# LAFAYETTE VILLAGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, May 9, 2011 Mason District Government Center 6507 Columbia Pike Annandale, VA 22042

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jay Jarvis Hattie Walden Terri Clark John Alexander Sean Walsh

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Diane Tschirhart Property Manager, KPA

Lauren DeLaCruz Recording Secretary, Minute-By-Minute

# I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Jarvis called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and noted that there was not a quorum.

## II. PROOF OF NOTICE:

Diane Tschirhart gave proof of notice of the meeting.

#### III. PROOF OF PROXIES:

There were no proxies.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: A homeowner MOVED, another homeowner SECONDED, to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2010 Semi-Annual meeting. The motion carried.

## V. GUEST PRESENTATION: CONGRESSMAN GERRY CONNOLLY

Representative Gerry Connolly explained that he serves on 2 committees in the House of Representatives, including the Committee on Foreign Affairs. He said that the military was finally able to find Osama bin Laden and that underscores the United States' achievements in intelligence and military abilities. He said that the war on terror is not over and that this incident does not mean that terrorist threats have disappeared.

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He noted that Bin Laden's location raises serious questions about the United States' relations with Pakistan as it is difficult to believe that his location was unknown by the Government of Pakistan. Pakistan is a concern for everyone because of their nuclear program. But they are a necessary partner for activities in Afghanistan. He said that the complicated relationship will continue.

Mr. Connelly noted that the November elections resulted in a lot of Tea Party members being elected to the House of Representatives. He said that these members have a different perspective than many and that this is changing how issues are debated and defined. The national debt is a growing problem and dealing with the deficit is very important, but he stressed that the debt is not the only important issue. He said that the government must still make investments in the country while trying to bring the debt down. He stated that the country is in this position due to unfunded wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, unfunded tax cuts, and the unfunded adoption of Medicare part D, prescription benefits. He stated that the notion that all government spending is wrong is a mindless approach to paying down the debt and that the government must continue funding those things that keep our country internationally competitive such as infrastructure, technology, and education. He noted that one important place to focus on is government overpayments, which amount to about \$125 billion a year. He also said that as the economy recovers, Federal payments will decrease and revenue will increase, which will help assuage the debt. He stated that the current Federal debt discussions are not honest discussions. He said that both expenses and revenues must be on the table. He said that it is not possible to balance the budget by focusing only on domestic discretionary spending. He discussed offshore drilling in Virginia and stated that the fishing industry and Navy and shipping industry brings in much more money than offshore drilling could.

Mr. Connelly discussed Representative Paul Ryan's debt plan. He said the major problems with the plan are that it reduces taxes on the wealthy; it abolishes Medicare as it is currently known for those under 55, and it turns Medicaid into a block grant program. He said that the government must reduce Medicare, but simultaneously giving those under 55 healthcare vouchers and repealing healthcare reform, which made it illegal for insurance companies to deny coverage for pre-existing conditions, will make it very difficult for aging American to receive proper healthcare coverage.

Mr. Connelly answered several questions from the audience.

## VI. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

<u>President's Report</u>: Mr. Jarvis reported that the Association has been in negotiations with the State over compensation for property. The Board believes the Association did not receive enough money for the property and will proceed to court. The process should take about a year. Mr. Jarvis thanked residents for changing the doggie bags in the community. He reported that the reserves are currently at the required level and the Board is following the reserve study closely.

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<u>Treasurer's Report</u>: Mr. Walsh reported that the Association funds are strong, but has deferred about 2 years' worth of expenses and there are big projects coming. He said that delinquencies are still a concern for the Association. The Association currently has about \$600,000 in cash, but after several repair expenses the level will be closer to \$400,000. The tree reserve accounts have been hit hard due to the recent weather. Mr. Walsh said that he will sign the audit management letter and hopefully have the audit available at the next Board meeting.

## VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Architectural Control Committee: Ms. Cutter reported that the ACC meets ever 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday to discuss homeowner requests. She reported that the committee revisited the regulations to clarify them and the revisions have been incorporated. The committee is currently working on a paint palette. The spring inspections were held up by the weather, but letters have now been sent. She said that Ms. Tschirhart is the first contact point for ACC issues. She said that trash can and recycling bin violations are a common issue and asked the residents to let them know if there is an issue. She thanked the members of the committee for their hard work.

Communications Committee: The committee has published 4 newsletters in last 6 months and sent a number of announcements to the community email list. He encouraged residents to sign up for the email announcements. He reported that the committee creates about 3 to 4 flyers a year. The committee has a budget of about \$2,000, and are on track to spend that amount and possibly a little more. He thanked the volunteers for delivering newsletters and flyers throughout the community. He encouraged the residents to visit the website.

<u>Pool & Recreation Committee</u>: The pool will open on Saturday May 28, 2011. Pool registrations should be turned in by May 13, 2011. The normal weekday hours will begin on June 13, 2011.

Grounds Committee: Mr. Alexander explained that the committee is responsible for the trash contract and the grounds contract, maintenance in the community, the community garden, mailboxes, and lights. They are currently working on 3 erosion control projects and plan to focus on erosion in 2011. He asked that residents call attention to areas that need attention. He said that they are on pace to replace the mailboxes. The new ones have package and outgoing mail slots. He also asked the residents to call attention to trees that need trimming as they will be doing that this year as well. He reported that the community garden is in full swing. There is currently a waiting list, so the committee is investigating opening another garden on the north side of the property. The Arbor Day celebration was postponed due to bad weather and they are looking for a new date. The committee is looking into adding dog walks by the power lines. He said that the committee is aware that the tot lot needs new chips and they are looking into a more permanent alternative.

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Neighborhood Watch Committee: National Night Out is scheduled for August 2, 2011.

## VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

No unfinished business was discussed.

# IX. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Jarvis presented Linda Witham with a trophy for her many years of service as Pool and Recreation Committee Chair and noted he had a similar one for Mike Louden for his long service on the Architectural Control Committee. He announced both are stepping down from the committees and as Mr. Louden was absent, would deliver his trophy to him.

# X. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: A homeowner MOVED, another homeowner SECONDED, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. The motion carried.

**Respectfully Submitted** 

Hattie M. Walden, Secretary