

WORMAN’S MILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION (WMCA)

APPROVED MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING

May 19, 2010 (5:30 p.m.)

Frederick Community College (FCC)

Board of Directors Present: Carol Goldstein, President; Allan Carlson, Vice-President; Judy Haines, Treasurer; Vicki Myers, Director – At – Large; Lois Benjamin, Director – At – Large; and Noel Farmer, Secretary

Board of Directors Absent: Dick Menzer

I. Announcements

A. Conservancy Voting Results: President Carol Goldstein introduced Judy Haines, WMCA Treasurer, who thanked the membership for their attendance at the Conservancy Forum and announced that there were 457 ballots submitted for the election (the largest voter participation in the history of Worman’s Mill) with Nick Falcone and Arlene Perkins winning the two vacant seats. Some of the ballots were invalidated due to a few voters placing two ballots in one envelope and some voters did not sign the outside of the envelope. Carol announced that in 2011, the residents of Worman’s Mill will have the opportunity to elect at least one or more trustees from the community rather than have the development company control the Board. She added that if the residents can duplicate and or exceed the voter participation in 2011, we might be successful in having a representative Board which would truly reflect the community. Carol thanked Joe Pinto for his service on the Conservancy and announced that Lois Benjamin was appointed as an interim WMCA Director – At – Large for the remainder of this year.

B. Nominating Committee: Carol announced the members of the WMCA Nominating Committee for the 2011 WMCA Board of Directors as: Tom Gill, Chair; Phyllis Sickels; and Dick Menzer.

II. Guest Speaker

Carol introduced Frederick City Mayor Randy McClement and Joe Adkins, Director of Planning for Frederick City. Mayor McClement stated that he came to the position of Mayor and immediately faced some of the most devastating conditions an individual in his position could face: a declining economy, an unexpected “snow event,” a completely new Board of Aldermen, a budget which needed to be balanced, and little money to accomplish what needed to be done. He stated that his biggest challenge was in the area of the budget. He inherited a 3.5 million dollar deficit in the 2010 budget and faced a 8.5 million dollar deficit in the 2011 budget. He added that he faulted no one for these deficits; they were the results of revenues coming up short in terms of expectations. Randy said that he was a businessman and not a politician and proceeded on this basis. In making decisions on the capital budget, he used seven criteria to address the capital budget and that each item

had to meet five out of seven criteria to remain in the budget. In addressing the operating budget, he used zero-based budgeting techniques and reviewed line item by line item with all Directors in Frederick City. He reduced staff in the budget by analyzing position need rather than reviewing people occupying the position. He admitted that he caught flack over cutting one Outreach Community Specialist position. As a final note, Mayor McClement announced that he was seeking a three million grant from the State for Phase II of the Carroll Creek project. Since this would require a three million dollar match from the City, he requested a one year delay from the State on this grant submission process. He stated that the Phase I of the Carroll Creek project brought such great economic growth to Frederick City, he felt compelled to continue with Phase II of the Carroll Creek Project.

Mayor McClement introduced Joe Adkins, Director of Planning for Frederick City. Joe is in charge of one of the most important departments in city government. It is his responsibility to ensure that development within the borders of Frederick City meets code standards and that those who wish to build in Frederick abide by the regulations established to ensure safety as well as the uniqueness that brings people to Frederick. Growth expansion in regard to commercial and residential development for Frederick City is necessary in order to survive the current economic conditions. Joe brought the audience up to date on the following initiatives:

1. The Golden Mile survey to secure ideas for improvement to this region.
2. The planning for the Monocacy/Christopher Crossing Interchange. Construction should begin on this project in 2014.
3. The right hand merge lane to Hayward Road was discussed. Construction should begin on this project this year.
4. The sidewalk on Route 26 leading into the Dearbought community.
5. The widening of the Motter Avenue Bridge. It will take two and one half years to construct this project. The problem will be in closing one lane at a time.
6. The extension of the Gas House Pike to Monocacy Boulevard should be completed in 2011.
7. The plan to get businesses to relocate to the area near the Frederick Airport.
8. The new Wegman's grocery store is scheduled to open by Christmas 2010.
9. The impact of 4,000 new employees at Fort Detrick in terms of traffic.

In responding to questions from the audience, Mayor McClement and Joe Adkins promised to investigate the following topics emanating from the questions:

1. Repair of the potholes at the intersection of Monocacy Boulevard and Route 26.
2. Establishing an initial appeal process relating to development without having to go to court since developers can afford to hire many lawyers.

3. The grid-lock potential on route 26 with the new development at Market Square and the Wegman's food store.
4. The impact of development on the widening of Monocacy Boulevard.
5. Creating a parallel road to Route 15 at the end of Worman's Mill Road to access Monocacy Boulevard. Monocacy Boulevard can not handle the eighteen wheelers for Wegman's and adjacent commercial development.

Mayor McClement concluded his presentation by stating that he hoped that his legacy as Mayor would be that he left office with financial solvency for Frederick City. As a businessman, he has stressed customer service for his entire administration. He personally interviews all appointees to any Frederick Commission and stresses customer service to all appointees. He will keep the tax rate the same. However the water bill will go up twenty percent due to lack of growth and fewer impact fees and the Potomac water agreement. Also, the waste water treatment process has to go from chlorine to ultra violet treatment and has to be completed by 2012. He will also pursue the creation of a Frederick City Convention Center with a commercial, Chamber of Commerce, and Frederick City partnership.

III. Adjournment

After adjournment was approved, the raffle for the fifty dollar dinner coupon for the Carrabba's Restaurant was conducted.

Submitted by,

Noel Farmer, WMCA Secretary