

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
January 4, 2017

*Note: There was no Board meeting in December*

**Attendees in bold face:**

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<b>Rick Hutson</b>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<b>Rob Kolb</b>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<del>Ann Elise Sauer</del>	<i>Position vacant</i>

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

**Minutes from November:** Motion passed to approve (Marvin/???)

**Checking our PO Box for mail:** Secretary Dick and Treasurer Bruce have keys. Bruce will check for bank statements and email Dick if there is other mail; vice versa for Dick

**Discussion of ways to increase membership:** Do a better job of informing Neckers about what we have accomplished in the past and are working on currently:

Past:

- Persuaded VDOT to make improvements to Rt. 1/Gunston Cove Rd. intersection
- Worked with Fairfax County to limit development of Indian Springs property
- Persuaded VDOT to do partial repaving of Gunston Rd
- Led successful fight to keep the horse barn at BLM's Meadowood facility
- Led successful fight to keep Mason Neck State Park open

Current:

- Supporting efforts to have Alexandria limit raw sewage discharges and monitoring reports of possible sewage discharges from the MGM Grand Casino in National Harbor 1.
- Supporting environmentally safe handling of coal ash at Possum Point

**Tentative Dates for 2017 General Membership Meetings:**

- Feb. 21 or 28 – maybe ask Potomac Riverkeepers to speak
- May 16 – Annual Board election and speaker TBD
- Sept 26 or Oct. 10 – Annual “Candidates’ Night”

**Noise issues at “temple” on Springfield Drive:** Fairfax County will handle

**Coal Ash at Possum Point--MNCA will send thank-you letter to Senator for Scott Surovell** for getting Dominion Power to do more monitoring for ground water contamination and then agreeing to connect about 35 affected homes to public water.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, February 1 , at 7:30 PM .

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:19

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
February 1, 2017

Attendees in bold face:

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<b>Rick Hutson</b>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<b>Rob Kolb</b>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<b>Ann Elise Sauer</b>	

President Hillary called the meeting to order at 7:38 and the following were discussed:

**Minutes from January** : Motion passed to approve, with changes to clarify some of our past accomplishments (Ann Elise/Bruce)

**Eagle Fest:** Hillary mentioned two local companies that have agreed to be sponsors. (Note: the fest is being moved from April to May, on the 20<sup>th</sup>.)

**Treasurer Report:** Bruce said our current balance is \$2486.10, less \$200 pledged for the Eagle Fest. He has reimbursed Secretary Dick for printing and mailing costs for the postcard to Neck residents announcing our Sept. 2016 meeting.

**Coal Ash at Dominion's Possum Point power plant:** DEQ is having a public hearing on Feb. 16 @7:00 at Potomac Senior High School in Dumfries. Discussion of writing a letter to DEQ stating MNCA's opposition to Dominion's cap in place plan.

**Old Colchester Road Cleanup scheduled for March 4:** Volunteers needed for this quarterly event, done by MNCA and the Mason Neck Lions Club.

**Tires dumped on Gunston Hall property:** Scott (GH's Director) noticed the tires and will have them removed, after checking with Mason Neck State Park, and will have a "No Dumping" sign installed.

**Historic Display near the entrance to Mason Neck State Park:** The marvelous four-panel display (*which was designed pro bono by the late MNCA Boart member Jerry Lyons*) has deteriorated badly – apparently not sufficiently sealed to protect against the elements. MNCA will work with Gunston Hall to get it repaired or replaced.

**MNCA's Mission Statement:** Marvin suggested the following wording, which met with general approval: "MNCA acts as a voice to focus our political representatives on the multiple interests of the Mason Neck community in preserving the unique natural and historical assets of the Neck."

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, March 1 , at 7:30 PM .

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:32 (Scott/Bruce)

Minutes of MNCA Board Meeting, March 1, 2017 (taken by Hutson and Sauer)

President Hillary convened the meeting at 7:35p.m.

Present: Miller, Hutson, Weyland, Thompson, Sauer, Scott, Diaz-Briquet, Clawson

February **Minutes** were approved (Mark/Peter)

**Treasurer** Bruce reported a balance of \$2,674.10 with additional outstanding membership checks received. Dick needs to be reimbursed for the meeting mailing. Our PO Box is probably paid ahead.

**Membership** Director Rick reported that 22 members paid their dues as of the February meeting, about half new and half renewals. \$545 was collected at the meeting; one member paid \$5 extra. \$925 has been collected this year to date, representing 48 households that have paid their membership this year. Rick noted that, in the past, some people have paid multiple times in a single year; the Board directed that multiple payers be asked if they would like the additional payment to be considered a donation or refunded. The Board also asked that Rick send out a mid-year membership dues reminder.

**Membership lists:** Discussion about combining the membership lists of the Treasurer, Membership Director, and Communications Director resulted in a decision that those three individuals should work it out. Peter has 257 members on his MNCA email list, many of whom are not residents or members, while Bruce and Rick focus on members.

**Annual Meeting:** A mailing to all Mason Neck residents should go out in March, advertising the May annual meeting, highlighting the accomplishments and future issues facing the Neck and asking for nominations to the Board.

It was suggested that MNCA ask neighborhood community groups adjacent to the Neck to forward MNCA emails to their memberships, since many of their residents visit Mason Neck's parks and attractions. Peter will ask the South County Federation if they have names and email addresses of a point of contact in adjacent neighborhoods.

**Meeting Signs:** Discussion about changing the signs to reflect the issue orientation of MNCA resulted in a decision to add a strip on the signs to mention specific issues.

**February 16 DEQ Meeting on Possum Point Coal Ash issue:** Hillary reported that approximately 100 people were in attendance, and she represented MNCA's position in opposition to permitting Dominion Power to cap in place.

**Letter to Governor on environmental issues:** The board decided to send a letter to Governor McAuliffe expressing serious concern about environmental issues in our area and the belief that the Governor was protecting polluters instead of people. Issues to be addressed include the Possum Point coal ash storage problem, sewage overflow in Alexandria, and removal of air quality monitors around the Lorton incinerator. Copies will be sent to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, State Senator Scott Surovell, State Delegate Dave Albo, and US Representative Don Beyer.

**Email Disclaimer:** Marvin suggested that Peter include a disclaimer on emails sent on behalf of others to the MNCA membership that makes it clear the views in the attachment are not necessarily those of MNCA. The Board agreed.

**Alexandria Sewage Overflow Issue:** At the February meeting, the Potomac RiverKeepers Network suggested that the Board contact Delegate Mark Levin on this issue. Marvin informed the Board that the issue was OBE and that a Republican/Democrat coalition had passed a bill that the Governor was likely to sign. Marvin will send a personal letter.

**Email Policy Notification:** Hillary noted the requirement in the Bylaws to notify members annually of MNCA's email policy – that we will communicate by email unless a member requests a written communication. The Board directed that language be included in the annual meeting postcard notification.

**MNCA Legal Status:** There was a brief discussion of MNCA's legal status, and thus, tax liability. The Bylaws stated that MNCA is a non-stock corporation and we have not, in the past, been required to pay taxes.

**Indian Springs House:** Hillary was informed by Sally Lyons that the developer has found a buyer for the lot on which the old house stands, and they intent to demolish the structure to build an entirely new home. Several Board members believe that, as a condition of development, the developers were required to retain the old house, which is listed as a Fairfax County historic site. Sally Lyons is contacted several people to determine whether this is correct and to determine whether the house has any legal historical protections. Hillary sent an email to Supervisor Storck's office asking for information. Scott (who was not present) will be asked by Hillary to use additional contacts to lead on this issue. (Scott was so notified the next day.)

**Facebook page:** The Board discussed whether we should update our Facebook page. With only 56 followers, it was deemed unnecessary.

**Eagle Festival:** The Board agreed to take up the matter of an Award at the April meeting. Plaques for sponsors at the Eagle Festival will be needed.

**Upcoming events:**

- Old Colchester Road cleanup – March 4
- South Fairfax Mixer [?] – March 9
- LCAC Gala – April 1

**GHDA Champagne and Chocolates Event:** Bruce reported that the fundraiser on February 11 was a great success and a lot of fun.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45p.m.

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
 Cranford Methodist Church  
 April 5, 2017

**Attendees in bold face:**

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<b>Rick Hutson</b>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<b>Rob Kolb</b>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<del>Ann Elise Sauer</del>	<i>vacant</i>

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

**Scouts:** Former Board member Adam Dameron provided update. Noted that MNCA is the chartering organization for the Cub Scout troop, and he is their rep to MNCA. The current Scoutmaster is Bryan Maralda, who has a long time involvement with scouts, also 25 years with the Capitol police. They do 1-2 activities a month, in addition to regular meetings, including food and clothing drives, Christmas party, and a number of field trips, including a night with the Potomac Nationals.

**Minutes from March 1:** Motion passed to approve (Scott/Marvin)

**Treasurer Report:** Bruce said our current balance of \$3219.10.

**Membership Report:** Rick said \$1045 in dues collected from new members.

**Coal Ash/DEQ:** Letter has been sent to Governor McAuliffe.

**Indian Springs—old Taft house:** Scott reported that there is no way to prevent removal of the old house, if the developer chooses to do that.

**May 16 general membership Meeting:** S-CAR Dean will be the speaker; also Board election

**Meeting signs:** Dick will look into getting “risers”—additions to the the signs that would provide additional information.

**Eagle Festival on May 20:** The Board chose two outstanding local citizens for awards (Environmentalist of the Year and Person of the Year).

**Board Nominating Committee:** Rick will chair

**June 10 events on the Neck:** Two major events—Declaration Day at Gunston Hall and “Back to the Bay Day” at the state park. Latter will be huge, with all Chesapeake Bay governors attending, along with perhaps 10,000 other people.

**Cleanups:** Watershed cleanup is this Saturday, Pohick Creek cleanup, which MNCA is sponsoring, will be on the following Saturday.

**Potholes on Gunston Road:** Noted that there are two very large ones between Hallowing Point and Gunston Manor.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, May 3, at 7:30 PM .

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:33 (Peter/Scott)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
May 3, 2017

Attendees in bold face:

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<b>Rick Hutson</b>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<b>Rob Kolb</b>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<b>Ann Elise Sauer</b>	<i>vacant</i>

President Hillary called the meeting to order at 7:33 and the following were discussed:

**Neighbors concerned about activities at house on Springfield Drive:** Two neighbors expressed their concerns. Noted that the zoning is “RE” (Residential Estate) and owner is seeking special exemption from Fairfax. Neighbors were told it would be a residence for 4-5 people but size and frequency of weekend events has risen sharply—about 70 to 100 cars there from 10:00 to 2:00 about three times a month, and drivers are often careless when exiting onto Springfield Drive. Neighbors’ concerns are noise, traffic, possible overload of septic system, fire hazard, and that the property seems to be operated as a business. A County inspector came on a weekend in late January and issued a notice of violation.

**Minutes from April:** Motion passed to approve, with minor corrections.

**Treasurer Report:** Current balance is \$2693.71

**Membership Report:** Rick Members can pay dues at May General Membership meeting.

**Eagle Festival:** MNCA will have a tent and table.

**DEQ:** Marvin knows retiree from DEQ, will put in contact with the Riverkeepers.

**Recent Pohick Creek cleanup:** Seven volunteers participated, including Supervisor Storck.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, June 7, at 7:30 PM .

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:55 (Ann/Rick)

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
June 7, 2017

**Attendees in bold face:**

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<b>Reinhardt Gray</b>	<b>Ann Elise Sauer</b>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<b>Rick Hutson</b>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<b>Rob Kolb</b>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>

President Hillary called the meeting to order at 7:34. She welcome Reinhardt Gray, the manager at Mason Neck State Park as a new Board member, and the following were discussed:

**Neighbors concerned about activities at house on Springfield Drive--update:** Two neighbors spoke to the owner on June 4. They said the owner had been issued a violation notice from the County and has 90 days to respond; the owner needs to get a special use permit and construct a two-way driveway. The neighbors said that the traffic volume is down a bit but they still think that it is a business operating in a residential area. They also stated that nine of the 12 owners near the property in question agree on this, while the other three are agnostic.

**Minutes from April:** Not done yet, secretary has misplaced his notebook.

**Boosting MNCA Membership and Attendance:** It was noted that the May General Membership Meeting had exceptionally low attendance, under 30, including the speakers from GMU’s School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (S-CAR). Ideas discussed included doing a survey of Neck residents as to what they know about MNCA and what they want it to do. Also perhaps holding an occasional “fun” event, or a regular annual event of some kind.

**Traffic light at Telegraph Road/Rt. 1 intersection:** The confusing layout is causing unnecessary backups on Telegraph Road—Hillary will draft letter to VDOT asking if the situation will be improved when the current construction at the intersection is completed.

**Two Big June 10 Events:** Back to the Bay Day at Mason Neck State Park, about 15-20 dignitaries expected, total attendance possibly quite large. Also Declaration Day at Gunston Hall, including a Special Naturalization Ceremony for new US citizens.

**Primary Election on June 13:** Democrats will vote at the usual polling places, Republicans will vote at South County Secondary School because their candidates weren’t identified in time to get on the regular election ballot.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, July 5, at 7:30 PM .

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:24

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
August 2, 2017

*Note that there was no Board meeting in July*

**Attendees in bold face:**

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<b>Reinhardt Gray</b>	<del>Ann Elise Sauer</del>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<b>Rick Hutson</b>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<del>Rob Kolb</del>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<del>Peter Weyland</del>

President Hillary called the meeting to order at 7:37 and the following were discussed:

**Minutes from May and June:** Motion to approve passed (Marvin/Scott).

**Wat Lao:** Eight members attended to introduce themselves to the Board. John Phon minh, the owner of the property on Springfield Drive for the last three years, spoke for the group. He noted that four Buddhist monks live at the house and their members are very peaceful people who want to blend in with the community. They have donated school bags for students and food for the fire department volunteers, and are available to help with community projects.

**Treasurer Report:** Bruce stated our balance as of today is \$2873.71.

**Membership Report:** Rick noted that the number of paid memberships is 68 or 72.

**Boosting Membership:** For the September meeting Ann Elise and Sergio will prepare a short list of questions for our membership asking what they would like MNCA to do.

**Belmont Drive:** Rick mentioned that a number of trucks have been delivering dirt for a greenhouse that Charlie Huff is planning; he is available to discuss with the Board.

**Candidates Night:** Sept. 26 is the preferred date, Oct. 3 is the alternative. Marvin will check with the candidates.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, September 6, at 7:30 PM .

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:20 (Bruce/Scott)



Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
September 6, 2017

Attendees in bold face:

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<del>Hillary Clawson</del>	<b>Reinhardt Gray</b>	<b>Ann Elise Sauer</b>
Vice President	<del>Sergio Diaz Briquets</del>	<del>Rick Hutson</del>	<del>Scott Stroh</del>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<del>Rob Kolb</del>	<del>Mark Thompson</del>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>

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

**Minutes from August:** Motion to approve passed (Ann/Bruce).

**Treasurer Report:** Bruce stated our balance as of today is \$2730.06

**Candidates Night—September 26 at 7:00:** Both candidates for the House of Delegates will attend, as will outgoing Delegate Albo, Senator Surovell, Supervisor Storck, and School Board member Corbett-Sanders; Congressman Beyer may be able to stop by. **Good attendance is key for betting our political representatives to continue their past strong support for the “Neck”!**

**Candidates Night Postcard that will be mailed to 1130 Neck Addresses:** In addition to meeting info we will pose three questions, with a somewhat longer survey to be given to attendees:

Do you like living on Mason Neck?

Do you know that MNCA’s mission is to preserve and protect the Neck?

Have you thought about becoming a member?

**Aircraft Noise:** Should MNCA take a position on the plan to have planes from National Airport follow the Potomac further downstream before turning? We need more information. This change would bring more noise to the Neck but less to the areas north of us, which are more heavily populated. The strongest argument against the change likely would be the impact on migrating birds and other wildlife on the Neck.

**LCAC Wine Tasting Fundraiser:** Bruce that this annual event will again be held at his residence, date is October 14.

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, October 4, at 7:30 PM .

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 8:00

Mason Neck Citizens Association Monthly Board Meeting  
Cranford Methodist Church  
October 4, 2017

**Attendees in bold face:**

<i>MNCA Officers</i>		<i>Other Members of the Board of Directors</i>	
President	<b>Hillary Clawson</b>	<del>Reinhardt Gray</del>	<b>Ann Elise Sauer</b>
Vice President	<b>Sergio Diaz-Briquets</b>	<del>Rick Hutson</del>	<b>Scott Stroh</b>
Secretary	<b>Dick Kennedy</b>	<del>Rob Kolb</del>	<b>Mark Thompson</b>
Treasurer	<b>Bruce Scott</b>	<b>Marvin Miller</b>	<b>Peter Weyland</b>

President Hillary called the meeting to order at 7:38 and the following were discussed:

**Minutes from September:** Motion to approve passed (Scott/Bruce).

**Rt. 1 at Gunston Plaza—need for a traffic light?** Neck resident Lynn Nestor spoke to the Board about this—she was in a serious accident while turning left from Rt. 1 into Gunston Plaza. The Board agreed to write a letter to VDOT asking if something could be done to improve safety.

**The entrance to Shoppers Food Warehouse was also discussed as a safety concern.** Cars entering and leaving Shoppers, plus traffic on Lorton Market St., create a complicated situation—less serious than Gunston Plaza, but perhaps improvements can be made.

**Also discussed as inconveniences, not safety concerns:** The traffic light on Telegraph Road approaching Rt. 1, and the three-way stop sign on Old Colchester (where the railroad bridge used to be).

**Candidates Night Miscommunication:** The Republican candidate for Delegate did not get the message about this meeting and thus did not attend. Neck resident Jane Gandee attended the Board meeting and said she would be hosting an event for the candidate and the Board agreed to send a notice of this event to our membership to give them a chance to meet the candidate.

**Bike/Multi-Use trail ribbon-cutting:** For the segment from Pohick Bay Regional Park to the golf course will take place on October 21—Hillary will speak on behalf of MNCA, the original sponsor of the trail.

**Ugly guard rails along the bike/multi-use trail:** It was noted that two types of rails had been used—black rails, that blend well with the background, and white rails that are far more intrusive; the Board will ask if the white rails can be painted black.

**New Fire Marshall’s office:** At Old Mt. Vernon High School—should be helpful to local businesses trying to comply with County regulations.

**Fort Belvoir Hospital:** May be designated as a “medical center”, which has some advantages.

**MNCA survey of members:** Board will review final draft of the survey, which will be posted online using Survey Monkey, and also sent to residents on a post card.

**Old Colchester Road temporary closing:** Planned for summer 2018 for 2-4 weeks because of construction at the water treatment plant.

**Board of Zoning Appeals Dec. 6 hearing on Special Use Permit for 2612 Springfield Dr:** The board has met with neighbors of this property and with members of the Buddhist Temple and is sympathetic to both sides. However, after much discussion, the Board agreed to ask BZA to deny the permit. Our main concerns are the negative effects on neighbors (noise and traffic) and the possible environmental harms (failing septic field and changes to the topography that could adversely affect drainage).

**Next Board Meeting:** Wednesday, November 1, at 7:30 PM.

**Motion to adjourn:** Passed at 9:01