

BBHCA Board and

Committees

President: Sandra Graham (aka Jeannie Henry), president@bbhca.net

First Vice President (Newsletter): Jackie Hawkins, newsletter@bbhca.net

Second Vice President (Membership): Elise Swinehart, membership@bbhca.net

Treasurer: Joan Akins, treasurer@bbhca.net

Secretary: Danny Hawkins, secretary@bbhca.net

Constitution and Bylaws: Bob Michie, bylaws_constitution@bbhca.net

Land Use & Transportation (Lee District): Carol Alim, landuse@bbhca.net

Neighborhood Watch: TBD

Web Site: Jackie Hawkins (interim), newsletter@bbhca.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Doing Our Part in the Community

Sandra "Jeannie" (Graham) Henry, President

Understanding Your Home's Future Value (and More)

Please join us at Bush Hill Elementary for the Brookland-Bush Hill Community Association meeting, beginning at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, Nov. 19th. New residents are very welcome—please come down, meet some neighbors, and find out about the local issues affecting your home. For this month's speaker we have invited a real estate expert (and perhaps a name familiar to you) to talk to us about home values and trends in our area, and how homeowners can protect their home values in the event that they want to sell their house one day. Wondering how Amazon development is going to affect you, or what increasing air traffic is doing to Northern Virginia sales trends? What is hot and what is not? Come in November and ask your questions!

Also, there is a chance that Supervisor Jeff McKay will join us at the end of the evening. While he has a Board meeting that night, he is hoping it will end in time for him to shoot over to our meeting. I know many of you have been following Jeff's career for years and now that he is moving to a new role, residents have been anxious to be able to say goodbye and thank him for the attention he has given

to BBHCA issues over the years. Jeff really hopes to be able to give us his goodbyes in person on Nov. 19th, so we'll cross our fingers and hope he can join us.

November BBHCA Elections and Budget

Elections will be held for the BBHCA Board at the Association's November 19th meeting. As of this writing, most of the current officers are willing to stand for re-election, however most of us have been doing this for a long time and we would love to see new people step up to take over some of these roles. Nominations for all positions are open to all current members of BBHCA. These elected positions include the president, vice-president newsletter, vice-president membership, treasurer and secretary. While most of these roles only require about five hours a month, they do require a conscientious commitment. We will be taking nominations up to and during the November meeting. If you have questions about any of the positions, please contact Jeannie Henry at president@bbhca.net. In addition, 20 member households must be present in order to hold an election and we have come up short on that number, not last year, but in two prior years creating a delay of several months. It is very important

COMMUNITY MEETING

November 19
(Tuesday)

7:30 pm

Bush Hill Elementary School
(cafeteria,
right side entrance)

AGENDA

Board and Committee Reports

PRESENTATION

Cindy Schneider
Real Estate Expert

Jeff McKay (tentative)

Now is the time to renew your Brookland-Bush Hill

Civic Association Membership!

Page 3 of this newsletter is the 2020 BBHCA Membership Form. For only \$10.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for households you can help keep our neighborhoods a great place to live. We are always accepting new members and welcome donations which go directly toward helping BBHCA remain an effective voice for the community. For the most current information on BBHCA activities, please visit www.bbhca.net or the "Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association" Facebook page.

that we have a good turn-out for this meeting to ensure that our election results are official for the year and that BBHCA can continue to work for you, so please be sure to join us on the 19th. We will also vote on our proposed 2020 budget at the November meeting.

Scooters in Fairfax County

Robert Michie
Constitution and Bylaws Representative

Scooters are not coming to Fairfax County next year: they have always been here. A ‘scooter’ is something like a gasoline-powered Vespa. I am describing a motorcycle with a step-through frame and a platform for the rider’s feet. Scooters also refer to a toy popular with children which is propelled by a standing rider that uses one foot to push the device along the ground. This scooter (called a “kick” scooter) was popular with adults about ten years ago here in the D.C. area. The “kick” scooter evolved into a platform with a battery and an electric motor. These electric scooters are starting to become more popular than bicycles within the city now.

What is happening in Virginia is House Bill 2752, courtesy of the Virginia House of Delegates. The law allows localities such as Fairfax County to regulate the use of these shared mobility devices (motorized skateboards or scooters, bicycles, or electric power-assisted bicycles) for hire. The catch is that a licensing ordinance must be in place by January 1, 2020. If an ordinance is not in place by that date, anyone can offer motorized shared mobility devices for hire.

I have learned to live with the electric scooters in Washington. I find them everywhere: parked (or discarded) on sidewalks and on major bicycle routes such as the Mount Vernon trail. I ride my bicycle in the streets and the scooters are all around me. We manage to stay out of each other’s way. My biggest annoyance is seeing them lying on the ground rather than in neat racks like Capitol BikeShare. Their speed does not bother me. The electric scooters can often reach 15 miles per hour, but I am already riding close to that speed. Fellow members of the BBHCA had a lot to say about the devices at the September meeting but fortunately I have not encountered the devices on sidewalks.

I noticed that the Virginia Code follows the long-time bicycle golden rule: when you ride a bicycle on a street you are a car and you have all the rights and duties of an automobile driver. On the other hand, when you ride on a sidewalk or a trail, you have the

Continued on page 6

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Fairfax, VA 22031

September Meeting Minutes

President’s Report:

JeffMcKay was unable to attend but will be invited to next meeting. Still needing to fill Neighborhood Watch Board position. Also need volunteer for Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Program.

Secretary’s Report:

September BBHCA meeting minutes approved as published.

Newsletter Report:

September newsletters were hand-delivered in an effort to save BBHCA on some newsletter printing and postage costs. Campaign to renew current advertisers will begin December/January.

Membership Report:

No report.

Treasurer’s Report:

2019 BBHCA Income and Expenses report distributed. Membership dues are down.

Land Use Report:

See Land Use Update article on page 4 of this newsletter. Most updates shared at the September meeting are included in the article.

Other items discussed include:

Proposal for mixed residential/commercial at site of closed Toys”R” Us.

There was a meeting at Rose Hill Library in September to discuss the possibility of a Chick Fil A to move into parking lot near Safeway in Kingstowne.

Proposal for townhouse/commercial to go in at site of Top Golf in Kingstowne. Similar to Clarendon Commons.

New Business:

New scooter companies want to come into Fairfax County. New ordinance must be issues by January 2020 or the scooter companies will be able to do whatever they want. Ordinance should cove things like designated scooter drop areas , scooter speed limits, etc.

Volunteers needed for a neighborhood Emergency Preparedness program. Need to collect data on things like who has generators, who has chainsaws, etc. and develop a communication network. Need volunteer to coordinate this.

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President's Message

continued from page 1

Recycling Glass Now Demands More of Us

Most of us know that U.S. landfills are rapidly running out of space, and so BBHCA residents have always been very proactive in fulfilling their civic duty by recycling glass, high grade plastic, paper and metal. However, that duty is about to get a little more challenging thanks to the Chinese---who are no longer accepting mixed streams of material waste from the U.S. As a result, we can no longer place glass in our curbside blue bins, because Fairfax has no way of separating broken glass from other recyclables. To keep glass from overwhelming our landfills we now have to step it up by collecting glass at home (Home Depot sells convenient plastic bins) and periodically taking it to the giant purple bin at the nearby Franconia Government Center. Frankly, this is going to be less convenient for all of us, but the alternative is a Mount Rushmore of glass bottles at Lorton, followed by a much more expensive trash service. We are more fortunate than most of county in that the Franconia location is very close and easily accessible.

Newsletter Distribution

At our September BBHCA meeting, the membership had a discussion about going back to a system of hand delivery of the newsletters (we have 4 issues per year). The benefits include a huge cost savings to BBHCA (newsletters are our biggest cost) and increased interaction among neighbors and awareness of BBHCA activities. Some 20 years ago, newsletters were distributed by block captains who walked around to houses in their designated area. To manage all of BBHCA we would likely need on the order of 25 block captains. Two people at the September meeting volunteered (many thanks!), and we will continue to collect names of volunteers via e-mail or at meetings to see if this is a feasible approach for future deliveries.

Scooters in Fairfax County

continued from page 2

rights and duties of a pedestrian. Experienced bicyclists are wary of confusing the two roles: being a car on a sidewalk or being a pedestrian when riding in the street. That confusion of roles is when accidents happen.

Fairfax County is working on an ordinance that will address these issues. The ordinance will say that where signs are posted saying that shared mobility devices are prohibited on designated sidewalks, then the rider must stay off the sidewalk. Private property owners can allow scooters or place restrictions on scooters on their property. A "private property" can be a shopping center, such as Springfield Mall. The permit owners must be accessible 24 hours a day to receive requests and to collect the shared mobility devices. The devices must be collected within four hours during the day or by 8 a.m. if the call is logged after 9 p.m. Fairfax is planning to limit individual fleets to 300 scooters and to set the top speed to 10 mph.

The Shared Mobility Device for Hire ordinance gets a public hearing and possible adoption by the Board of Supervisors on November 19th. The plan is to have an ordinance in place by January 1. I suspect that Tysons Corner will be getting fleets from many permit holders. I don't expect to see many in the Rose Hill area. I could be mistaken because I see a lot of abandoned scooters on the Mount Vernon Trail. I look forward to making many collection requests if the same problem shows up in Fairfax County.

2020 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

Membership Year: January 1, 2020–December 31, 2020

Join us—for the good of your community.

BBHCA provides many opportunities for you to take an active role in decisions that affect your quality of life and property values as well as make a difference in your community. BBHCA prints a newsletter, maintains a Web site, and e-mails community updates and alert notices. Only members have a vote at BBHCA meetings on decisions that affect the community and the governance of BBHCA. Join today and support your civic association's efforts to keep our neighborhood a great place to call home. For current information on BBHCA activities, please visit Facebook or go to www.bbhca.net.

Enclosed are my member dues: \$20.00 (household) \$10.00 (individual)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY The information provided here will be considered confidential and used only for BBHCA communications and membership verification.

NAME: (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____

NAME: (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____

E-MAIL(S): _____ (required for e-mail communications and community alerts; see below)

E-mail Communications

Please notify me by e-mail of community concerns deemed important by BBHCA. I may request that e-mail communications be discontinued at any time. Your e-mail will be used only by BBHCA.

Request for Donation

Your donation will be used to help offset the cost of printing and mailing the BBHCA print newsletter, the website, and other member-approved services. Thank you!

I would like to make a donation to BBHCA for \$10 \$20 Other \$ _____

Please mail this completed form with your check (payable to "BBHCA") to:

BBHCA Membership
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Alexandria, VA 22310

Questions?
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www.bbhca.net

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Land Use Update

Carol Alim
Constitution and Bylaws Representative

Community of Muslims:

Deferred

The applicant is looking to build a religious/ community on a one-acre parcel of land at 7801 Cinder Bed Road. This parcel is zoned I5 which allows houses of worship by right. Proffers from a previous violation inadvertently dropped this use. They are proposing a 10,000 square foot facility that would have a tot lot on site. The building would be 35 feet tall with a pitched roofed, designed to blend into the community. Changes to site plan increased parking; the maximum number of people on site would be limited to 175, which would occur for weddings or other special events.

A large number of residents from the nearby Hawthorne community spoke opposed to this development. Their stated concerns were: storm water management, control in limiting the people on site to 175 and preventing worshippers from parking in their community.

As a result of the opposition, the applicant deferred their application and plan to meet again with neighbors to address concerns.

Costco, Route 1:

Recommended for approval 16-0-1

Request to add gas pumps to the Route 1 site. All new Costco stores have gas pumps for members and they are upgrading existing sites along the East coast that don't have them. The pumps are available only for members so there will be no signs visible from the street. Pumps will operate from 6:000 am – 7:00 pm during the week and until 9:00 pm on the weekend.

Note: The Board of Supervisors approved this application that will allow 17 pumps.

8218 Richmond Highway:

Recommended for approval 14-1-0

Applicant is looking to change use from nursery to shopping center, restaurant, retail. Per request of

Staff, applicant will remove the access road and provide right of way for BRT (Bus Rapid Transit).

Oakwood Affordable Senior Housing:

2019-IV-RH1: Recommended for approval 17-0-0

Comprehensive Plan Amendment to change plan language for County-owned land to permit development of an affordable residential complex senior citizens. This property is zoned R8, which permits 8 dwelling units per acre and is inconsistent with the plan language. Given consideration for building affordable housing (4x) and 20% for senior housing the developer could build up to 268 units; they plan to build 150 units.

This application was adopted by the Board of Supervisors at their meeting on 24 September. The next step will be for the applicant to submit a site plan, which will be reviewed by Staff, come before the Landuse Committee, be presented to the Planning Commission, and then be presented to the Board of Supervisors

You can access the staff report after 21 August on the county website by using the case number.

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