



**Falls Church
Village Preservation & Improvement
Society**

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting

June 7, 2007

Carol Sly's Home at 304 Shadow Walk

Present: *Officers:* Barry Buschow, Jeff Peterson, Melissa Teates
Directors: Jason Douglas, Karl Ensign, John Hundley, Elizabeth Meade, Gerald Pressman, Ruth Rodgers, Michael Slonim, Marian Starr, Carol Sly, Gordon Theisz, Keith Thurston, Michael Volpe and Midge Wang

Absent: Nancy Brandon, Ellen Gross, Mark Gross, Ida Peterson,

Call to order: 7:39pm

Welcome: President Barry Buschow welcomed the board.

VPIS Calendar:

- Summer Concerts – The concerts start June 21. Bill Abel has designed a concert shirt, which will be purchased using budgeted merchandise funds. A poster based on the shirt will be produced for the Farmer's Market booth. All bands are confirmed except for Randy Barrett.
- July 4th Readings – Lou Olom should be available. Keith has all items needed. Needs to be advertised with flyers, ads and email. Already on website.

Announcements:

- Re-Cap of Springs Activities – Big year already. VPIS received a trophy at the Memorial Day parade.
- Process for Events notebook – will be developed
- Washington House (Center for Spiritual Enlightenment) holding reception to see if organizations would like to use it for meetings.

Business Meeting (items for Board action):

- 1. Minutes from April and May 2007 Meetings:** The Board voted unanimous approval.
- 2. Treasurer's Report:** Send any questions to Ida.
- 3. Report of the Grants Policy Committee:** No actions tonight just an overview and discussion of options in developing a policy. It was decided that the committee would come back in January with options for the board to consider.

4. George Mason Solar Project: Jamie Peterson presented the GMHS solar project. The project would place solar cells on the high school to teach students about alternative energy and as a demonstration for the community. The installation would be done by SWITCH, a company that specializes in the implementation of alternate energy solutions. The project needs \$25,000 in funding.

Action: Motion to approve a grant of \$4,000 to be matched by other contributors was passed unanimously. *Will need to be passed a second time once the \$4,000 in matching funds has been pledged.

5. Columbia Baptist Church Project: The new development planned by the Columbia Baptist calls for three historical homes to be demolished.

Action: Motion that stated “It is the consensus of the board that we support the preservation of historical structures in the city of Falls Church and we are opposed to development on Maple Avenue that threatens the historical houses.” was approved unanimously.

6. Establish an Awards Nomination Committee: A new awards committee needs to be established. Also discussed was the addition of a new award or awards to acknowledge volunteers.

Action: Barry, Keith, Jeff and Michael V to put together structure.

Information Meeting (No Board Action Anticipated):

7. City Signs Update: Signs are ready for pick-up. The city will get 8 or 9 if the first one is approved. The first one was placed on Little Falls near the Veterans Commons.

8. Sue Olom Garden Update: Dedicaiton will be held near Lou Olom’s 90th birthday. New city sign coming and plaque will be placed on the side near the island.

9. VPIS City Center Design Review Team: June discussed as first reading not September. Some changes have been made including flipping the grocery store to the other side. City Council requested 100 word submissions from citizens defining a great place.

10. Zoning: Letter to Wyatt on the two big houses on South Cherry. May not be in compliance with zoning code for setbacks. Also of concern is splitting of lot on Tysons Drive. Also of concern is the lack of transparency in development issues. Barry, Keith and Jeff to draft letter to send out to the board by email.

10. Membership: 20 more members then last year. Continue to push at concerts. Will also phone some lapse members.

11. Book and Merchandise Update: 5 more Civil War days books sold. Received more of the green books on consignment – we receive a commission of \$250 per case.

12. Farmer's Market Booth: Needs more volunteers. New emails going out.