

2023 Spring Meeting Results

12 May 2023

On 12 April HRVCA members held our spring meeting from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the cafeteria of Beech Tree Elementary School. Topics discussed included:

- Westcott Substation Upgrade
- Holmes Run Stream Valley Clean Up, May 6
- White Gardens Redirection
- National Night Out, Aug 1
- Treasurer's Report and Dues Proposal
- Jun 20 Democratic Party Primary
- Valley Brook Dr Traffic Concerns

Forty-one members participated in the meeting. The meeting summary and slides are available on our [blog](#). A direct link to the slides is [here](#).

HRVCA Hot Sheet:

Our Hot Sheet is a list of phone numbers and Internet links to resources useful 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 current edition of our Hot Sheet (Summer 2022 edition) on our [blog](#) on the righthand side of the page under Pages...Citizens Assoc.

Westcott Substation Upgrade: Max Payeur and three associates from Dominion Energy Virginia briefed the meeting on plans to upgrade the electric power substation in the stream valley nearby the intersection of Rose Ln and Slade Run Dr. The substation was constructed in 1952, and serves approx. 3,250 customers. The project will add a 57' x 70' fenced area to the current footprint, replace old transformers, and install new technology relays and power quality monitoring equipment. Benefits expected include improved reliability, reduced outage response times, and a stronger/safer grid. Work is expected to begin this fall with completion in summer 2025. Max left a copy of his [slides](#) and offered to answer questions via email at maxwell.s.payeur@dominionenergy.com.

Holmes Run Stream Valley Clean Up: Holmes Run is a first-order tributary of the Potomac. It's origin is nearby the intersection of I-495 and I-66. It runs 10 1/2 miles thru Fairview Park southeasterly into our neighborhood and Lake Barcroft, then to Alexandria where it joins Backlick Run to form Cameron Run, then to the Potomac just south on the Woodrow Wilson bridge. The annual cleanup of our section of the stream valley is organized by Debbie Rosse and Jacke Zeiher and sponsored in part by [Friends of Holmes Run](#), volunteers working year around to improve the quality of the stream valley.

Our annual clean ups seem to be having an effect. We're making progress. The "haul" was substantial this year but less than last year. The largest item carried out was the wooden frame of a 5 ft long love seat.

White Gardens Redirection: As a consequence of concerns expressed by the White family and residents the county has abandoned its earlier plan to allow a resident curator to manage the 13-acre

site and occupy the house in White Gardens in our neighborhood at 6711 Princess Anne Lane. Instead, the house will be demolished and the Fairfax County Park Authority will manage the site as a community park focused on providing a passive experience, different from basketball courts and soccer fields. The garden and trees on the site are magnificent – a fantastic gift to our community. Watch for volunteer opportunities to support maintenance and development of the site.

National Night Out, Aug 1: We expect the United Methodist Church across the street from our community at 3435 Sleepy Hollow Rd to sponsor a National Night Out celebration again this year. It's an opportunity for residents to talk to the police officers and first responders who protect our community. Typically there's a squad car and fire engine on display for kids and the curious to explore, as well as live music, and ice cream!! The event occurs annually during the evening of the first Tues in Aug, Aug 1st this year. Please support those who support us by planning to attend the event. The HRVCA Board will provide details as the time approaches.

Treasurer's Report and Dues Proposal: Mike Paup reported that we have \$642.81 in the bank. He proposed an annual budget of \$550 (assuming funds available) as follows:

- Liability insurance for association spring and fall meetings, \$250
- Hot dogs and chips for spring stream valley clean up: \$100
- Ice cream social for National Night Out: \$100
- Print Hot Sheets and sundries: \$100

Mike also proposed annual dues of \$10 per family payable at the door in the fall meeting. The meeting agreed with Mike's proposals. He managed to collect \$160 from members willing to pay dues early.

Jun 20 Democratic Party Primary: Where a party has only one unopposed candidate for an office, that party does not hold a primary election for the office. Consequently, the [Republican Party](#) is not holding a primary election in Fairfax County this year, and there will be no Democratic primary election for Virginia House District 13, which includes a number of homes in our neighborhood.

The Democratic primary on Jun 20 is open to all registered voters whether Democrats, Republicans, or otherwise. Early voting is open now. See the Fairfax Democrats Web site below for ways to vote.

Redistricting as a consequence of the recent census juggled the districts. As Jacke pointed out in our last meeting, the Virginia Public Access Project provides an [online tool](#) for finding one's new Virginia and Federal voting districts. The Fairfax Democrats Web site provides a [guide](#) to their primary candidates. It's easy to find your districts and the candidates.

It's an unfortunate fact that only a small minority of registered voters vote in our local elections while the policies and decisions of our local officials substantially affect the quality of life in our neighborhoods. Please consider voting on Jun 20.

Valley Brook Dr Traffic Concerns: A discussion of concerns about traffic on Valley Brook morphed into a discussion of concerns re other roads as well, including Devon, Rose, Holloman and Slade Run. A resolution to summarize the issues and engage FCDOT for recommendations re resolution was adopted by the meeting. The Board is organizing a survey of association members to better identify the hot spots prior to engaging FCDOT. A number of people have offered to be involved and the Board will be happy to accept the offers.

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 spring meeting.

Clyde Miller

HRVCA Board:

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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.files.wordpress.com/2023/02/58fc6-hot_sheet_2022_0607.pdf

[HRVCA blog](#)

- <http://holmesrun.org>.

[Annandale blog for community news](#)

- <https://annandaletoday.com>

[Neighborhood message network](#)

- <http://nextdoor.com>

[Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross](#)

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

- mason@fairfaxcounty.gov