



WATERFORD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION Board Meeting 3rd Quarter Minutes 2024

The board of Directors met, via Zoom on 09/12/2024. President Mike Stup called the meeting to order at 6.37pm. Members in Attendance were:

Mike Stup – President
Christy Hertel – Vice President
Fiona Sullivan – Secretary and Entertainments Chair
Linda Landreth – Cemetery Chair
Nick Ratcliff – Beautification Chair
Mark Sullivan – Water Committee Chair
Sharyn Frank – Traffic and Safety Committee Chair

Chair Report: Mike reported the following

- The Sheriff deputy will be at the next meeting as there have been a few incidents again.
- The WCA has committed to providing flaggers for half of the time slots.
- Susan Manch will provide an update on the Transmission Line, The Foundation's work in this area has been outstanding.
- Cate is currently not available. Preserving the Landmark is somewhere between 0-10% completed. \$7.5m has been allocated for engineering design after which there will be community engagement before any work is carried out. We have a long way to go before anything is agreed or work commences and there will be lots of opportunity for input.

Nick raised the suggestion that we should have a third party review any plans on our behalf and he is in touch with someone who would be capable of carrying out a review.

Fiona raised the question of the funding for such a review as this could lead to a substantial cost for the village.

Mark stated that we would need to provide clear Terms of Reference to ensure that there would not be a pre-defined outcome.

Mike stated that there is an ongoing need to improve communication, the aim is to solve some problems and preserve the village.

Events Committee: Fiona reported that we need to look at 4th July events for next year as we have to sign the contract for the fireworks, committing to the cost, before we have raised the money.

Safety and Traffic Committee: Sharyn reported that traffic numbers will now be reported on the Waterford Project site.

Beautification Committee: Nick reported that the boulder with the Park Service plaque has been moved to the area in front of The Corner Store following co-operation between, the county, WCA and The Foundation. Really good buy in from all parties and it only took 3 months to achieve. Mike asked for a photo to go on the website which Nick confirmed he could supply.

Cemetery Committee: Linda reported that the recent storms have caused lots of damage at the cemetery. In addition to downed trees and damaged fences some of the grave stones have been damaged, removal of tree stumps made difficult by the proximity to graves.

Water Committee: Mark reported that there is no change to the current situation, no meetings have been held.

Nick asked for the progress regarding Paeonian Springs

Mark did not have an answer and stated that he would reach out for an update.

Preserving the Landmark Committee: Cate Wyatt could not attend the meeting to provide an update.

Mike closed the meeting reminding everyone that the board needs to be open, respectful and transparent. Set up for the WCA meeting will begin at 6pm.



WATERFORD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION 3rd Quarter Minutes 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Stup at 7.pm on 9/19/2024, at the Waterford Old School. Mike introduced the Board members for anyone new.

Paul Rasta read the WCA Mission Statement to start the Meeting.

Minutes: Secretary Fiona Sullivan presented the minutes for the 2nd Quarter 2024 meeting as posted on the WCA website and referenced in the meeting announcement emailed to all members. A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes was made by Jeff Bean and seconded by Sharyn Frank; the motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

President Report: Mike Stup reported that unfortunately there have been some additional traffic incidents since the last meeting. He introduced Deputy First Class Nathan Gerben who is the deputy covering the area including Waterford.

Deputy Gerben: Below is the link to the briefing provided by Deputy Gerben
<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=5d22f1dc76&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg-f:1810673792794562097&th=1920ce389fa10e31&view=att&disp=safe&realattid=1920ce299db2f2e15111&zw>

In addition he advised that new regulations have been brought in and it now possible for speed limits to go as low as 15mph in residential areas, Waterford cannot impose these limits themselves because we are not. Incorporated. From 15th -17th October they plan on conducting a high visibility traffic enforcement. There will be electronic boards set up on the routes into the village and traffic officers at strategic points in the village.

Mike asked if anyone was against this approach, no objections were raised.

The following questions were asked?

1. Is it possible to enforce noise limits? Deputy Gerben advised that if a horn etc. is factory fitted then it is not in violation, very difficult to prove and they are not supplied with instruments to measure the decibel level.
2. Can the no through truck restriction be enforced? Deputy Gerben advised that a semi with a red cab was reported a few weeks ago and that it was followed up and dealt with.
3. Are most of the tickets issued to people living in the village? Deputy Gerben advised that typically this is not the case in his experience.

Events Committee Report: Fiona Sullivan reported that we need to look again at what events we want for 4th July. Currently we have a sign a contract for the fireworks in Jan which then commits us to an expenditure for an amount of money that has not been raised. This year the firework cost went up to \$7300 which puts a bigger burden on the people who donate to the firework fund. We managed to raise enough money this year but it was a close call and we do not have enough raised to cover the deposit for 2025. It is not possible for us to charge admission for the fireworks as we would then need to pay for the Fire Marshall who is there all day from when the contractor arrives until after the display is finished.

Mark confirmed that it is a great celebration but we may not need to continue with live fireworks.

Ed advised that when this was first suggested and set up the WCA was not responsible for raising the money only for handling it, but over the years this has changed.

Nick suggested that the Board have a special meeting to discuss this one topic.

Mike asked anyone interested to send in their ideas.

Traffic and Safety Committee Report:

WCA Traffic Committee report - Sept 19, 2024

Waterford Traffic Counts

May, June, July, Aug 2024

May average	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Speed Avg	85% speed avg
Clarkes Gap	2838	3451	3541	3698	3787	2595	2041	35	42 (46 high)
Loyalty Rd	956	1227	1302	1217	1164	1207	946	32	38 (41 high)
First St	1456	1700	1798	1762	1574	1060	870	27	31(34 high)
Village Totals	5250	6378	6641	6677	6525	4862	3857		
June average									
Clarkes Gap	2840	3449	3554	3634	3757	2676	2002	35	42 (45 high)
Loyalty Rd	993	1157	1187	1111	1209	1181	947	32	37 (40 High)
First St	1373	1669	1660	1690	1558	1154	866	27	32 (35 high)
Village Totals	5206	6275	6401	6435	6524	5011	3815		
July average									
Clarkes Gap	2779	3215	3343	3069	3281	2265	1903	35	43 (47 high)
Loyalty Rd	852	876	943	886	942	933	806	33	38 (47 high)
First St	1388	1417	1438	1305	1317	993	807	27	32 (34 high)

Village Totals	5019	5508	5724	5260	5540	4191	3516		
August average									
Clarkes Gap	2877	3176	3287	3352	3170	2313	1831	35	43 (47 high)
Loyalty Rd	916	955	961	851	946	1000	762	33	38 (45 high)
First St	1409	1478	1482	1484	1330	1005	814	27	31 (34 high)
Village Totals	5202	5609	5730	5687	5446	4318	3407		

Above chart is monthly traffic data for the 3 village entrances. **It shows the average number of cars passing that sign for that day of the week in the month indicated.** Data is provided by the Pole Mounted Speed Display signs (PMSD). If you ever pass one of the PMSD signs on your way into the village and it is not flashing your speed -- please let me know and I will contact the county office that maintains/repairs them. If it is not flashing your speed, it is not collecting data. Email is sharynfranck@gmail.co

We want to know if you have any traffic interactions you feel are important. This could be damage to your car by a passing vehicle, interactions while you are walking through the village, trucks through the village, etc. It is also helpful to report the incident to the Sheriff's Dept. Here is the link to fill out a traffic complaint. <https://lfportal.loudoun.gov/Forms/TrafficComplaint>.

Updates on County construction projects in the area:

Route 9/287 Roundabout- Winter 2024 thru Winter 2025 is utility relocation. Winter 2025 is when construction is set to begin and will continue thru Spring of 2026 when the County anticipates there will be 'substantial completion'.

Route 15 North Corridor Projects - there are related projects. Rt 15 is being widened in multiple areas. Currently, the County is working on land acquisition and utility relocation. Most construction is scheduled to start in 2025 and 2026.

Mark asked if it is possible to have a physical obstacle such as a speed table?

Mike confirmed that we are trying to get temporary rumble strips or speed bumps to move around but we need more data.

Skip questioned if the country allowed the use of speed bumps.

Mike confirmed that DTCL has said yes to the use of speed tables, we are trying to get data to support their use.

Preserving the Landmark Committee Report: Mike reported that Cate is not with us this evening to provide an update. He confirmed that the County have allocated \$2.5m for an engineering study and work has started on writing the RFP for the design services. A firm will then be hired who will engage with the community.

The design phase will look at a number of issues; traffic, safety, burying the wires, storm water and potable water, there will be more surveyors in the village in the next 60 days. An additional \$5m has been allocated for design and engineering.

Water Committee Report: Mark advised that the cadence of meetings has now changed and has moved from monthly to quarterly meetings because the engineering study has not been completed.

Residents who are interested in commenting on the studies/planning/design were encouraged to visit the Loudoun County Website

<https://www.loudoun.gov/6016/Village-of-Waterford-Infrastructure-and->

Beautification Committee Report: Nick reported that the boulder with the Park Service plaque has been moved to the area in front of The Corner Store following co-operation between, the county, WCA and The Foundation. Really good buy in from all parties and it only took 3 months to achieve.

Mike thanked Nick for taking the time to sort this out and the rock moved to a more prominent position.

Nick asked everyone to pick up any fallen branches they see as they are walking around the village.

Nick also took the opportunity to state that we need to have some outside experts review all of the studies since 1990. We need to protect our historic streetscapes and not have outcomes imposed upon us. Some of the things suggested are not appropriate in a historic village. We should hire a 3rd party to ensure that there are no unintended consequences.

Paul R – We need to take ownership of the village

Waterford Foundation/Transmission Lines Report: Susan Manch reported that she is cautiously optimistic that the threat that the transmission line posed to the village has been averted. The Marla Line has been cancelled. The village has its Historic Landmark designation, in part, because of its 18th Century viewshed. If the viewshed had been destroyed by the construction of the transmission line it would have been difficult to keep the status. PJM have voted in our favour. Maryland are yet to vote. We have shown the power of rural Loudoun when we work together. The Foundation raised \$454,000 for the LTLA and have spent more than that, this additional work has taken a toll. There will be a Thank You Pot Luck on Oct 26th for LTLA

Any Other Business:

Jen Diffenderfer gave those present an update on the Halloween celebrations this year. As previously candy will be collected by the school and distributed from Linda's store.

5.30pm to 8pm road closures, road flaggers are needed.

Houses will be decorated as previously.

Jack-o-lantern competition will be on a different day as all Loudoun Schools are out on 31st.

Pastor David Douthett from Catocin Presbyterian Church in Waterford informed the meeting that the Farmers Markets have now finished for the summer, on Saturday 21st Sept there will be a Rise against Hunger event at the church where they will be packaging 15000 meals, all the volunteer slots for this event have been filled, the intention is to make this an annual event. On the 2nd Sunday of the month a free lunch – Soup and Friends, is held, all community members are welcome.

Mark Sullivan motioned to adjourn the meeting.

Paul Rasta Seconded the motion

Approved by all present.