



## WCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

3rd QUARTER 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Christy Hertel at 7:00 pm on September 9, 2023, at the Waterford Old School.

**Minutes:** Secretary Nancy Doane presented the minutes for the 2nd Quarter 2023 Membership Meeting which were posted on the WCA website and referenced in the meeting announcement emailed to all members. A motion to dispense with the reading of the meetings was made by Jeff Bean and seconded; motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Maureen Arnold reported year-to-date expenses of \$10,722, for a current balance of \$7,658. She also noted that a separate balance of \$858 remains in the fireworks "fund" which will be carried over to 2024.

**Foundation Update:** Stephanie Thompson, Executive Director, updated members on final preparations for the upcoming Waterford Fair. She reported that the Friday evening Community Dinner, held the evening after the first day of the Fair, was strictly a social and not a fundraising event and was filling up quickly. Members were encouraged to get their orders in early. She also announced that one more homestay host was needed.

**PTO Update:** Liz Holm, representing the Waterford PTO, thanked villagers for their participation in the annual Halloween celebration, Masquerade in the Village. This year's event will take place on October 31, and the road closure will be from 5:30 – 8:30, with Trick-or-Treating occurring 6:00 – 8:00. There will also be a pumpkin carving contest.

**Fair Activities:** Mike Stup, Vice President, recounted that last year the WCA changed its fundraising activity during the Fair from the BBQ stand to providing traffic control support to the Foundation. The WCA will be once again doing this for the second year. Mike gave a special shout-out to Jamie Hutton, Jonathan Daniels, and Jeff Bean for covering 6 of the 32 volunteer slots needed last year. The Foundation will contract out shifts for Friday, but the WCA will cover Saturday and Sunday, with 16 volunteer slots needing to be filled each day. To volunteer, you must be a minimum of 18 years of age; "flaggers" will need to be certified, which can be done at 7:30 a.m. on the day of your shift. Volunteers are needed! Providing this service to the Foundation last year nearly tripled prior years' net income from the BBQ stand.

**Nominating Committee:** Christy announced that due to the necessity to abruptly adjourn the last membership meeting, selection of the Nominating Committee will be occurring this evening and a special meeting will be called prior to the December Membership Meeting to report on their proposed slate of officers and to receive nominations from the floor.

The following nominations were received:

Ray Daffner  
Ron Benschoter  
Dave Bednarik

Christy indicated that Whitney Chamberlin, who was unable to be present, had also submitted her name for consideration. However, the Bylaws call for three members to be elected to the Committee, yet it does not limit the number to 3.

It was moved and seconded that the number of members for this year's Committee be increased to 4. Motion carried unanimously.

It was further moved and seconded that Ray Daffner, Ron Benschoter, Dave Bednarik and Whitney Chamberlin be elected to the Nominating Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Christy encouraged anyone interested in being considered for an officer position to get in contact with a member of the Committee.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Traffic Committee:** Sharyn Franck, Chair, distributed the County-produced report reflecting updated traffic counts from the traffic/speed signs at the three entrances to the village. Drivers continue to exceed the posted 20mph speed limit; there was little variation from previous months. Sharyn asked that she be immediately contacted should anyone notice a malfunction of the cameras so she can arrange for prompt repairs. She also requested to be notified of any important incidents that occur.

Sharyn then reported on residents' concern about the proposed paving of Old Wheatland Road. A petition expressing opposition to this action has garnered over 300 signatures by those who live within the village or adjacent to dirt roads. The Board of Supervisors will be addressing this issue at their meeting on September 13, and it will be important for as many as possible to attend.

**Water Committee:** Mark Sullivan, Chair, provided an update on the two parallel, but separate projects: provision of public water and replacement of the existing Waterford wastewater treatment plant, which no longer meets federal and state standards. He provided a general review of the timeline, stating that the wastewater treatment plant will be moving forward in earnest beginning in 2025. Loudoun Water will be coordinating their plans and activities with the County to avoid a fractured approach to the two projects. He stated that the current wastewater lagoons will be decommissioned and that a request has been made to remove the fencing which surrounds the property. He again reiterated that no structure will be constructed within the village for either the water system or the new wastewater treatment plant and that no one will be required to hook up to the community water solution. The new plant will service only the villages of Waterford and Paeonian Springs and will not service any new development. The new structure will go through the County's Historic District Review Committee for their review and approval. Villagers were again asked to please reach out to Water Committee members with any questions or concerns; they realize there is a lot of information involved and are willing to help folks walk through it all.

**Beautification Committee:** Nick Ratcliff, Chair, working on behalf of the Foundation to further address the issue of invasive species on the Phillips Farm, informed members of the campaign to

combat Mile-A-Minute vine. He also reminded village residents of the upcoming annual clean-up campaign in preparation for the Fair. See attached.

**Events Committee:** Fiona Sullivan, Chair, thanked everyone for their support during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities. Members in turn expressed their appreciation when Fiona indicated she would be willing to coordinate the celebration once again next year.

**Membership Committee:** Ed Lehman, Chair, reported that there are now 116 member households, as compared to 139 in 2022 and 120 in 2021.

**New Business:** There was no new business presented.

**Adjournment:** With no further business, Christy adjourned the meeting at 8:03 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.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

September 9, 2023

### A WAR AGAINST MILE A MINUTE VINE and “5-6 Pick-Up Sticks”

#### Mile-a-Minute Vine

We usually do a town-wide pick up before the Fair, but this year I have a request for help with a WF Phillips Farm project that we could support first. You know that invasive species are overtaking the floodplain, including the dangerous Poison hemlock. That effort has been successful and we are making real progress, however as we kill one thing another rises up as the aggressor.

I want to propose a “War Against Mile-a-Minute Vine” that is advancing eastward and northward towards Main Street and Second Street and has to be stopped in its tracks.

#### What I ask you to do:

Would you volunteer to work a morning in September to pull out, rake out, cut or otherwise mutilate this monster????

Where: Between markers 6 and 8, both sides of the trail, vines need to be pulled out and removed from trees that are being strangled.

Tools Needed: Steel rakes, cutting tools, and a heavy pair of gloves and forearm protection. This vine has tiny but very sharp, recurved thorns along stems and protection is needed. Jamie Hutton has agreed to bring his bushhog to help clear paths for us. We will have large bags for stuffing,

When/Where: Meet at Schooley Mill Barn entrance to Phillips Farm on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30- 12 and/or Saturday, September 16, 8:30-12. We will bag what we can for removal but may have to pile up vines for removal the next week if we work too fast and hard – as I hope we will. Rain date will be September 24.

Volunteers, ***please lend a hand*** for the WCA Beautification Committee and the WF Open Spaces Subcommittee. Susan Rogers and I are coordinating this event, and you may respond to either of us.

#### “5-6 Pick-Up Sticks” Campaign

The following weekend, September 23-23, will be our usual “5-6 Pick-Up Sticks” campaign for the Fair. We ask that all home owners clean up in front of their properties, clear road trash, cut weeds, and shovel curbs. Volunteers from the Loudoun Mutual Insurance have kindly offered to play a big role in this effort. Thankyou, LMI!

Nick Ratcliffe, Chair  
WCA Beautification Committee  
540-882-3348