Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 8:00 pm, January 6, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Rick Hutson	President	Michael Devlin	Richard Ryan
Lucia Ferguson	Vice President	John Pionzio	Jerry Lyons
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Dave Kyle	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee (absent)	Treasurer	Marvin Miller	Peter Weyland

Rick Hutson called the meeting to order at 8:02 and the following were discussed:

Discussion with David Reese. Mr. Reese – director of Gunston Hall since 2003 – accepted the Board's invitation to talk about developments at GH. He noted that he has been involved in the management of historic properties for 30 years and has an MA in architecture and historical maintenance from UVA. He noted that GH achieved its current status in 1949, when the property was given to Virginia, while its stewardship was entrusted to the Colonial Dames. He said his main focus at GH has been on the life of George Mason and on trying to recreate his world, focusing on several areas: 1) the house – great progress has been made in restoring it to its 18th century appearance with regard to paint colors, ornaments, etc. 2) Collections – many objects in the GH collection that had no actual connection to GM were sold by Sotheby's in 2002 for \$1.5 million and this money is reserved for acquiring objects that do have a connection to GM; many such objects have been obtained – either objects that GM actually owned or that are identical to objects he owned. 3) the grounds – GM was an exceedingly practical man and GH was mainly a working farm; hence, the ornamental garden built in the 1950s is now gone because there was no such thing in GM's time.

Mr. Reese also outlined current operations and problems at GH, noting that annual operating costs are about \$1.8 million, so raising money is an important part of his job. Other than donations, the main income source is the government of Virginia — which has cut its contribution twice since last June, by 15 percent each time, to a current annual amount of \$540,000. Donations are also being hurt by the recession; their main source of is the Colonial Dames. Needed repairs and maintenance are being hampered by lack of funds. Mr. Reese noted, however, that he had discontinued renting of GH for private functions because his review of the records indicated that these functions, on balance, were actually money losers for GH while also adding to wear and tear on the facilities.

Prior to, and following Mr. Reese's comments, several Board members reiterated the idea that all of us were very much committed to doing everything that we can to support David's mission and Gunston Hall Plantation. Also, following Mr. Reese's comments, David Kyle offered pro bona services to help reduce mechanical systems

maintenance expenses at Gunston Hall and Michael Devlin offered assistance in establishing public information contacts with local media companies.

Approval of December minutes

Motion passed to approve the December 6th Board meeting minutes (Weyland/Pionzio).

General Membership Meeting Dates and Program

The date will be Feb. 23. The Board expressed thanks to Jerry for arranging with Don Hakenson to speak at the meeting about Mason Neck in the Civil War.

New/Old Business

ICAR – Rick and Marvin will meet again with ICAR Director Bartoli

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bob Lee was absent but submitted a draft report for 2009 – not discussed due to lack of time. Main numbers as follows:

Balance at start of year:	\$2303.61
Credits:	\$2030.00
Debits:	\$2485.99
Balance at yearend:	\$1847.62

Breakdown of debits:

Printing Services: \$806.90 Web Site Services: \$500.00 Contributions: \$500.00 Postage: \$415.05 Awards: \$157.50 Flowers: \$89.00

Bank Charge: \$17.54

Total: \$2485.99

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, Feb. 3 at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business, a **motion to adjourn** was approved at 9:19 PM (Devlin/Pionzio).

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church

8:00 pm, February 17, 2010 (Postponed from Feb. 3 and Feb. 10)

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Rick Hutson	President	Michael Devlin	Richard Ryan (absent)
Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Vice President	John Pionzio (absent)	Jerry Lyons
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Dave Kyle (absent)	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Marvin Miller	Peter Weyland

President Rick Hutson called the meeting to order at 8:04 and the following were discussed:

Approval of January minutes:

Motion passed to approve the January 6th Board meeting minutes (Miller/Weyland).

General Membership Meeting Date and Program

Motion passed to hold the meeting on Tuesday, March 2. (Miller/Weyland) Don Hakenson will speak about the Civil War in Northern Virginia.

Possible Closure of Mason Neck State Park

Shortly before the meeting began, two Board members received reliable word that Mason Neck was one of the five state parks that were targeted for closure under the Governor's budget balancing plan, and this quickly became the main topic of discussion. There was unanimous agreement among the Board members present that closure of the park would be a major loss for the entire Mason Neck community as well as Northern Virginia as a whole, and that MNCA should take immediate steps to rally support for the park. A **motion was passed** to put MNCA on record as being opposed to closing the park and to send a message to that effect to Senator Puller and Delegate Albo (Miller/Kennedy). A second **motion was passed** that MNCA should reach out to Bob Hartwell concerning the plan to close the park (Miller/Kennedy). A third **motion was passed** that MNCA should reach out to its membership concerning the park issue and call for volunteers (Miller/Kennedy).

In further discussion of the park, it was decided to send copies of the Fuller/Albo letter to the South County Federation and to local newspapers. During the discussion, a message was received from Supervisor Gerry Hyland that he considered the park closure proposal "unacceptable" and several Board members noted that they would attend Sup. Hyland's annual "Town Hall" meeting that Saturday. It was further decided to hold a follow-up meeting the next day at the Lorton Library to which local news media and interested members of the community would be invited to attend to discuss strategy for opposing closure of the park.

New/Old Business

ICAR — Marvin will set up another meeting with Point of View Director Bartoli. **OT** — Michael has a contact number for Board use but noted that VDOT has a public contact nber — 800-367-7623 — that anyone may call to report issues of concern, and that a sonse is required within 24 hours if a safety hazard is involved.

line MNCA membership form: Peter noted that it is now possible for citizens to fill out an JCA membership form at the MNCA website and to pay the membership fee using PayPay, rough there is still some paperwork to be completed.

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 7 at 7:30 PM (skipping the March meeting because it would be only one day after the General Membership Meeting).

Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business, a **motion to adjourn** was approved at 9:15 PM (Hutson/Miller).

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting

Cranford Methodist Church

7:30 pm, April 7, 2010 (Note: There was no Board meeting in March)

Attendees:

	Officers		Board of Directors	
Ric	k Hutson	President	Michael Devlin	Richard Ryan (absent)
Luci	a Ferguson	Vice President	John Pionzio (absent)	Jerry Lyons
Dic	k Kennedy	Secretary	Dave Kyle	Bruce Scott (absent)
	Bob Lee	Treasurer	Marvin Miller	Peter Weyland (absent)

President Rick Hutson called the meeting to order at 7:39 and the following were discussed:

Approval of February minutes:

Motion passed to approve the February 17th Board meeting minutes (Miller/Lyons).

Status of Mason Neck State Park

neral agreement that MNCA had done a good job in generating the successful opposition to sing the park. Suggestion that MNCA be mentioned on the "Save Mason Neck State Park" ebook page.

General Membership Meeting (March 2) Comments

out 65 people attended.

;le Festival, Saturday, April 24, 2010

ere was a sign-up sheet for Board members to sit at the MNCA table at the festival. A **motion 5 passed** to give the Preservationist Award to Senator Toddy Puller and Delegate Dave Albo ller/Hutson).

Election of New Board of Directors

Tentative date for the general membership election meeting is May 25. Nominees for the Board officers are:

President – Michael Devlin

Vice President – Dave Kyle

Treasurer - Bob Lee

Secretary – Dick Kennedy

Traffic Calming in Old Colchester

Jerry Lyons will talk to the police about increased enforcement as a first step.

Pohick Creek Cleanup, Saturday, April 10

The MNCA-sponsored cleanup will start at 9:00 – meet at the bridge.

New/Old Business (ICAR, VDOT, APR, Signage, Membership)

ICAR: Marvin and Rick will meet with Director Andrea Bartoli on Friday at Point of View

Motion passed to express thanks to the community for helping in the effort to save the park and to encourage them to help us continue such efforts by joining MNCA and paying dues (Miller/Lee)

Motion passed to thank Supervisor Hyland for his past and future work with regard to facilitating the expeditious granting of a special exemption for the Lorton Community Action Center to obtain a pre-fab food storage unit with heat and air conditioning (Miller/Ferguson).

Motion passed to readopt the resolution that MNCA will address blight issues with the county only when it asked to do so by a community association or by a majority of the members of the community (Miller/Lyons)

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business, a **motion to adjourn** was approved at 8:38 PM (Miller/Hutson)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 8:00 pm, May 5, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Rick Hutson	President	Michael Devlin (absent)	Richard Ryan (absent)
Lucia Ferguson	Vice President	John Pionzio (absent)	Jerry Lyons (absent)
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Dave Kyle	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Marvin Miller	Peter Weyland

President Rick Hutson called the meeting to order at 8:05 and the following were discussed:

Proposed Sponsorship of Cub Scout Pack

Adam Dameron from Hallowing Point and Sue Hart from the Boy Scouts of America explained what would be involved in MNCA being the sponsor for a Mason Neck Cub Scout pack. Adam said a preliminary meeting of interested families had been held with 8-10 attendees and that about a dozen boys were interested in participating. Sue noted that this year is the 100th anniversary of BSA and said the proposed pack would need a chartering organization, such as MNCA. The chartering organization sponsors and owns the pack, provides oversight, decides who is eligible to be a member and who can volunteer. The sponsoring organization pays BSA an annual fee of \$20 but BSA provides insurance and the pack is responsible for its other finances. Board members were supportive of the idea and a **motion was made** to have the General Membership meeting of May 25 vote on this proposal (Wayland/Miller)

Approval of April minutes:

Motion passed to approve the April 7th Board meeting minutes (Miller/Lee).

;le Festival (April 24, 2010)

neral agreement that it had gone well. An MNCA table was manned throughout the festival by ious Board members (Hutson, Ferguson, Kennedy, Lyons, Devlin, Weyland, Miller) Jerry ons' collection of historical maps of Mason Neck was on display and was very popular.

New/Old Business

ICAR: It is planning to build a meeting facility for 35-40 people to replace the existing house, possibly also a few small guest houses. Regarding sewage treatment, ICAR wants the smallest facility possible, which it will own. Next meeting with ICAR will be in June or July. (Hutson)

Area Plan Review: Has been completed and there is nothing new affecting our area. (Hutson)

Resolutions passed to express thanks to Rick Hutson for his work as MNCA President for the past two years and to Peter Weyland for his work in setting up and maintaining the MNCA web site. (Miller/Lee)

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 2 at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 7:30 pm, June 2, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Michael Devlin	President	Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Jerry Lyons
Dave Kyle	Vice President	Lucia Ferguson	Marvin Miller (absent)
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Rick Hutson	Bruce Scott
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rodney Loges	Peter Weyland (absent)

New President Mike Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:35 and the following were discussed:

Approval of April minutes:

Motion passed to approve the April 7th Board meeting minutes (Devlin/Lyons).

Planning for the next General Membership Meeting:

It was agreed that the next meeting would be the traditional Candidates' Night in the fall, at which local candidates for office would be invited to speak to the members. Oct 5 was tentatively chosen as the date. There was also agreement on having two additional General Membership Meetings—possible topics could be a BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) update and the history of Mason Neck.

Goals for the coming year:

General agreement that a key goal is raising membership, which has declined substantially in recent years — possibly because of a lack of "hot" issues? Suggestions included trying to have more interesting meetings. doing more mailings to the members, and doing door-to-door solicitations — perhaps by high school students who would get school credit. Rodney volunteered to be the membership chairman.

Proposed Sponsorship of Cub Scout Pack

Rick noted that the General Membership Meeting had approved the proposal that MNCA be the official sponsor, and that he had signed the necessary papers and paid the \$20 fee. The next step is up to the organizers of the Pack. Lucia volunteered to be the MNCA liaison person with the new Pack.

New/Old Business

Dave raised an issue concerning Mason Neck West Park — while the group maintaining the park is keeping it in good condition, it also keeps the gates locked most of the time so the field is not available to the public. After some discussion, it was agreed that the first step would be to contact the Park Authority for a clarification of the rules concerning operation of the park.

Jerry noted that the Mason Neck history maps that he has collected will be available for viewing on the MNCA web site.

Next Board Meeting Wednesday, July 7, at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned

Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 PM. (Scott/Ferguson)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 7:30 pm, July 7, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Michael Devlin	President	Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Jerry Lyons
Dave Kyle (absent)	Vice President	Lucia Ferguson	Marvin Miller
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Rick Hutson	Bruce Scott
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rodney Loges	Peter Weyland

President Mike Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:35 and the following were discussed:

Approval of July minutes:

Motion passed to approve the June 2 Board meeting minutes (Scott/Ferguson).

Planning for the next General Membership Meeting:

The Oct. 5 date is not certain; Oct. 12 is likely alternative--depends on Congressman's Connolly's schedule, which depends on whether Congress is still in session.

Mason Neck Cub Scout Pack

Adam Dameron is leading the effort, about 10 boys signed up so far, their families will join MNCA if not already members.

New/Old Business

ICAR: Marvin reported that the facility now planned will have meeting rooms and kitchen and could have a small number of people living there on a regular basis.. He noted that George Mason doesn't want and can't afford a large sewage treatment facility. Agreement that the Board should contact DEQ to get info about treatment options—such as pure flow, Wisconsin mounds, pump and haul, septic pits. It was noted that a sand layer underlies the clay layer in much of Mason Neck, so septic fields may be possible even if the property fails a standard perc test.

Membership boosting: Possibility of more frequent mailings discussed – perhaps three for Candidates' Night? Another suggestion was to ask local businesses to be sponsors.

Old Colchester Road: Rodney noted that congestion is getting worse, with little prospect for improvement.

Ft. Belvoir: Will send thank you letter for the invitation to MNCA President to attend ceremony there.

Bennett property – recent tree clearing – Board will send letter to Supervisor Hyland asking County to take firm action to ensure that all rules and regulations are being adhered to.

Pirates' Cove at Pohick Bay Park: Agreement that MNCA will not sponsor a family night this year due to cost and because Cove is doing very well and is not in need of sponsors.

New MNCA meeting sign: Jerry will have several design possibilities before the next Board meeting.

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 4, at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned

Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 PM. (Scott/Lyons)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 7:30 pm, August 4, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Michael Devlin	President	Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Jerry Lyons
Dave Kyle (absent)	Vice President	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Marvin Miller
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Rick Hutson	Bruce Scott
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rodney Loges (absent)	Peter Weyland

President Mike Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:34 and the following were discussed:

Approval of July minutes:

Motion passed to approve the July 1 Board meeting minutes (Miller/Scott).

Planning for the next General Membership Meeting:

The Oct. 12 date looks good, Congress will be out by the 11th; need to check with Gunston Hall. Agreement to send 3 postcards and one letter to members before the meeting to encourage attendance and MNCA membership. Mike and Marvin each volunteered to pay the postage for one postcard mailing. Marvin and Dick will draft the letter, for mid-September mailing.

New/Old Business

Membership drive – will discuss at next meeting when Rodney is back.

Sept. 12 Fun Run at South County Secondary: Motion approved to spend \$200 to \$300 for an MNCA listing in the program (Scott/Weyland); Michael will decide.

Triathlon? MNCA has been asked to support a swimming/biking/running triathlon planned to take place at Gunston Hall and Mason Neck State Park at an unspecified date (presumably next year). General agreement that the idea sounds good in principle but we need more information—perhaps they could present at a Board meeting.

Mason Neck Trail: The 1.8-mile segment to Camp Wilson apparently has been funded but needs final approval from VDOT.

Rt 1 Crosswalk at Gunston Road: Looks like a big success — many people have been observed using it.

"Welcome to Mason Neck" sign: Will discuss at first General membership Meeting in 2011.

Bennett property – recent tree clearing: Will check with Supervisor Hyland's office for latest status.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, September 2, at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned: With thunderstorms approaching, **motion passed** to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM. (Miler/Scott)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 7:30 pm, September 1, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Michael Devlin	President	Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Jerry Lyons
Dave Kyle (absent)	Vice President	Lucia Ferguson (absent)	Marvin Miller
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Rick Hutson	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rodney Loges (absent)	Peter Weyland (absent)

President Mike Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:34 and the following were discussed:

Approval of August minutes:

Motion passed to approve the August 4 Board meeting minutes (Lyons/Miller).

Planning for the next General Membership Meeting:

Marvin stated that all six invitees have accepted. The first postcard announcement has just been sent. A letter will be sent later this month and a second postcard in October.

New/Old Business

Mason Neck West Park: Jerry will be meeting tomorrow with two Park Authority people and will inquire informally about the park entrance being locked at most times; Dave is still planning to draft a letter to the Park Authority.

Sept. 12 Fun Run at South County Secondary: Mike reported that MNCA will be listed as a sponsor, in return for our \$300 contribution.

Supervisor Hyland's "Lobsterfest" in October. Attendance by Mason Neck residents is desirable to encourage his continued support for our area.

Triathlon. Mid-May is the likely date. The State Park is on board, BLM and Gunston Hall have not been contacted yet. Supervisor Hyland will help arrange for traffic control.

Furnace Road/Route 1: Construction seems to be moving slowly — Jerry will inquire. It was noted that this is not a VDOT project but VDOT will respond if safety issues are raised. Motion from Marvin to send letter of thanks for the construction of a crosswalk at the Rt. 1-Gunston Road intersection to the VDOT supervisor for this area and to Supervisor Hyland, with copies to Senator Puller and Delegate Albo.

ICAR. Marvin(?) reported that ICAR does not want a sewage treatment plant because of the cost of building and maintaining even the smallest possible facility. He will tell them that MNCA would be favorable to a pump and haul system.

LCAC. The new food storage building meets FDA standards. It would be helpful to have an MNCA presence at their big fundraiser in October.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 6, at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned: motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. (Miller/Kennedy)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 7:30 pm, October 6, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Michael Devlin	President	Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Jerry Lyons
Dave Kyle (absent)	Vice President	Lucia Ferguson	Marvin Miller
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Rick Hutson	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rodney Loges	Peter Weyland

Note: Shawn Drury, reporter for the Lorton Patch, was also present.

President Mike Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:34 and the following were discussed:

Approval of September minutes:

Motion passed to approve the September 1 Board meeting minutes (Miller/Weyland).

"Candidates' Night" meeting (Oct. 12):

A letter about the event was sent to the membership in September. A second postcard and an email reminder will be sent this week.

New/Old Business

Triathlon. Visitor Seth ______ provided information about the planned event, noting that it is a good vehicle for raising money for charity and for stirring interest in this area. The likely date is next year, either before Memorial Day or after Labor Day. It would start between 7 and 10 AM on a Saturday or Sunday and last about 4 hours. The swimming and much of the running would be in Mason Neck State Park and the biking on Gunston and Old Colchester Roads.

ICAR. Marvin suggested that the Board take a position that "MNCA would be favorably disposed to a pump and haul system in lieu of a permit for the construction of a treatment plant" and the Board voted 8 to 2 in favor.

Ferrell Gas proposal to supply propane to Mason Neck residents: It was noted that the price is very attractive.

Roadside Interpretive Display: (For which Board member Jerry Lyons did the design work pro bono). The display, with information about the geological history of Mason Neck and its Indian inhabitants will be erected very soon. The ribbon cutting is scheduled for October 17, with Supervisor Hyland in attendance.

Cub Scouts: The new Mason Neck pack, sponsored by MNCA, is up and running.

New MNCA meeting signs and Candidates' Night riders: Available for Board Members to pick up and post.

Membership Drive: General agreement on a neighborhood-based approach; the propane deal could be a draw.

Former general store site at Gunston/Colchester intersection: The property reportedly is in foreclosure and could have as many as nine buildable lots.

September 22 Helicopter forum: Bob reported that Supervisor Hyland was there and that 51% of the flights in this area are military.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 3, at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned: motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 PM. (Lee/Ferguson)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting Cranford Methodist Church 7:30 pm, November 3, 2010

Attendees:

Officers		Board of Directors	
Michael Devlin	President	Sergio Diaz-Briquets	Jerry Lyons
Dave Kyle	Vice President	Lucia Ferguson	Marvin Miller absent)
Dick Kennedy	Secretary	Rick Hutson	Bruce Scott (absent)
Bob Lee	Treasurer	Rodney Loges (absent)	Peter Weyland

President Mike Devlin called the meeting to order at 7:34 and the following were discussed:

Approval of October minutes:

Motion passed to approve the October 6 Board meeting minutes (Weyland/Lyons).

New/Old Business

MNCA website – Peter noted that a problem with PayPal had been fixed.

"Lorton" vs. "Mason Neck" — Jerry noted that he had contacted various groups, such as BLM, to encourage use of the latter term in their addresses but one problem is that many databases, such as Google Maps, don't recognize "Mason Neck". The Board was supportive of continued efforts on this issue.

Mason Neck Trail Funding—MNCA member Joe Chudzik is preparing an application for further funding—the Board will write a letter of support if Joe thinks it would be helpful.

Eagle Sculpture? – It was noted that an attractive 90-inch bronze eagle sculpture is sold for \$12,000 and might make a very nice display for the Neck. Perhaps we could get a grant for funding.

Support for Supervisor Hyland: -- The Board agreed to send him the following message:

The Board of the Mason Neck Citizens Association commends Supervisor Gerry Hyland for standing up to the protesters who disrupted the Board of Supervisors meeting that was considering a lease extension for the Islamic Saudi Academy.

W3R Display – (at entrance to Mason Neck West Park) – Designed by Board member Jerry Lyons. Official dedication will be Nov. 13 at 11:00

South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce – Public meeting Nov. 18 at 6:00 at Pane E Vino.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, December 1, at 7:30 PM

Meeting Adjourned: motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 PM. (Kennedy/Ferguson)