

Minutes of the Greater Farmland Civic Association (GFCA) Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Co-President Eliot Applestein convened the second annual meeting of the GFCA held at Farmland Elementary School on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at 7:30 PM.

Approximately 80 -100 community members attended the meeting. Officers and Board Members present included: Co-Presidents Elliot Applestein and Ed Rich, Treasurer Tom Walsh, and Directors Toby Levin, Kevin Novak, Marta Vogel, and Lisa Wohl.

Open Member Forum:

One member raised concerns about the need to repave streets around Farmland Elementary. Co-President Ed Rich said he would contact the Maryland Highway and circulate the information through the listserv.

A member asked if the GFCA would make a donation to support the Walter Johnson After Prom program. The Board will consider this request.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Tom Walsh reported that the GFCA Board has approved the 2014 budget, and he will circulate it to the community through the listserv. The budget reflects a Board decision to build a reserve of 25% of revenues. The primary source of revenue is membership. The budget will support such activities as the Fourth of July event, a Community Yard Sale, Committee projects, the online and printed GFCA Directory, and overhead for renting the elementary school for community meetings.

Co-President Ed Rich Report:

Ed noted that someone on the listserv had asked if GFCA had established a garden club. Beautification Committee Chair Pamela Levine said that for now it is developing a short term and long-term plan for beautification of the common area, while keeping costs low, and the areas sustainable. Anyone interested in participating should contact Pamela directly (information is in the Directory).

Ed also reported that Farmland Elementary School was planning a 50 years celebration.

Membership Committee:

Chair Emily Mintz reported that the printed Directories are now available and were given to paid members at the Annual Meeting. Block Captains will be distributing them. Director Lisa Woll thanked Emily for all of her hard work in designing and publishing the online and printed Directory.

[NOTE: After the Annual Meeting, Pamela Levine volunteered to help with distribution. Anyone paid member who has not yet obtained a copy of the Directory should contact Pamela.]

Director Marta Vogel:

GFCA Director and Senior Village Chair, Marta Vogel invited members to participate in the annual Cabin John Creek Clean Up scheduled for Saturday April 26 beginning at 10:30am. Location is where Stonewood Lane dead-ends at Tilden Wood Park.

Marta also reported that Senior Village held a successful social event on March 23, 2014.

GFCA continues to need Block Captains. Volunteers should contact Marta directly.

Transportation Committee:

Chair Tracy Miller reported that the Committee had conducted an online survey to collect community feedback on inviting Ride On into the area and other transportation preferences. In addition, it had held a community forum on March 12 at Farmland Elementary School at which invited representatives of Ride On and our Police District responded to questions from the community.

At a Board meeting on March 19, 2014, the Board reviewed the survey results, discussed the feedback obtained at the community meeting. The Board recommended and the Committee agreed that rather than making any recommendation regarding Ride On at this time, the Committee should take a broad view of transportation options for the community in light of the ongoing development in the White Flint area. The Board asked the Committee to consider all the options available including ride share and the potential for local transportation provided by the new commercial developments. In addition, the Committee was asked to look into ways to make walking and biking safer in the community. The Committee will circulate and post the survey results.

2014 Election of GFCA Directors and Nominating Committee:

GFCA members voted unanimously to elect the 2014 Nominating Committee's slate for directors ó Mathew Keene for the one-year term and Kevin Novak for the three-year term. Two members volunteered to serve on the 2015 Nominating Committee ó Faye Bresler and Peter Rumm.

Government Affairs/Peppo Committee:

Chair Lisa Woll announced that they were planning a meeting to discuss holding a forum for candidates running in the June 24, 2014, Primary Election.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

