



WCA BOARD MEETING

4th QUARTER 2023

The Board of Directors met, via Zoom, on Wednesday, November 29, 2023. President Christy Hertel opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. Members in attendance were:

Christy Hertel, President	Sharyn Franck, Traffic Chair
Mike Stup, Vice President	Linda Landreth, Cemetery Chair
Nancy Doane, Secretary	Ed Lehman, Membership Chair
Maureen Arnold, Treasurer	Nick Ratcliff, Beautification Chair
	Fiona Sullivan, Events Chair

Christy reminded Committee members that the upcoming membership meeting will incorporate the annual Holiday Social, so Committee reports will be included in the Board minutes which will be distributed via link to the membership. Only brief Committee updates will be reported at the business meeting. The primary business to be conducted will be the election of officers to serve the 2024-2025 term.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Maureen reported Year-to-Date expenses of \$10,722, leaving a balance of \$7,928 in the bank account. Expenses for the remainder of the year are projected at approximately \$500, which is in line with the approved 2023 budget. She encouraged everyone to provide her with receipts for reimbursement of purchases made. Income of \$320 was received this quarter, including \$120 designated for the fireworks fund, providing a carryover of \$978 for the 2024 4th of July fireworks.

Payment has not yet been received from the Foundation for providing traffic control services during the Fair. We provided this service for 3 mornings, generating an income of \$1,000 per morning for a total of \$3,000.

Fiona reminded Maureen that a deposit of \$1,000 for the fireworks would be needed early in 2024; Maureen reported that this year's deposit was made in March.

Maureen will also report on our non-liquid assets (CD's) at the Membership Meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Beautification: Nick discussed the three items provided in his following written report:

1. Mile-A-Minute Vine. Thanks to the members of the Beautification Committee and village residents who helped the Foundation Open Spaces Committee with the pulling and removal of the Mile-A-Minute vines along the Phillips Farm trail in September- October and

November. Work was concentrated in one section near marker 6 where Jamie Hutton bush-hogged a section for us down to the soil that allowed access into the dense growth areas. We cleared about 1/3 acre that resulted in 1,200 lbs. of bagged debris that was taken to the dump by Annie Goode and her horse trailer. High school volunteers organized by Abby Zerfluh helped greatly as well as volunteers from Loudoun Mutual who effectively took away the first collection of probably 1000 lbs.

What we learned: The time and effort that went into this "War on Mile-a-Minute Vine" for this small area showed us that clearing the whole floodplain by this manual technique is not practicable. The Foundation is considering other options such as resuming mowing, burning patches or contract work. It may however be possible to clear limited designated areas by manual means in small working groups.

2. Poison Hemlock. The purpose of bush-hogging was to reveal where new growth of Poison Hemlock had come up since the last herbicide spraying in September. New growth in those cleared areas is locally very abundant with well rooted plants that have emerged in the mild Fall. These are holdover seeds from the seed banks developed from prior seasons. Most appear to be coming up this Fall, but there may be second year plants that will bolt in this second season. If allowed to grow, these plants would go to seed in May and June of 2024. From this analysis one can see that the kill % after herbicide application does not equate to the % of potential growth because the seeds banked in the soils remain viable for new growth for 2-4 years. While great strides have been made, it will be years before total control will have been achieved.
3. Marked trees. You may have noticed that there are trees along our streets that have been marked for attention of VDOT/ Dominion because of imminent danger of falling on roads or across power lines and thus a hazard in the right of way. Hopefully some proactive trimming will take place in the near future.

Nick again expressed thanks to all residents, WCA members and Water Foundation staff and committee members who have joined the cooperative efforts on the Phillips Farm.

Traffic: Sharyn has received the October traffic data from the County. She reported there was little change. She also expressed concern about the upcoming construction of the roundabout at the Route 9/Route 287 intersection and the alternative traffic pattern(s) that will result. The WCA will proactively work, in coordination with Waterford 2033 and the Foundation, to coordinate detours and the rerouting of traffic with the County and VDOT to minimize the increase of traffic through the village.

Cemetery: Linda reported that the first session of the 7th grade Reconstruction Era history program was very well received. For safety reasons, areas will be roped off in the future where students can safely stand, keeping in mind the potential for tree limbs to fall. Sessions will resume in the spring.

Membership: Ed reported that there are 122 members for the 2023 membership year.

Water: Mike reported, in the absence of Mark Sullivan, Chair, that there was no new information to provide. Letters have been sent out to targeted property owners for the potential placement of

wells. The new water treatment plant will be located at the current location and lines from Paeonian Springs will be connected at the southern end of the current lines in Waterford. Clarity will be sought on the specific location of these lines along Clarke's Gap Road.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING: Christy reminded everyone that the primary purpose of the business portion of the meeting will be to elect officers for the upcoming 2-year term. Maureen will report on our 2022 charitable giving and budgeted 2023 amounts. A vote(s) will be taken to determine the 2023 distribution(s).

The Holiday Social will immediately follow in the basement Fellowship Hall. Everyone was reminded to bring some finger food to share.

ADJOURNMENT: Christy thanked everyone for participating in the Zoom meeting and adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Doane, Secretary

MISSION:

The mission of the Waterford Citizens Association is to foster community action, to further the common good and general welfare of the community, to secure improvements, to preserve its unique history as a National Historic Landmark, and to maintain the Waterford Area as a desirable and attractive community in which to live.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision for the WCA is to create a sense of community and inclusion where all feel welcome to volunteer, contribute and participate