

## Greater Wilton Woods Citizens Association Meeting – September 25, 2007

Parry opened the meeting at 7:35.

The GWWCA Garden ceremony to commemorate September 11 was held on Sunday, September 9. There were many public figures from Fairfax County and beyond, including Mark Sickles, Gerry Connelly, Dana Kaufman, and Chief Rohr. The singing of the national anthem and the bagpipes contributed greatly to the solemnness of the occasion.

Treasurer's report was not immediately available. Expenses since the last meeting in May were approx \$1,000. This included mailings and contributions to all night graduation parties at local high schools.

Parry introduced the first guest of the evening, Alex Lee, the Community Relations Manager for the Wilson Bridge Project. Mr. Lee has been on the project for seven years, and this was his third visit to a GWWCA meeting. He provided some updates on the project, as summarized below:

### Bridge

- \$2.476 B budget—still on budget with project
- the first span for the new bridge was up and running as of last June
- lanes on the new bridge will include local (first) and thru (second) lanes
- the second span will open mid- to late-2008
- the bike and pedestrian lanes will open in 2009
- the new bridges are structurally designed to accommodate light or heavy rail—HOV lanes would convert to this (either/or; not both)

### Telegraph Rd:

- The request for bids was released in August
- project scheduled for completion in 2013 (this is two years later than previously scheduled)
- cost is approx \$200 M
- question: how is BRAC being considered? –Mr. Lee's answer: in terms of the planning, they used the Council of Governments model for 2020 for full build-out, but no, it was not included
- through traffic at the intersections of Telegraph with Lenore St/N. Kings Hwy/Huntington Dr is currently graded "F;" this will improve greatly
- there will be a new bridge getting from Telegraph North to Eisenhower Ave.; bike and pedestrian path will be on this bridge as well—access to Pershing from Telegraph Rd. will be eliminated
- Pershing will still have access to Telegraph Rd. North
- question: improvement to Duke St heading to Telegraph Rd south and I-95? –not directly, but hopefully the new bridge and the improved interchange will bring improvements
- question: what about cars exiting Eisenhower Ave. to beltway? there is access both on and off
- sign for Telegraph Rd. coming off the Wilson Bridge—sign is placed badly—this was done because lane work is being done in area where road used to be—Mr. Lee will talk to traffic engineers about improving this
- what is life span of new bridge? it is 75-100 years; designed for 300,000 vehicles per day

Parry thanked Mr. Lee for his attendance at the meeting and for all of the information.

Parry next introduced Doug Boulter and Jeff McKay, candidates for November's election of the Lee District supervisor. Dana Kaufmann, the current supervisor, is not running for reelection. Both candidates had three-five minutes to introduce themselves; then answered questions from members.

#### Doug Boulter

- lives in VA Hills
- came to the area in 1985 on active duty
- president of VA Hills Citizens Association for 6 years
- on the Land Use Committee since 2001
- has been chief election officer in 5 precincts
- Gubernatorial nominee to Virginia's Human Rights Council
- issues include environment, growth and transportation, neighborhood stability
- cannot grow more in county until infrastructure is in place

#### Jeff McKay

- Dana's chief of staff for 12 years
- lived in Lee District all his life—Groveton and Va Hills, lives in Groveton now
- Uniform Reserves Deputy
- Transportation Advisory Comm. for Mark Sickles
- served on task force for Mt Vernon Hospital to keep it from being closed
- was on board of United Community Ministries
- has gained valuable experience working with Dana
- best equipped to deal with issues
- will speak on behalf of citizens
- endorsed by all local official entities
- issues include neighborhood protection, development (supports the land use committee)
- developments should be reviewed case by case
- wants to help increase the local tree canopy from the current 41-2% to 45%
- our county should set example for environment
- watershed improvement—studies
- background and experience

A Q&A session followed, in which both candidates had the opportunity to answer. The questions included subjects such as commuting, affordable housing for seniors, and "boarding" houses

The 50/50 raffle followed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35.