Puller and Delegates Albo and Surovell endorsing Scott and the budget allocation for GH {Marvin/Adam}

**Gunston Hall membership:** The different levels of membership were discussed and a **motion was passed** for MNCA to join at the "Boxwood" level, fee of \$250 (Lucia/Marvin).

Date for annual meeting discussed--May 20 selected, pending confirmation by GH.

**Eagle Festival-**-April 19. MNCA will have a table, as usual. Sergio suggested using some of Jerry Lyons' materials for a display that visitors could view on a laptop. Motion passed to designate Jim Moran as MNCA's Conservationist of the year and allocate up to \$150 for the plaque.

**New members**: Rick noted that he had signed up seven at the Hallowing Point annual meeting.

**Cub Scouts:** Adam noted they now have 25 scouts, and membership for their families in MNCA is required.

Fairfax County's proposed spraying for cankerworm on Mason Neck: **Motion passed** to send an information email to the membership, including the county letter and a letter from a local entomologist opposing the spraying. The email would point out that residents can opt out of having their property sprayed.

**Motion passed**: \$100 for flowers or a donation to charity in memory of Michael's partner, Robert Crosby, who unexpectedly passed away last week.

The **letter to Supervisor Hyland** thanking him for participating in the community meeting on Jan. 27 to discuss sewering on Indian Hill was approved and Lucia will mail it.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 2, at 7:30 PM.

**Meeting Adjourned: Motion passed** to adjourn at 8:59 (Lucia/Dick)

# Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church April 2, 2014

#### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Lucia Ferguson	President	Hillary Clawson	Marvin Miller
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Adam Dameron	Missy Salisbury
		(absent)	(absent)
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Michael Devlin	Bruce Scott
-	-	(absent)	(absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland

President Lucia Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:35 and the following were discussed:

**Approval of minutes: Motion passed** to approve the March 5 Board meeting minutes (Marvin/Lucia)

**CERT Presentation:** Jonathan Kiel from the Community Emergency Response Team explained what CERT is--basically neighborhood groups that aid in emergency response, especially before the official responders arrive. Members are volunteers who go through seven training sessions of about three hours each. Jonathan hopes that CERT groups can be established in several Mason Neck Neighborhoods.

**Audit Committee:** Work is almost finished, need to get one more monthly bank statement from Treasurer Bob.

**Eagle Fest (April 19):** As usual, MNCA will have a table. Marvin can't attend but he has arranged to get the plaque that will be presented to Congressman Moran.

**Nominating Committee for next year's MNCA officers:** Bruce will head, assisted by Lucia and Dick.

**General membership Meeting (May 20):** Jonathan Kiell will give his CERT presentation.

Lorton Valley Star article: Rick noted that a recent article mentioned MNCA

Indian Springs: Nothing new, still no decision by the county.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 7, at 7:30 PM.

Adjourn: Motion passed to adjourn at 8:25 (Dick/Peter)

# Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church May 7, 2014

### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Lucia Ferguson	President	Hillary Clawson	1
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Adam Dameron	M
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Michael	
		Devlin(absent)	
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	P

President Lucia Ferguson called the meeting to order at 7:36 and the following were discussed:

**Approval of minutes: Motion passed** to approve the April 2 Board meeting minutes (Marvin/Rick)

# **New/Old Business:**

Missy met with the USO at Ft. Belvoir concerning Wounded Warriors. They are looking for low-impact events for these people to participate it. They are very interested in having "hike and shoot" events in which about 8-10 warriors would go on a photography hike and then be provided with lunch, all in about two hours. They also have Wounded Warriors

who would like an event centered around a bonfire. A **motion was made and passed** to have MNCA partner with the USO on organizing both kinds of events (Marvin/Sergio).

General Membership Meeting--Date was moved back to June 17 so that the list of nominees for the Board could be sent out 30 days before. Rick, as past MNCA president will chair the nominating committee, which must also include four other MNCA members in good standing.

**Audit Committee--**Now has all of the bank statements and has a draft of its report, which will be presented to the Board in June, after some minor changes.

**Treasurer report**--Currently \$3564 in our bank account.

**Gunston Hall**--Agreement on sending a letter of commendation for GH Director Stroh because of his outstanding work. Copies would go the governor, the Secretary of Education, and the GH Board of Regents.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 3, at

7:30 PM.

**Meeting Adjourned: Motion passed** to adjourn at 8:21 (Dick/Rick)

### Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church July 2, 2014

Note: There was no Board meeting in June.

#### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Hillary Clawson	President	Adam Dameron	Marvin Miller
		(absent)	
Sergio Diaz-Briquets (absent)	Vice President	Michael Devlin	Missy Salisbury
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Bruce Scott
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland (absent)

President Hillary Clawson called the meeting to order at 7:32 and the following were discussed:

**Approval of minutes: Motion passed** to approve the May 7 Board meeting minutes (Rick/Bruce)

**Update on Hike & Shoot event:** Missy reported that the Mason Neck-USO partnership is operating and this event is scheduled for July 17 @2:30 at the state park. Volunteers will accompany a group of Warriors In Transition (WIT) on a walk through the park to look for birds, plants, etc., and assist them in taking photos. About six warriors are expected but medical appointments could cause a change in numbers. Michael will provide food. The USO would like to do this again, perhaps on a monthly basis.

• The USO is also interested in setting up something for the kids of the WIT, perhaps similar to the Hike & Shoot event; Missy will continue to follow up.

Wine tasting fund-raiser to benefit LCAC: Bruce said he would be hosting this event in September and is looking for a wine expert to assist.

**ESI landfill expansion and/or permit extension**: Marvin suggested that MNCA send a letter to each Fairfax supervisor, restating our opposition, and encourage our members to write letters and attend the Board of Supervisors meeting; Marvin and Dick will draft a letter.

**New commander at Fort Belvoir**: Bruce will set up a conference call, sometime after August.

**MNCA membership**: Discussion of ways to increase membership, which is far below what it used to be. Agreed to accept Gunston Hall Director Scott Stroh's offer to have an MNCA night at GH to tour the building at a time when it is empty of furnishings (removed because the roof is being replaced). Other ideas included having a

membership drive, sending out more information about what MNCA is doing, and emphasizing that MNCA serves the local community by working to protect the "Neck", so if people like living here, they should support our efforts.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, August 6, at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion passed to adjourn at 8:23 (Marvin/Michael)

### Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church August 6, 2014

#### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Hillary Clawson	President	Adam Dameron	Marvin Miller
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Michael Devlin	Missy Salisbury
		(absent)	
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Lucia Ferguson	Bruce Scott
	-	(absent)	(absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland

President Hillary Clawson called the meeting to order at 7:35 and the following were discussed:

**Approval of minutes: Motion passed** to approve the July 2 Board meeting minutes (Bob/Rick)

Special Event for MNCA at Gunston Hall on August 14: At the invitation of GH Director Scott Stroh, who will mail postcard invitations to the entire Neck community--a chance to see GH with the furnishings removed (because they are getting ready to replace the roof) at no charge, and there will even be refreshments. Attendees can explore the grounds and docents will be there to explain GH. We should do as much as possible to advertise this event. Dick will prepare a first draft of a flyer about MNCA to hand out to visitors to hopefully interest them in becoming MNCA members.

**Update on USO/Hike & Shoot event:** Missy reported that the first one took place on July 17 at Mason Neck State Park, with three Warriors in Transition and a USO person, plus a park naturalist and several Friends of Mason Neck State Park, including nature photographer Randy Seufert who advised the warriors on "shooting" (pictures, that is). It must have been successful, because the USO is now interested in doing ot twice a month, probably on Sundays, for about 20 warriors.

Cub Scouts Pack sponsored by MNCA: Adam Dameron provided an update: The first four Cubs graduated to Boy Scouts this year and Pohick Church is now sponsoring them--have 15-16 Boy Scouts at this point from around the area. The Cub Scouts had about 26 members last year, 24 this year. Summer activities included fishing, horseback riding, and a campout at Gunston Hall. The Board approved a motion to make Adam MNCA's official representative for signing Scout documents and such, replacing Lucia Ferguson, who has unfortunately departed Mason Neck for Texas.

**LCAC:** Marvin noted two important events: 1) their back-to-school program to provide kids with back packs and other school supplies, and, 2) a fund-raising wine tasting to be held at MNCA Board member Bruce Scott's home on Sept. 13.

Candidates Night: Marvin has confirmed interest from the usual participants--the Republican and Democratic candidates for Congress; Congressman Moran; Senator Puller; Delegate Albo; Supervisor Hyland; and School Board member Dan Storck. Date will be sometime between mid-September and mid-October, depending on which date works best for the speakers--Marvin will contact them. Agreement to give special thank-you to Sup. Hyland for his support to Mason Neck on the ESI and Indian Springs issues. Motion passed to ask that the BLM stables be named for Jim Moran, since he was a key player in the land swap that gave the property to BLM and thus prevented its development. (Marvin/Dick)

**ESI landfill:** Agreement to send a thank you letter to the six Supervisors who voted against the expansion in a 6-4 vote.

**Lost cat:** John Lukach from Hallowing Point asked MNCA to help spread the word about his Siamese cat who went missing on Monday--Peter will send email to our members.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, September 3, at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion passed to adjourn at

# Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church Sept. 6, 2014

#### **Attendees:**

Officers	Directors	
PresidentHillary Clawson	Adam Dameron (absent)	Marvin Miller
VP-Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Michael Devlin (absent)	Missy Salisbury (absent)
Secretary -Dick Kennedy	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Bruce Scott
Treasurer -Bob Lee	Rick Hutson (absent)	Peter Weyland

President Hillary Clawson called the meeting to order at 7:35.

**Motion passed** to approve minutes from August (Peter/Bruce).

**Thank-you letters to Scott Stroh** for arranging Mason Neck Night at Gunston Hall, and to the six Fairfax supervisors who voted against the ESI landfill extensionapproved. Hillary will sign and mail.

**Friends of Mason Neck State Park**--Hillary mentioned their annual meeting this Saturday, 5 to 8, at the park--food, elections, and then a hike in the park.

**Motion passed** that the MNCA financial statement will be provided to members at our annual meeting (Marvin/Bruce)

**MNCA** "Candidates Night" on Oct. 7--Most speakers confirmed--we expect Congressman Moran and four of the candidates for his seat, plus Senator Puller, Delegate Albo, School Board member Storck, and a representative from Supervisor Hyland's office (he has a supervisors meeting that night).

• We need to encourage maximum turnout for the meeting.

Wine tasting to benefit LCAC--Bruce noted that it will be at his house on Sept. 13.

**South County Chamber of Commerce-**-General Membership meeting on Oct. 9, breakfast to benefit LCAC on Oct. 30. Noted that SCC puts the community first and business second, also that it offers several categories of lifetime memberships--for individuals, non-profits, and businesses--go to SouthFairfaxChamber.org.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 1, at 7:30 PM.

Motion to adjourn approved at 8:16 (Marvin/Bruce)

# Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church October 1, 2014

#### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Hillary Clawson	President	Adam Dameron	Marvin Miller
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Michael Devlin	Missy Salisbury
		(absent)	(absent)
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee (absent)	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland

President Hillary Clawson called the meeting to order at 7:32 and the following were discussed:

**Minutes from September approved**, with some small corrections (Marvin/Sergio)

Marvin went over the **details for Candidates Night**: the three actual candidates will get 30 minutes total, about 15 minutes total for Sen. Puller and Del. Albo, about 10 for Marcia Hanson (representing Sup. Hyland), and 10 for Dan Storck (School Board).

• We will have sign-up table for MNCA membership. Hillary make opening remarks highlighting MNCA's accomplishments. These include limiting the size of George Mason Universities facility at Point-of-View, sponsoring a Cub Scouts pack, and helping to stop extension of ESI's contract.

**Gerry Hyland's Lobsterfest--**reminder that it is this Saturday.

**Hike & Shoot at Mason Neck State Park-**-Missy sent an email saying she is in contact with the USO at Ft. Belvoir about setting a date for the next one, but nothing definite yet.

**Renaming the BLM horse barn after Congressman Moran-**-Marvin got a contact person in Sen. Kaine's office, but no reply yet.

**Cub Scouts update**: Adam said there are 17 currently, they are camping out at Camp Wilson this weekend, and will help LCAC fill food baskets next month.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 7:30 PM.

Motion to adjourn approved at 7:55.

# Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church November 5, 2014

#### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Hillary Clawson (absent)	President	Adam Dameron	Marvin Miller
Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Vice President	Michael Devlin (absent	Missy Salisbury
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Bruce Scott
Bob Lee (absent)	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland

Vice President Sergio called the meeting to order at 7:32 and the following were discussed:

**Minutes from October**: Motion to approve passed (Marvin/Bruce)

**Candidates Night:** Discussion of reasons for the low turnout--off-year election, no pressing issues, MNCA perhaps not sufficiently communicating its successes to the community.

**Meadowood barn renaming:** The Friends of Meadowood did not take a position. Letters from Hilary and the CofC have been sent to Senator Kaine. Noted that the renaming would apply only to one part of the Meadowood facility.

**USO/Warriors in Transition:** Interested in a visit to Mason Neck State Park, possibly as many as 30, but could be put off until spring because it is now November and getting cold.

**Attack on Great Marsh Trail:** One Board member reported being attacked on the trail by a heavy-set woman wielding a stick. The member escaped w/o injury, and the woman--who has mental problems--was apprehended by the police.

**Welcome to Mason Neck Kiosk inauguration: Took** place on Nov. 1.

**N. VA Regional Park Authority meeting: A**dam attended. More hiking trails are planned for the areas along Old Colchester, also a pavilion.

**Cub Scouts food pickup this Saturday:** Reminder to leave bags of food out.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, Dec.3, at 7:30 PM.

Meeting Adjourned: Motion passed to adjourn at 8:10 (Marvin/Bruce)

### Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church December 3, 2014

#### **Attendees:**

Officers		Board of Directors	
Hillary Clawson	President	Adam Dameron	Marvin Miller
Sergio Diaz-Briquets(absent)	Vice President	Michael Devlin	Missy Salisbury
			(absent)
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee (absent)	Treasurer	Rick Hutson	Peter Weyland

President Hillary Clawson called the meeting to order at 7:30 and the following were discussed:

Motion passed to approve minutes from November (Marvin/Peter)

BLM: Public meeting tomorrow, 6 to 8, at Gunston Hall, to discuss its plans. Their plan for the horse barn is good but people should show support for it--Peter will send email to encourage attendance.

Encouraging membership in MNCA and attendance at General Membership meetings: Ideas discussed included:

- Having social events or family-oriented events
- Meeting featuring wildlife photos (e.g., Randy Streufert)
- Meeting featuring archeology? Or the history of Mason Neck? Or both?
- Maybe have something for kids while adults are meeting?
- Have a "Mason Neck Day"? Perhaps on a Saturday?
- Send invitations to the churches on the Neck?
- Increase MNCA's presence at the annual Eagle Festival? Adam will do initial outline of possibilities.

Warriors in Transition: Missy will meet with USO on Jan. 14 to plan spring events on the Neck for the Warriors (such as the Hike and Shoot event last summer)

Mentioned that a mega-church could be constructed on the Lazy Susan site.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2015, at 7:30 PM.

**Motion passed** to adjourn at 8:05 (Marvin/Michael)