

**McLean Community Center
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean, VA 22101
January 28, 2009**

Members Present: Jan Auerbach, Chair; Drew Clark, Kevin Dent, Lee DiCenso, Jenni Dunn, Sean Dunn, Thomas Meyer, David Sanders, Risa Sanders, Ed Shahin, Lori Wertz

Staff Present: Julie Rasmussen, Executive Director; Clare Kiley, Deputy Director; Joe McGovern, Facility Manager; Carol Pardon, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present: Jane Edmondson, Dranesville Supervisor John Foust's office

Convened: 7:37 p.m.

Agenda approved.

Citizen Comment: None.

Minutes of December 10, 2008, were approved.

Chair's Report: Jan Auerbach

- Auerbach recognized Board member Ed Shahin, who was featured in the January 22 issue of the Sun Gazette for his work as an advocate for seniors.
- Auerbach went over the agenda for the Board's Strategic Planning Workshop, to be held on Saturday, Jan. 31, from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. She noted that because of recent developments, there will not be much to discuss regarding the proposed gym at Spring Hill.

Executive Director's Report: Julie Rasmussen

- Rasmussen said that staff is spending a lot of time on the Spring Hill gym and capital projects. Regarding personnel vacancies, she said the comptroller position has been advertised within the County, and that eight applications have been received. A background check is being done on the top candidate for the Youth Director position. The position description for the Special Events Assistant is being rewritten, after which it will be advertised.

Executive Committee: Jan Auerbach, Chair

- MCC/MPA Agreement: Dent said that Nancy Perry is planning on taking the revised MCC/MPA Agreement to the MPA's Board in February. There was a question about whether the MCC has the right to use the upstairs once or three times a year. Dent asked if the MPA has paid the MCC the \$25,000 owed at the end of the last fiscal year. The response was "no."

Election Committee: Sean Dunn, Chair

- Dunn reported that the Election Committee met and discussed what went well last year and what did not. He said the Committee felt that 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. is too long a day for candidates to stand outside campaigning, and also that the voting tent was too easy to walk past. There was discussion on candidate signage and how to differentiate candidates for the Board from candidates in other elections.

- Shahin commented that the Board previously expressed concern about the League of Women Voters queuing up voters in only one line, which slowed the process considerably. Meyer asked if the election can be opened up to allow other ages to vote for high school candidates. [Currently the age restriction is 15 through 17.] Dunn responded that voters have to meet the same requirements as the candidates. Meyer also asked if the regulations can be changed so that high school voters can cross school district boundaries. (Currently voters must live within the Langley High School district to vote for Langley High School candidates, or live within the McLean High School district to vote for McLean High School candidates.) Auerbach said that there were complicating factors that restricted making the changes, including changing the MOU between the MCC and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.
- ***Recommendation: That the Board authorize the Election Committee Chair to negotiate with the League of Women Voters for operation of the 2009 McLean Day Governing Board election, for a cost of up to \$2,500.*** Approved by the Board. (D. Sanders abstained.)
- ***Recommendation: That the voting hours on McLean Day shall be from 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.*** Approved by the Board. (D. Sanders abstained.)
- Further into the discussion Clark made the following motion:
- ***Motion: Return the voting hours from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*** Defeated (5 opposed, 4 in favor, one abstention).
- The following Committee recommendation was put to a vote:
- ***Recommendation: That we offer an MCC-branded bottle of water as a thank you for casting a ballot on McLean Day.*** Approved by the Board. (D. Sanders abstained.)
- The Committee's final recommendation concerned using the McLean Community Center as a second voting site simultaneously with the McLean Day site. There was a discussion about the possibility of people double voting.
- ***Recommendation: That we establish a second voting site on McLean Day at the MCC, with standard voting hours.*** Defeated (5 opposed, 4 in favor, 1 abstention).

Program Committee: Ed Shahin, Chair

- **Funding Authority:** Shahin explained that after the Board approved that the MCC contribute signage for the McLean holiday parade, he thought those kinds of decisions involving relatively small amounts of money should be up to the Executive Director rather than going to the Board. The Program Committee agreed and made the following policy recommendation:
 - ***Recommendation: That the Governing Board provide the Executive Director the authority to expend up to \$5,000 annually in support of local community organizations, when in his/her judgment, the requested funding promotes the mission of the Community Center.*** Approved by the Board.
- **Dance:** The Committee approved a proposal to hold a "big band"-type dance at the MCC for adults that includes dancing instruction beforehand, and refreshments. The Committees recommendation was altered to stipulate a budget threshold.
 - ***That the Governing Board approve the MCC spending up to \$6,500 to hold a dance on June 5th.*** Approved by the Board.

- ADA Language: Kiley explained that the Americans with Disabilities Act requires that some accommodations be provided if necessary for patrons with disabilities. The Committee recommended including the requirement in Teen Center literature.
 - ***Recommendation: Accept the ADA policy to be included on all Teen Center literature.***
Approved by the Board.

Communications Committee: Drew Clark, Chair

- Logo: Clark said that Board members voted on MCC logo designs based on every member having 20 votes. The Communications Committee, at its meeting on January 21, decided that the Board should do a second round of voting for the top three logo designs plus the current logo. Not all Board members responded by e-mail, so Clark asked Board members to vote during the meeting, indicating their choices by first place, second place, third place, and fourth place. After they did so, he tabulated the votes. Logo #2 (the letters MCC in a box) was the first place winner, receiving a score of 1.94.
 - ***Motion: That the Board has identified logo 2 as the preferred logo and requests the staff to come back to the Board with a proposal for how much it would cost and how it would be phased in.*** Approved by the Board.

Capital Facilities Committee: David Sanders, Chair

- Storm Water Management: Sanders reported that Fairfax County environmental expert Ron Tuttle and his assistant Catherine Morin came to the Committee meeting held immediately prior to the Board meeting and presented their recommendations for improving the MCC's storm water management. **The Board approved \$75K for plantings in thee vegetative swale and designated areas around the parking lot, removal and replacement of dead trees and Bradford pears in the parking lot, and a trickle ditch. The Board also approved a 10% contingency in case root plantings are necessary, \$5K to replace the split light pole, and \$1K for rain barrels, for a total cost of about \$90,000. The County's MSMD will pay for removing the concrete swale, reconstructing the concrete headwall, and addressing the micropool.**

Bold =
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- ***Recommendation: Adopt the storm water management proposal by Ron Tuttle, allocating up to \$90,000 (\$75,000 plus contingency). This amends the previous allocation of \$155,000.*** Approved by the Board.

- Spring Hill Gym: Rasmussen and Kiley met with Fairfax County Park Authority Director John Dargle and staff member Cindy Messinger, who had the MCC's negotiating position on the gym in hand and responded to it. They contradicted their position from previous meetings, Rasmussen reported, stating that they did not want the MCC to schedule any programs in the gym that were similar to programs at the Spring Hill Recreation Center, even if held at different times. They do not want a separate entrance to the gym, but want gym patrons to use the Rec Center entrance, and they want to impose a single fee. They want gym maintenance to be consistent with their standards, they stated. They were asked to put their position in writing, but it has not been received as of this date. The cost estimate of the architect hired by the Park Authority was more than \$8M, which is in excess of what the Board has indicated it was willing to contribute.

Rasmussen said neither of the Park Authority's two gyms (Wakefield and Lee District) were built as a partnership. Their current position may be a negotiating technique. Shahin cautioned never to expect the Park Authority to deal in good faith. You have to get

something in writing from them, he said. Dent said that the Executive Director is representing the Board's positions and that the Board is serious about them. Dunn asked what happens if we are unsuccessful? How would that be seen by the Supervisor's office? Jane Edmondson responded that at the end of the day, the two parties have to agree. Auerbach commented that the gym cannot be a discussion item at the strategic planning session, and that the Board will have to wait until more is known about the Park Authority's written position and about the gym cost. The Committee's resolution was amended to read as follows:

➤ *That the Executive Director reaffirm the commitment of the Capital Facilities Committee and the Governing Board to the elements previously outlined in our position paper on the gym and ask the Park Authority to respond in writing.*

Approved by the Board.

- Downtown Expansion: Sanders reported that Supervisor Foust set up a meeting with Dan Montgomery [developer of the McLean downtown area], He explained that the Board's proposed downtown facility has been connected to the downtown Main Street redevelopment effort. He and Auerbach wanted to get a sense of how the effort was going and if the MCC still fit into it. He said that Montgomery has contracted with a firm in Bethesda to develop a market analysis and projections. When that is finished, three master planners will provide competing visions for the downtown area. Theoretically one of them would then receive a contract to prepare plans to take public. This may be done by the September-October and then go to the McLean Planning Committee.

Auerbach commented that Montgomery has looked at a demographic projections and sees McLean as becoming more like Bethesda or Arlington. The downtown project will take place in phases. Montgomery has ideas where the MCC's facility, which would be included in the first phase, might be. He is assuming the facility will be 20,000 square feet. At this point he does not have all the partners lined up. We might be in negotiations by late 2009, Auerbach said.

- Library: Sam Clay, Director of the Fairfax County Library, is fine with the Board's terms of agreement on locating a temporary library in the MCC's upper parking lot during construction of the new Dolley Madison Library. That location would be the library's second choice. Supervisor Foust will call Clay and ask him to contact Dan Montgomery about a temporary location downtown. In response to Edmondson's question, Auerbach said that we were not planning to charge the library to use the MCC's lot.

Finance Committee: Kevin Dent, Chair

- No report. The Committee meeting on Tuesday was cancelled because of the weather and will be rescheduled.

Friends of the MCC: Lori Wertz

- Wertz said the Friends are planning for the adult "big band" dance and are very enthused. They sent out some new recruitment materials.

Continuing Business:

- R. Sanders commented that the Governing Board election process for the teens is really arduous. It is hard to differentiate between Langley and McLean High School students and

asked if voting could be opened up for both sides to make it a simpler process. Auerbach referred the issue to the Election Committee. Also referred to the Election Committee was Meyer's suggestion that on-line voting be considered.

New Business:

- February Committee Meetings:
Program Committee: Wednesday, Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m., at Teen Center
Capital Facilities: Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Finance Committee: Tuesday, Feb. 17, 8:30 p.m.
Communications: Wednesday, Feb. 18, 8 p.m.

Adjourned: 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Dunn,
Secretary