

Tara Leeway Heights Civic Association

Tuesday, September 19 2006

7:30 PM

Home of Carol Davidson

The meeting began at 7:41 PM with the following Board members present:

Cindy Almand, Bill Braswell, Bridgett Collins, Paulette Cross, Carol Davidson, Bruce Hemstreet, Todd McCracken, Alicia Mitchell, Ameer Roberson, Cynthia Shea, Ted Stump, John Vihstadt.

MEETING IN MARCH

John has kindly offered his house for our meeting in March. Here is the correct schedule:

Tara-Leeway Heights Civic Association Meeting Times and Locations

Board Meeting	Day and Time	Location
September 19	7:30	Carol Davidson
October 17	7:30	Paulette Cross
November 21	7:30	Ted Stump
December xx	No meeting	
January 16	7:30	Cynthia Shea
February 20	7:30	Alicia Mitchell
March 20	7:30	John Vihstadt
April 17	7:30	Annual Meeting

ARLINGTON SCHOOL BOND ISSUE

John explained the evolution of school bonds since 2002, how much, who benefited and urged us to support the upcoming bond issue in November. A resolution was presented to the Board. A discussion ensued and Ted suggested that we add language to the resolution urging the APS to be more diligent in their oversight and management of school projects. Bill questioned if this was the appropriate vehicle, or if we should issue a separate resolution. Cindy Almand brought up the overcrowding of our

neighborhood schools and APS's inability to project the future needs of the community. New language was inserted in John's resolution and the Board approved it. [LINK](#)

SCHOOL BOUNDARY ISSUES

Bruce, Cindy A., and Todd summarized the boundary issues that are currently being discussed by the APS. Our civic association will be directly effected by any changes in school boundaries, especially since we have three elementary schools within our boundaries. Todd is the acting PTA liaison with Tuckahoe Elementary and the APS and has advised us that he anticipates that this will be a process that will extend into '07 and '08. Bill suggested that Todd, Bruce and Cindy A. be our representatives on this issue. TLH will take no action but wants to stay abreast of the issue. Todd will submit a summary for the newsletter.

WESTOVER APARTMENTS

Bill summarized the issue to date. A lively discussion ensued. It was noted that the proposed plans call for the creation of three bedroom apartments to better serve families, and because of this there will be additional pressures on our local elementary schools. It is assumed that McKinley Elementary will be directly affected and that APS needs to be aware of AHC's plans. There will be a meeting at Cindy Shea's house this Thursday to discuss appropriate action by the neighboring civic associations. TLH will post a notice on our website [LINK](#) of the issues and the upcoming meetings planned by other local civic associations and the AHC...most notably:

1. Westover Civic Association meeting on Thursday, September 29:
7:30 Swanson Intermediate, library.
2. HP-OK Civic Association meeting on Thursday, October 5:
7:30pm, Reed School, round room.

CANIDATES NIGHT

Bill suggested that we agree to be a co-sponsor of Candidates Night on Thursday, October 26, 7:30pm: Reed, multipurpose room. All candidates for elected offices will be invited. The Board agreed. **See attached.**

ADVERTISEMENTS IN NEWSLETTER

The Board discussed the future policy of allowing political candidates to advertise in our newsletter. We agreed that we would need to restructure our payment policy, that all political candidates should be notified of the

advertising space in our newsletter, and that each ad must clearly bear the disclaimer that it is a “paid political ad.” Logistics were discussed and it was suggested that an insert be prepared that would have information on voting, a sample voting ballot and paid political ads.

COUNTY BOARD WALKING TOURS

Bill reports that Waycroft Woodlawn will hold a walking tour with the County Board on Thursday, September 21. He would like to attend as our representative. The Board agreed and urged him to share with the County Board our concerns with the Washington Blvd/George Mason intersection, any continuing rodent problems and our general satisfaction with the new healing garden.

HEAD START PROGRAM

Bill gave a quick update on the status of the Arlington Head Start Program and the APS bid to administer it. It has been suggested that the head start program be assimilated into local elementary schools that currently have extra space available. This would leave the newly renovated space next to the Hospital available for use – perhaps the Reed BLPC should look at this space as a cost cutting measure.

LANDSCAPING IN TARA LEEWAY HEIGHTS

Ted and Cindy A. met with Lee Pickering (Landscape Team Leader-North, Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, Arlington County) this afternoon on the Patrick Henry medium strip to discussing landscaping issues. Issues discussed by Ms. Pickering included:

1. Status of stressed plants: watering won't do much good now, not cost effective for the County.
2. Visibility issues: County will try to cut the lower growth on some of the newly planted trees to increase visibility.
3. Weeds: County will try to address the weed issue three times a year.
4. Extra help by Arlington County convicts: the weeding convict program is totally booked.

Ted will include a section in the newsletter requesting interested parties to adopt a strip of medium strip for care and maintenance.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:20 pm