

2022 Fall Meeting Results

On 22 Oct HRVCA members held our fall meeting from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the cafeteria of Beech Tree Elementary School. Topics discussed included:

- Treasurer's Report
- Neighborhood News
- Evaluation of Holmes Run Stream Valley
- Election of Officers
- Valley Brook Dr. Pedestrian Crossing
- County Plans for Climate Change
- Venues for Future Meetings
- Dues
- Traffic Calming

Forty-one members participated in the meeting. This meeting summary is available on our [blog](#). Additional information is in two sets of slides:

- [Fall Meeting Slides](#)
- [Evaluation of Holmes Run Stream Valley](#)

HRVCA Hot Sheet:

Our hot sheet is a list of phone numbers and Internet links to resources essential for a secure and happy life in our community. It covers public services (police, fire, and ambulance), government offices, public utilities, local news outlets, and neighborhood schools. You can find the [hot sheet](#) on our blog under Pages...Citizens Assoc.

Treasurer's Report:

Mike Paup reported that the association has \$814.23 in its bank account. The two expenses since the spring meeting were \$100 donated to the Sleepy Hollow United Methodist Church to support their August open house for the National Night Out event and \$161.53 for liability insurance required by Fairfax County Public Schools as a condition for our use of the Beech Tree cafeteria for this meeting. More about insurance below.

Neighborhood News:

Jacke Zeiher described salient qualities of our community, including low turnover and crime rates, and how we keep up appearances and look out for one another. She summarized as well the results of the recent redistricting plan for our area. While Kaye Kory will continue as our representative in the VA House, we will no longer be represented by Gerry Connelly (U.S. House) or by Dave Marsden/Dick Saslaw (VA Senate).. Finally, she updated us on the status of the White Garden and current activities of HRVCA Board members. See slides 4-7 among the [meeting slides](#).

Evaluation of Holmes Run Stream Valley:

Whitney Redding, co-founder of Friends of Holmes Run and co-president of Raymondale Civic Assoc, described the results of an evaluation of our stream valley carried out by the Audubon Naturalist Society. The objective of the society is to encourage D.C. area residents to appreciate, understand, and protect our natural environment. The evaluation score for both *water quality* and *biodiversity* in the stream valley was fair. *Access to nature* was deemed to be good, while *climate* (a combination of air

quality, stream buffer, tree canopy, and wetlands) was judged moderately poor. The last two slides of Whitney's [presentation](#) list means by which we residents can improve the quality of our stream valley.

Election of Board:

No one volunteered to join the HRVCA Board. The then-current Board was re-elected by acclamation.

Valley Brook Pedestrian Crossing at Skyview Terrace:

Clyde Miller asked VDOT to visit the intersection of Valley Brook Dr and Skyview Terrace to see if there might be a way to increase the conspicuity of the pedestrian crossing over Valley Brook. The sight distance is limited for cars coming up the hill from Rose Lane and young people cross from one side of Skyview to the other several times a day. Within a few days, VDOT called back to say that they would not be able to install a conspicuous crosswalk at the intersection because the intersection is not a safe place for crossing Valley Brook. They suggested contacting FCDOT about the possibility of constructing a sidewalk around the SE quadrant of the intersection to provide access to a crosswalk farther east along Valley Brook. Clyde will follow up.

County Plans for Climate Change:

A brief discussion of the county's response to climate change provided a reference to the recently published action plan. Slide 14.

Venue for Future HRVCA Meetings:

Fairfax County Public Schools recently required that anyone reserving space inside school facilities for activities not related to FCPS or county business must first obtain liability insurance in the amount of \$1m. The cost of such insurance for a single day ranges between \$150 and \$200. The meeting discussed alternatives for meeting space, including the Mason Govt Center, Geo Mason Public Library, and a local church or similar. We decided to continue to use the Beech Tree cafeteria and to ask meeting participants to pay a voluntary fee of \$5 per household to offset the cost of insurance (\$161 this time). Meeting participation normally amounts to 30 households or so. If the collection is not fully adequate, the difference will be taken from our bank account. Slide 15.

Dues:

The association has been spending approx. \$300/yr: \$100 for National Night Out, \$100 for refreshments for the spring stream valley clean up, and \$100 for printing Hot Sheets and sundries. The intention in the meeting was to discuss the possibility of dues in the amount of \$10 per household to be offered up at the fall meeting each year. Time did not permit the discussion. We can get to it in the spring meeting.

Traffic Calming:

Sacha Rosenthal (sacha.rosenthal@gmail.com) proposed that a committee be formed to investigate the possibility of installing some form of traffic calming, in particular, along Valley Brook Dr. Several people agree to serve on the committee and Sacha agree to lead it.

It was a short discussion at the bitter end of the meeting. No one objected to forming such a committee under the HRVCA banner. At the same time there was no vote taken supporting its establishment. One concern voiced was the importance of taking into account unintended consequences for surrounding streets. Traffic calming devices on Valley Brook inadvertently may increase unimpeded cut-thru traffic on Slade Run and Holloman.

Sacha has agreed to keep association members informed of progress via our HRVCA google group.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of HRVCA is planned for March.

Thank you for being an interested member of HRVCA; particular thanks to members who participated in the fall meeting.

Clyde Miller

HRVCA Board:

Clyde Miller	President	cmiller3436@gmail.com
Jacke Zeiher	Vice President	jzeiher11@gmail.com
Mike Paup	Treasurer	mlpaup@gmail.com
Debbie Rosse	Director	debbiehr15@gmail.com
Jim Robinson	Director	jrcares@yahoo.com

Resources:

[HRVCA group email for association business](#)

- holmesrunvalleyca@googlegroups.com

[HRVCA Hot Sheet](#)

- https://holmesrun.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Hot_Sheet_2022_0607.pdf

[HRVCA blog](#)

- <http://holmesrun.org>.

[Annandale blog for community news](#)

- <http://annandaleva.blogspot.com>

[Neighborhood message network](#)

- <http://nextdoor.com>

[Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross](#)

- <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mason>
- mason@fairfaxcounty.gov