



**Falls Church
Village Preservation & Improvement
Society**

Final MINUTES

Spring Membership Meeting

May 17, 2009, 3:00 PM

Senior Center, City of Falls Church Community Center

Present: Officers: Jeff Peterson, Karl Ensign, Barry Buschow, Melissa Teates

Directors: Peter Adriance, Tom Clinton, Ellen Gross, Mark Gross, Jon Hundley, Elizabeth Meade, Ruth Rodgers, Michael Slonim, Carol Sly, Keith Thurston, Michael Volpe

Absent: Riva Adriance, Nancy Brandon, Roger-Mark De Souza, Jason Douglas, Ida Peterson, Mary Soule, Gordon Theisz, Midge Wang

Members/Guests: Attended by many.

Call to order: 3:17pm

Welcome: Vice President Karl Ensign welcomed everyone to the VPIS Spring Membership Meeting and briefed everyone on the agenda for the meeting.

Business Meeting

Treasurer's Report: VPIS is in good financial shape with about \$56,000 in assets in the restricted and unrestricted funds. Attic Treasures did well.

Membership Report: Membership remains solid. VPIS will have a float in the parade to increase awareness of VPIS and needs volunteers.

Society Accomplishments and Activities: VPIS Members reviewed some of VPIS' activities.

- Arbor Day Events
- Neighborhood Tree Planting Parties
- Farmer's Market Booth
- 4th of July Reading
- Summer Concert Series
- VPIS History Project
- Green House Tour

Additionally, Rick Terman of the Historical Committee asked for volunteers to join the committee.

Recognition and Appreciation:

Barry Bushow presented the *Spirit of Falls Church Award* to Ed Strait for his long years of service to the City of Falls Church:

The Village Preservation & Improvement Society Board of Directors, by unanimous consent, desires to show its appreciation to Mr. Strait for his long-time loyalty and devotion to the quality of our City life and well-being, presents Mr. Ed Strait with the highest award that is bestowed in our community, the Spirit of Falls Church.

This Award is presented to Ed Strait for his significant service to the Village Society and the City of Falls Church. Mr. Strait served as a Past President of the VPIS Board and served on the Falls Church City Council for 12 years.

Mr. Strait is a charter member and past president of the re-established Village Preservation and Improvement Society (VPIS); a founding member of Historic Falls Church, Inc.; a founding member of the Falls Church Housing Corporation; a long-time member of the Greater Falls Church Chamber of Commerce, receiving the Chamber's Shreve Award for community service in 2004; a long-time member of the Falls Church Historical Commission, and its liaison to the Library Board of Trustees; a long-time member of the Citizens for a Better City (CBC); and a long-time member of the League of Women Voters. He served all the City Schools' PTAs; was a president of the Advisory Board of the Woodburn Community Health Center; a member of Council's Cable Television Committee and Council's Committee on Goals and Objectives; and a member of the ECommunities Task Force.

In addition, Mr. Strait represented the City by serving in regional organizations such as the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments (COG) Human Resources Policy Committee; the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (Northern Virginia Planning District Commission); United Way; and the National Capital Food Bank.

Program

Green Renovation and Development- Doing it Right in the City

- What does it mean and how can it best be done? – Patty Shields of Metro Green

Patty discussed her experiences in building her “green” house.

- What is the City of Falls doing to encourage it? – Doug Frasier, Director, Division of Building Safety

Doug described the city's new Green Home Program. Doug also introduced owners of two homes that currently enrolled in the program. One house

(fallschurchedhaus.blogspot.com) is being built new on Grove Avenue and one house is a remodel of an older brick home on Tuckahoe Street. The owners graciously gave an impromptu overview of their respective projects.

Afterwards, there were many questions from the audience.

Meeting Closed at 4:52 for refreshments and conversation