

Spring Bank Community Association

Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2015

7:30 PM

Groveton Baptist Church, East Hall

Next meeting:

Tuesday, June 16, 2015, 7:30 PM, Groveton Baptist Church

I. Opening - President Joshua Delmonico

7:38 – Meeting is called to order.

Meeting Minutes from April meeting approved.

Treasurer report: balance of \$2455.76 before newsletter printing expense of ~\$230.

II. Community updates

7:40

- Communication: The first Spring Bank News newsletter was completed. Thanks to all that contributed and helped distribute it.
 - Updates to newsletter: Martin Tillett presented a correction to “Spring Bank in the Civil War”. The Quander family wanted to clarify that Charles Henry Quander did not sell fresh food and produce. Instead he traded the food and produce for reading lessons, which were later useful to be able to read the Emancipation Proclamation.
 - Follow the Google group for addresses for First Friday locations.
- Social: See the newsletter, website, or Google group for First Friday events. The next is June 5 at the Tillett House.
- There is a proposal to sell items (t-shirts, mugs, tote bags, etc) with a Spring Bank logo or theme. Joshua Delmonico to investigate options. A suggestion was made to use fluorescent or bright colors for visibility.
- Kings Crossing development: Developer is working contract issues with property owner. The developer plans to give a presentation at the June 16 Community Association meeting.
- Fairchild Property:
 - Students from West Potomac performed community service by removing trash. There will be future clean-up efforts, please watch the Google group for more info.
 - Martin Tillett has been obtaining signatures for a petition requesting that the move forward in developing a park. Had 437 signatures at last count.
 - Asked the MVCCA E&R committee for a resolution on a park, this will be considered at next committee meeting. If approved, will move to full MVCCA in a future meeting.
- Property assessments: Initial data shows the majority of properties in the neighborhood had assessment values increase at least 7.4%, some exceptions were Belle Haven Meadows Ct. and portions of Dawn Dr.

III. Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Mt Vernon District Candidates – Primary Election June 9, 2015 for Delegate and County Supervisor

8:00: The association invited the candidates for Mt Vernon District Supervisor of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to speak to the community Association. All candidates were also given an opportunity to tour the Fairchild Property with Martin Tillett.

The Democratic nominee will be determined in the Tuesday, June 9, 2015 primary election (<http://elections.virginia.gov/index.php/casting-a-ballot/candidate-list/>) and were in attendance to speak. Note: an invitation was also extended to Republican nominee Jane Gandee (<http://www.janegandee.com/>), the for the Tuesday, Nov 3, 2015 election, but she was unable to attend due to a prior engagement.

- Democratic Party Candidates for June 9 primary election (in alphabetical order):
 - Candice Bennett - <http://www.electcandicebennett.com/>
 - Jack Dobbyn - <http://www.jackdobbyn.com/>
 - Tim Sargeant - <http://www.timsargeant.com/>
 - Dan Storck - <http://www.danstorck.org/>
- Each candidate was given 4 minutes to speak, and candidates spoke in alphabetical order.
 - Bennett: Spoke about being a small business owner and community volunteer, as well as need to balance growth with other needs of the community. Included focus on transportation and education.
 - Dobbyn: Spoke to time as a lifetime Mt Vernon resident with priorities in elder care, school accreditation, predatory lending, and transportation.
 - Sargeant: Spoke of accomplishments as Fairfax County Planning Commissioner, as well as need to determine what sort of community is desired in order to move there. Included focus on economic renewal, transportation, and education.
 - Storck: Spoke of accomplishments as a Fairfax County School Board Member, and how skills from School Board and relationships with County Board members developed in that position would be beneficial to county supervisor.
- Questions were taken from the audience; each candidate was given 2 minutes to respond. First to answer was rotated for each question.
 - How would you determine what to compromise to get your priorities?
 - Storck: Spoke to need to spend money correctly, reduce duplication and manage budgets.
 - Sargeant: Spoke to need to maintain relationships, become more efficient, break down silos, and collaborate.
 - Dobbyn: Spoke to need to look at corporate welfare in county and pursue programs with a high return on investment.
 - Bennett: Spoke to need for business review, reducing overlap and silos, and to focus on Rt 1 to spur growth.
 - How to balance pressures between economically disparate parts of the District?
 - Dobbyn: Spoke to need to focus improvements on underrepresented areas and to build coalitions.
 - Bennett: Spoke to familiarity with struggles in the economy, and to determine the challenges that different areas face.
 - Storck: Spoke to need for needs based staffing, and ability to find votes on the board for priorities, as well as understanding community priorities.
 - Sargeant: Spoke to need for building community consensus to spur community action, and ability to work with other board members.

- How to get Route 1 corridor development moving as a priority for the County?
 - Sargeant: Spoke to need to develop Rt 1 as a key to development for the entire Mt Vernon district.
 - Storck: Spoke to how investment drives growth and public investment spurs private investment, as well as need to lobby state government to invest in the district.
 - Bennett: Spoke to desire to fight for neglected development to be addressed.
 - Dobbyn: Spoke to need for new people involved in local government, and that opponents do not seem to own up to shortcomings in previous positions.
 - Note: Candidates Sargeant and Storck were each given 30 seconds for rebuttal of Dobbyn's statement.
 - Sargeant spoke to variety of experience as Planning Commissioner.
 - Storck spoke to experience meeting complex challenges as School Board Member.
- Each candidate was given 1 minute to make closing remarks, in same order as opening remarks
 - Bennett: Spoke to volunteer history with Jr. League, and a passion to be an advocate for the community.
 - Dobbyn: Spoke to passion for community and ability to obtain necessary votes from other Board members.
 - Sargeant: Spoke to his history of community leadership and success.
 - Storck: Spoke to preparedness to take Supervisor role day one due to skills as School Board member.
- The community association thanks the candidates for their time, and hopes to work with whichever candidate takes office to address community needs. Candidates were invited to spend some time after the meeting to talk with those in attendance.

IV. Adjournment – 9:05 PM

V. Next meeting – June 16

Possible agenda items include:

- Cafritz developers
- Property Tax issues

JN