



2023 Fall Meeting Results

13 Jan 2024

On 13 Dec HRVCA members held our fall meeting from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the cafeteria of Beech Tree Elementary School. Topics discussed included:

- Treasurer’s report and dues solicitation
- Crime report
- New HRVCA initiatives/activities
- Election of directors
- Results of our traffic safety survey

Twenty-six members participated in the meeting. The meeting [slides](#) are available online.

Treasurer’s Report and Dues Solicitation: The year 2023 was the first time in a number of years that the association has asked members to pay dues (\$10 per household). Our bank balance was running low. The dues collection was agreed upon in our 2023 spring meeting, and several members contributed their \$10 at that time. The 6 Dec email sent to our 257-member Google Group affirming the 13 Dec fall meeting date noted that dues would be collected in the fall meeting and provided the following description of alternative means for paying dues before or after the meeting.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ASSOCIATION BY MAILING A CHECK TO:

Holmes Run Valley Citizens Association
c/o Michael Paup, Treasurer
3350 Rose Lane
Falls Church, Va. 22042

If instead you wish to pay online via Zelle (available at most banks), please direct your payment to: dueshrvca@gmail.com.

If you wish to pay online via Venmo, direct your payment to: dueshrvca@gmail.com.

If paying online, please be sure to include your residence address and (optionally) your name and email address) with your payment for our records.

If paying by mail, please use the stub at the bottom of this form to provide your residence address and (optionally) your name and email address.

If you are among those who have already paid this year’s dues, thank you and please ignore this request.

2023 HRVCA ANNUAL DUES \$ 10.00 _____

Name _____

Address _____ Email _____

Mike Paup reported that we had \$560.38 in the bank as of 13 Dec, including \$160 dues collected from members in the spring meeting. Expenses since the spring meeting thru 13 Dec were as follows::

- \$96.97: Drinks and snacks at 6 May stream valley clean up.
- \$100.00: Contribution to United Methodist Church for 8 Aug National Night Out celebration.
- \$225.54: Postage and supplies for our traffic safety issues survey.
- \$119.92: Liability insurance for 13 Dec fall meeting.

Year 2023 dues paid to date (9 Jan 2024), including the \$160 paid in the spring meeting, total \$530.00.

Crime Report

In the fall meeting Jim Robinson said that, notwithstanding a [recent increase](#) in crime in Mason District, our neighborhood is blessed with a low incidence of serious crime. Even so, he recommended that residents should be diligent in keeping vehicles and homes locked and should immediately report any suspicious or concerning activity to the Mason Station of the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD). The emergency number of course is 911. The non-emergency number for the Mason Station is 703-691-2131.

The [Annandale Today blog](#) publishes a weekly newsletter that includes a crime report covering the Bailey's Crossroads, Annandale, and Seven Corners areas. The newsletter is an excellent source of information re local events and activities – highly recommended. You can sign up for the newsletter email at the blog link above.

New Initiatives for HRVCA

The following text requesting ideas for new community-building association activities was circulated by Jacke Zeiher at the fall meeting.

Ideas Please for New HRVCA Initiatives

Welcome to all our neighbors! Thank you for participating in the fall citizens' association meeting!

We have many new families in our neighborhood who may have moved in during or shortly before or after the pandemic. The Board of Directors is interested in getting suggestions for new or expanded activities that appeal to membership with the objective of building community.

Current initiatives:

- Spring and fall in-person association meetings
- Hot Sheets of important phone numbers, etc. NEW ONE DUE in the New Year 2024
- Spring Holmes Run Cleanup & Hotdogs at our Rose Lane park entrance
- Nat'l Night Out Ice Cream Social with Mason District Police at Sleepy Hollow United Methodist
- Monthly Community Advisory Committee to engage with our local police --all are welcome!
- Clyde is a member of Mason District Council to keep us aware of county wide issues
- Neighborhood Watch -- See Something, Say Something! 911 or non-emergency 703-691-2131
- Google Group email distribution service to communicate about these activities and more. Unfortunately our Google Group list represents only about 45% of the 600 homes in our association. It would be great to have street reps to help communicate with those who are new and to add them to the Google Group.

We are pleased to have already received a few great suggestions for new initiatives:

- Rachel recommended a shared source to find baby sitters and pet sitters.
- Bobby to form a task force to meet police traffic officer quarterly to represent residents who have access/visibility to traffic violations incurred within our neighborhoods.
- John helps Jacke change out the Rose Lane entrance lamps.
- Gillian and Tina have both offered to create/administer an HRVCA members only Facebook Page.
- Rachel also astutely pointed out we might add some younger folks to the HRVCA Board.

Please contact me or any Board member with your suggestions for new association initiatives. We will follow up with you! THANK YOU! Jacke Zeiher VP/HRVCA jzeiher11@gmail.com 703-244-7072 text.

During the fall meeting, residents made a number of additional suggestions for new initiatives:

- Provide babysitting services at our semi-annual member meetings so parents can attend.
- Encourage members to write the county asking for continued vacuum leaf collection service.
- Neighborhood cookout/pumpkin carving/chili pot luck events.
- Community get togethers, e.g. cocktail nights/happy hours.
- Tool lending, e.g. garden tools, etc.
- Use Slack as an alternative to Google.
- Hybrid semi-annual meetings, i.e. in-person plus virtual (Zoom/Microsoft Teams).

If you have suggestions for new HRVCA activities that you believe would appeal to members, please send your email to Jacke at jzeiher11@gmail.com. Thank you.

Annual Election of Directors

The 6 Dec email sent to members via the Google Group asked members interested in serving on the Board of Directors to please contact Clyde Miller via email. In addition, prior to the election during the fall meeting, members were invited to express their interest in joining the board. In both cases, no one stated an interest in joining. The current board therefore agreed to continue in their current roles for another year and were re-elected unanimously.

Results of Traffic Safety Issues Survey

In our 12 Apr spring meeting members agreed that HRVCA should develop a better understanding of our traffic safety issues and the means by which they can be addressed. In response to this objective, the board undertook a six-month traffic survey and met with representatives of FCPD, Fairfax County DOT (FCDOT), and Mason District Supervisor Penny Gross's office. The [slides](#) prepared for the fall meeting provided a thorough description of the survey process and conclusions as well as the program now underway to mitigate traffic safety issues. Residents interested in the details, please refer to the slides. The following paragraphs provide a brief summary. Any questions, please send email to Clyde Miller, cmiller3436@gmail.com.

The board prepared an [online survey](#) and, on 21 Jul, asked every one of the 320 households located on the eight principal streets by which traffic enters and exits the community to take the survey. Eighty-seven residents responded. On 9 Sep the board published its [analysis](#) of survey results. Following discussions with FCPD, FCDOT, and the supervisor's office, the board concluded that roadside signs on the eight principal streets announcing an additional \$200 fine for speeding plus watch-for-children signs have a potential for reducing speeding. Consequently, on 29 Nov the board emailed a [request](#) for the signs to the Supervisor Penny Gross's office. On 11 Dec she [responded](#) thru her representative, Clara Pizana, that our request had been forwarded to Fairfax County DOT. FCDOT now will decide which of the eight streets qualify for the additional signage and where the signs will be placed. Installation could begin as soon as late Feb.

During discussions with Clara Pizana the board submitted a number of questions concerning stop signs and crosswalks that required information from Virginia DOT. VDOT's [response](#) to the questions was received on 27 Dec. Principal takeaways:

- Skyview Terrace intersection with Valley Brook Dr: The board had asked whether a traffic mirror could be installed to help drivers and pedestrians exiting Skyview (south) see traffic coming up the hill from Rose Lane. VDOT (and FCDOT) responded that they do not install traffic mirrors. Moreover, VDOT is unlikely to allow a private traffic mirror in the VDOT right of way, and the county zoning ordinance may not allow a traffic mirror on a post to be installed in a front yard. Not encouraging. A next step among any interested in pursuing the subject perhaps would be to purchase an inexpensive traffic mirror to see where it would need to be located in order to be helpful.
- Four-way stop signs at the intersection of Devon (south) and Valley Brook Dr: The board had asked whether a four-way stop could be installed in order to improve safety. Two accidents have occurred in the intersection within the past several years. VDOT responded that traffic volume in the intersection is insufficient to qualify for a four-way stop. In addition, accident history over the past three years does not indicate a need for the two additional stop signs.
- Stop bars: Stop bars are broad white lines painted across travel lanes at stop signs. They serve to make the requirement to stop at the stop sign more conspicuous. Several intersections in the neighborhood have stop signs without associated stop bars. The board asked whether stop bars could be added. VDOT responded that our intersections without stop bars meet current Virginia standards (which are based on federal standards) with one exception. VDOT will add a stop bar on Kennedy at its intersection with Holloman.

As mentioned above, during the survey activity the board met with FCPD, in particular, with Captain Patrick Bruschi, commander of the Mason Station. Our objective was to tell him about our traffic safety survey and ask about prospects for FCPD presence and traffic monitoring. As a result, Capt. Busch increased traffic monitoring in our community somewhat as resources permit, and board members now routinely attend the monthly Community Advisory Committee meetings hosted by Mason Station as a means for engaging residents in the effort to reduce crime and increase neighborhood safety and security. The board believes that effective collaboration with the Captain and FCPD is essential for mitigating our traffic safety issues.

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

[HRVCA blog](#)

- <http://holmesrun.org>.

[Annandale blog for community news](#)

- <https://annandaletoday.com>

[Public neighborhood message network](#)

- <http://nextdoor.com>

[Mason District Supervisor Andres Jemenez](#)

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

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