



Mount Vernon  
Council  
of Citizens'  
Associations

# Record

Volume XLIII, No. 1, January 2011

## Save the Date

### MVCCA Annual Gala

Saturday, April 9, 2011  
Laurel Hill Golf Club  
6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

See attached nomination forms for *Mount Vernon Citizen of the Year, Organization of the Year and Student of the Year* in this edition of the Record and at [www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org).

## Announcements

The MVCCA Co-Chairs have reappointed all of the current Committee Chairs to serve in 2011.

Budget and Finance	David Voorhees
Consumer Affairs	Queenie Cox
Education	Judy Harbeck
Environment and Recreation	Betsy Martin
Health and Human Services	Louise Cleveland
Planning & Zoning	David Dale
Public Safety	Dallas Shawkey
Transportation	Catherine Voorhees
Record Editor	<i>Vacant</i> Karen Keefer (acting)
Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations	Karen Pohorylo
Southeast Fairfax Development Corp.	Karen Pohorylo
Special Committee on Affordable and Workforce Housing	John Jeszszsky
Long Range Strategic Planning	Kahan Dhillon

### MVCCA BOARD

Co-Chairs	Al Bornmann .....	703-360-5964
	David Plummer.....	703-360-7964
	Robert Reynolds .....	703-439-7490
Treasurer	Brenda Hebert.....	703-615-3947
Secretary	Carol Coyle .....	703-780-7955
Editor	<i>vacant</i> .....	
BUDG	David Voorhees.....	703-765-7551
COAF	Queenie Cox .....	703-360-2414
EDUC	Judy Harbeck .....	703-780-1883
E&R	Betsy Martin .....	703-360-0691
H/HS	Louise Cleveland.....	703-780-9151
PL/Z	David Dale .....	703-765-8247
PSAF	Dallas Shawkey.....	703-360-2185
TRANS	Catherine Voorhees .....	703-765-7551
SCAWH	John Jeszszsky.....	703-799-9635
LRSP	Kahan Dhillon .....	703-768-8437
FCFCA	Karen Pohorylo .....	703-780-7825
SFDC	Karen Pohorylo .....	703-780-7825

Webmaster Karen Keefer ..... 703-660-6699

## Save the Date

### Mount Vernon's 24th Annual Town Meeting

Saturday, February 5, 2011  
7:45 AM-1:00 PM

Mount Vernon High School "Little Theatre"  
8515 Old Mount Vernon Road

# Council Minutes

## MVCCA COUNCIL MEETING

8 p.m.

Walt Whitman School, Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

**PRESIDING:** Co-chair Bob Reynolds.

**ATTENDING:** Co-chairs Al Bornmann, David Plummer, Bob Reynolds; Committee Chairs Jphn Jeszensky, Judy Harbeck, Betsy Martin, Catherine Voorhees, David Voorhees; Treasurer Brenda Hebert; Secretary Carol Coyle.

Representatiaves from: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hall, Hollin Hills, Hollin Glen, Mason Hill, Middle Valley, Mount Vernon Civic, Mount Vernon Manor, Newington Forest, River Towers, Southwood, Spring Bank, Stratford Landing, Stratford on the Potomac IV, Waynewood, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor North, Woodley Hills, Woodley Hills Estates.

**MINUTES** – Approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Accepted. Council Budget for 2011 was presented. Approved 21-0-0.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Budget and Finance** – See minutes. County Budget will be presented January 17.

**Consumer Affairs** – See minutes.

**Education** – See minutes.

**Environment and Recreation** – Earth Day is April 23; Committee is working on plans to celebrate with an Eco-Tour of the Mount Vernon District.

**Health and Human Services** – See minutes.

**Planning and Zoning** – See minutes.

**Public Safety** – See minutes.

**Transportation** – See minutes.

**Special Committee on Long-Range Strategic Planning** – Katherine Ward reports that there will be a written analysis of (things learned on) the Listening Tours.

**Affordable and Workforce Housing** – John reports that attendance was up. See minutes. Fairfax County Housing Commission will report on recommendations for the Board of Supervisors on the Housing Blueprint. In 2011, North Hill is their #2 priority.

## CO-CHAIR' REPORT

Need to get forms out for the Gala since it is a month early this year.

Associations need to re-up and appoint reps to all committees. "Smitty's" plans are moving forward.

## RESOLUTIONS

### E&R 2010 - PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT AT NORTH HILL SITE

Discussion included the current status of the project --- "approved subject to funding." Amendment to change the resolve to "support" and "strongly encourage" the guidelines of the E&R committee was defeated, 9-11-1. Resolution Approved 12-8-1.

## SUPERVISOR'S TIME

Gerry advises that the County can't renege on a promise; North Hill has been in the works for 30 years (and is the cause that brought him into politics).

— Carol Coyle, Secretary

### Treasurer's Report January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

	<u>Receipts/</u> <u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
<b>Beginning balance Jan. 1, 2010</b>	<b>\$ 11,219.16</b>		
<b>Receipts</b>			
Dues-Current Members	3,804.00	4,000.00	(196.00)
Dues—New Members	138.00	200.00	(62.00)
Gala Income	2,785.00	4,100.00	(1,315.00)
MM Interest Income	1.72		
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 6,728.72</b>	<b>\$ 8,300.00</b>	<b>\$ (1,573.00)</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>			
Record Production	1,505.00	2,200.00	(695.00)
Administrative Exp	80.73	500.00	(419.27)
Gala Expenses	3,809.71	3,200.00	609.71
Web Site	425.59	600.00	(174.41)
New Member Mkt/Town Hall Mtg	174.17	200.00	(25.83)
Insurance	660.00	700.00	(40.00)
Strategic Planning Meetings	-	-	-
Student of the Year Stipends	951.75	900.00	51.75
Membership Meeting Exp	100.00	-	100.00
Training	45.00	-	45.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$ 7,751.95</b>	<b>\$ 8,300.00</b>	<b>\$ (548.05)</b>
<b>Ending Balance November 30, 2010</b>	<b>\$ 10,195.93</b>		
Wachovia Checking acct bal	\$ 5,194.21		
Wachovia Money Market bal	5,001.72		*Money Market acct. opened 4/26/10.
<b>Total Money Available</b>	<b>\$ 10,195.93</b>		

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# Committee Reports

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## BUDGET AND FINANCE

Minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, January 5, 2011 at 7:30 pm  
Walt Whitman Middle School Principal's Conference Room

Present: David Voorhees (Committee Chair), Hollin Hall Village, Stratford Landing, Southwood.

The meeting reviewed reports from budget meetings from various magisterial districts in the county.

County Executive Tony Griffin has accepted our invitation to speak to the Budget and Finance Committee meeting on February 24, 2011. The County executive releases the Advertised Budget on February 22, 2011.

The next Budget and Finance committee meeting will be held February 2, 2011 at 7:30 at the principal's conference room at Walt Whitman Middle School. We will have speaker from the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority.

## CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The Consumer Affairs committee held its first teleconference meeting on Tuesday, January 4th at 7:30 p.m. The use of teleconference is an alternative to the costly webinar. Those who participated stated that the sound was clear and would like to have the February meeting via teleconference. However, the participants did request any documents that may be used during the discussion to be sent electronically in advance. It makes it easier to follow the discussion. Based on a request from a member association we discussed how to track your magazine subscriptions and cancelling magazine subscriptions.

Here are the links to the two topics of discussion during the January 4th Consumer Affairs meeting:

Link to FTC consumer information sheet on cancelling magazine subscriptions

<http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/telemarketing/tel03.shtm>

Link to How to track your magazine subscriptions

<http://www.wikihow.com/Manage-Your-Magazine-Subscriptions>

For the February meeting, the participants suggested sending the teleconference information via the Council's listserv in order to reach out to member association.

The next meeting will be held via teleconference on Tuesday, February 1st at 7:30 p.m. Topic: Consumer Tips

## EDUCATION

The Education Committee met at 8pm on January 5, 2011, in the library at Whitman Middle School. Associations represented were: Wessynton, Stratford on the Potomac, Newington Forest, Wayneswood, Stratford Landing, Hollin Hall, Potomac Valley/Riverbend, Riverside Estates and Woodley Hills-Mount Vernon Farms. Co-chair Al Bornmann also attended.

The Committee discussed a variety of issues related to the upcoming FY2012 budget process and other topics of interest for consideration at future meetings.

Because the Superintendent's Proposed Budget was not to be released until the day following the meeting and School Board public hearings will take place prior to the next Council meeting, a formal resolution was not possible. However, enough was known about the likely contents to permit the Committee to take general positions and to direct the Chair to provide testimony to the School Board.

In that light, although the Committee is very concerned about class size increases which have taken place over the last few budgets, given that teachers have seen neither a cost of living adjustment nor step increase for two years, some raise in teacher compensation was viewed as critical. Quality, motivated and effective teaching staff is the key to student performance and the Committee noted that morale and effectiveness suffer when compensation stagnates even as workload and expectations increase. Moreover, a high percentage of teachers (often those considered the best and most effective) have actually lost significant income by cuts to summer school, after school programs, and the elimination of Project Excel and 11-month contracts. Most teachers are also dipping further into personal funds for supplies and equipment unavailable due to cuts in those areas.

Funding for the new Priority Schools Program (PSP) was also of concern. In general, the Committee supports the program in that it does some things the Committee has advocated for years, such as bringing central staff into struggling schools on a proactive basis to provide direct assistance and assume accountability and ownership for the improvement of instruction and school performance. However, it should have been implemented as a supplement to, not a replacement for, the additional resources and staff provided under Project Excel, Focus and other programs. The funding provided goes, not to direct instruction, but primarily to training programs for principals which may or may not effectively address school improvement. In addition to raising Committee concerns in testimony, the Chair was asked to set up, for a subsequent meeting, a discussion with principals and Cluster staff on the efficacy of the training and the central office assistance under the PSP.

The Committee noted that, while charging fees for AP, IB and athletic/activity participation remain in the budget, the School

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## Committee Reports

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### ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION

Board is creating a foundation to solicit funds and grants which could be used to pay those fees, and provide other assistance to disadvantaged students and schools. While this could be a positive step, the Committee remains very concerned about the many barriers that exist to the full participation and “connectedness” of students which is known to be a critical factor in student achievement and school climate. These particularly impact middle class families whose income may be well above poverty levels but find it difficult (especially in these trying financial times) to come up with hundreds of dollars in fees. These students and parents will find it embarrassing to ask for help (even if it exists) and will end up limiting participation.

Other barriers, which affect many students, include high admission fees to school events (and many parents cannot even watch their child play or perform as a result), hidden costs of band and other activities, senior fees and the like. Resultant low attendance and participation not only detract from school “spirit” but fuel the vicious cycle where disadvantaged schools also suffer from low funds for uniforms, activity supplies, funds for drama productions and band scholarships since these funds are significantly derived from ticket and similar sales.

A perhaps unanticipated consequence of AP, IB and activity/athletic fees is the burden it places on already overworked staff, coaches and sponsors to collect and record fees and chase down those who are in arrears. While some families would be better served by spreading out fees in a payment plan, there is no mechanism to do this, other than further overburdening staff, and no means of dealing with students who at the end have not fully paid: Are they refused graduation? Are games forfeited? IB accreditation risked by denying exams? Perhaps we need a new, dedicated staff position for this task which may cost more than the fees generate.

The Committee also discussed briefly Supervisor Hyland’s Visioning Task Force and expressed interest in discussing the final product and the discussions and ideas of the Task Force Education Committee with its Chair.

Another topic for possible future examination was the school lunch program in view of changes to federal requirements and funding. Concerns about issues of childhood obesity have also led to some perhaps counter-productive reactions such as banning chocolate milk with the result that more students choose, not white milk, but sugary “juice”.

Next meeting: 8pm, Wednesday, February 2, 2011, Whitman Middle School.

The committee met on 5 January 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in room 3, Mount Vernon Government Center. Present were Betsy Martin (chair), Dave Plummer (MVCCA co-chair), Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon Civic, River Towers Condo, Riverside Estates, Stratford Landing, Tauxemont, Wessynton, Williamsburg Manor, Woodlawn Manor, and Woodley Hills. About 30 members of the Pumphouse Association for Canine Kindness (PACK) and others also attended.

**Watershed Planning:** Fred Rose, the county’s Chief of Watershed Planning and Assessment, gave an update on watershed plans and explained the process by which they were developed and will be implemented. Fairfax County assessed stream quality beginning in 1999. Then, 70 percent of streams were impaired; today, 80 percent are impaired. The county formed advisory committees and hired contractors to develop cleanup plans for its 30 watersheds. The first plan to be completed, for Little Hunting Creek, was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in 2005. The Board of Supervisors will consider the Belle Haven and Dogue Creek plans on January 11, Lower Occoquan on January 25 and the last of the plans, Accotink, will go to the Board of Supervisors for approval on February 8.

The plans propose 1,672 10- and 25- year structural projects costing around \$700 million and addressing hydrology, habitat, stream water quality, drinking water quality, and stewardship. Typical projects are culvert retrofits, buffer restoration, stream restoration, bio-swales, rain gardens, and rain barrels.

Rose reported that projects are to be prioritized according to pollutant load, sequencing (upstream projects will be done first), location within a priority subwatershed, and the county’s ability to implement them. Final selection is based on cost benefit analysis.

The plans also include 300 policy recommendations/actions, which have been categorized but not yet been acted on, for the most part. Land use policy recommendations must go through the Planning Commission. Some have been adopted, such as including Low Impact Development (LID) practices in the Public Facilities Manual.

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency’s recent Chesapeake Bay restoration plan, known as a TMDL (total maximum daily load), will add new cleanup requirements. Rose called the county’s efforts a “head start.”

When asked about funding, Rose reported that Fairfax County homeowners now pay 1.5 cents per \$100 assessed real estate value, a rate that generated \$30 million in 2010. This covers all stormwater activities, and about \$5 million of it was spent on projects. In future, the rate may go up to 15 cents per \$100 to implement watershed improvements. In response to a question about whether the county was getting more cooperation from VDOT, Rose reported that communications seem to be improving,

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## Committee Reports

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and some new VDOT staff are more responsive about stormwater problems caused by construction of HOT lanes for the Beltway.

**Proposed interim use of Westgrove Park as an off-leash dog area.** Steve Nixon, President of the PACK, presented his group's proposal that Westgrove Park be designated for interim use as an off-leash dog area, as provided in County Code Section 41.1-2-4<sup>1</sup>, pending the completion of the park master planning process.

PACK has been using the park for this purpose for several years, but Fairfax County animal control officers recently began ticketing them for violations of the leash ordinance. They want to use the entire 22 acre park as an off-leash dog area, relying on the perimeter fence to keep dogs in. He said that owners and dogs mostly stay in the central, cleared area. He raised objections to the FCPA's standards for dog parks, including the requirements that they be fenced (he noted that Alexandria has a number of unfenced dog parks) and that the surface be 4" of stone dust. He pointed out that dog owners are avid park users, and that dog walking is by far the most frequent activity in Fairfax County parks, according to FCPA's own analysis. Dogs need to run and exercise off-leash, yet the Mount Vernon district has only one officially designated dog park (Grist Mill), compared with 18 dog parks in Alexandria, 13 of which are unfenced. Grist Mill dog park is a half hour's drive away (during rush hour when many people like to exercise their dogs after getting home from work), so it is neither practical nor environmentally friendly for use by residents in the northern part of the district. He noted that off-leash dog parks are the highest unmet need in the park system, according to the FCPA's needs assessment. Nixon proposed that dog owners would park at the RECenter and Martha Washington library and walk to Westgrove Park by following the trail on the west side of Fort Hunt Road, then cross Fort Hunt Road to enter the park. He said that plastic bags are provided on-site, and dog owners are vigilant about cleaning up after their pets. He rejected the notion that there would be any adverse environmental effects from this use, or that wildlife would be disrupted by the dogs' activities.

Committee members asked questions and raised concerns. One rejected the notion that an off-leash dog area could be safe without a fence, and recalled witnessing the destruction of a dog on Route 50 after it escaped from a dog park. He also noted that the perimeter fence is in disrepair, with sections missing or with gaps where dogs could escape under or over the fence. Nixon believes the gaps in the fence could be easily repaired and the committee member agreed. Another raised concerns about possible adverse impacts on the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, which is downstream of Westgrove Park, pointing out that increased infrastructure on the property will increase stormwater runoff, pollution, sediment and trash flowing into the preserve. In addition, this project represents one more example of park and county land use planning that does not consider the cumulative impacts of development in what is already a highly developed watershed. Nixon pointed out that PACK seeks no additional infrastructure or development of the

property and prefers the park to stay as is in keeping with interests of Dyke Marsh. Others pointed out that parts of Westgrove Park are within the Resource Protection Area that buffers a perennial stream flowing through the park<sup>2</sup>; FCPA guidelines say that dog parks should not be located in an RPA. Nixon pointed out that dogs are already allowed throughout the park, and that PACK is not seeking any construction or infrastructure that would impinge on the RPA. One member asked Nixon if he was aware that a dog park was to be built in Lenclair Park. He was, and it was welcome, but he pointed out it is in Lee District. Other members expressed sympathy with the dog owners' experiences and frustration. A committee member passed around copies of a draft resolution that had been prepared by unknown parties for the committee's consideration.

The meeting was opened to public comments, and a number of dog park proponents spoke in favor of the proposal. They lovingly described the community they had created through their informal use of the park, and how it served as a welcome refuge and gathering place for families and dogs. They spoke of their enjoyment of the natural beauty of the park, and their care to be sure it is kept picked up. They complained about what they said was intimidating treatment by animal control officers. They said the police told them there had been no complaints. They said that because of the ticketing, people had shifted to walking their dogs in Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, with possibly detrimental effects. They liked it the way it was, and they want to keep using the park in the same way, with immunity from prosecution by the animal control officers. One meeting attendee asserted that the Park Authority routinely grants interim uses of parks, and reported that a park in Dranesville was used to park school buses on an interim basis, a more environmentally damaging use than a temporary dog park. He also said that the RPA issue was a red herring, because dogs were already in the park. Another participant explained that PACK seeks interim Off Leash Dog Area (OLDA) (as provided in section 41 of county code) status for Westgrove Park, not creation of a "dog park" as defined in the FCPA guidelines<sup>3</sup>. A committee member said that if PACK objects to the FCPA standards for dog parks, they should take their objections to the FCPA.

The meeting adjourned about 10. The next committee meeting is 7 p.m., February 2, room 3, Mount Vernon Government Center, Parkers Lane. Sandy Stallman will brief the committee on North Hill park planning.

<sup>1</sup> (a) No dog shall run unrestricted, as defined in Section 41.1-1-1, in the County. Any person who is the owner of a dog found unrestricted in the County shall be in violation of this Section. This Section shall not apply to any person who uses a dog under his direct supervision while lawfully hunting, while engaged in a supervised formal obedience training class or show, during formally sanctioned field trials, while a dog is in an area owned, leased, controlled, or operated by Fairfax County designated by resolution of the Board of Supervisors as an off-leash dog exercise area, or while a dog is in an area owned, leased, controlled, or operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority and designated by resolution of the Fairfax County Park Authority as an off-leash or dog



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## Committee Reports

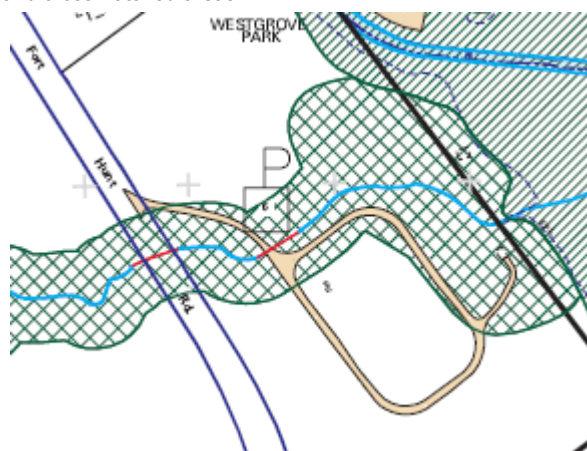
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exercise area, or while a dog is in an area, leased, controlled, or operated by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority and designated by resolution of the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority Board as an off-leash or dog exercise area. It is a violation of this Section for any owner of a dog to place such dog or allow it to be placed into custody of any person not physically capable of maintaining effective control of restricting such dog.

(b) Any dog found unrestricted in violation of subsection (a) shall be impounded, except that if the rightful owner of the dog can be immediately ascertained and located, then that owner shall be allowed to have custody of the animal, but shall be subject to issuance of a summons for violation of this Section. (26-04-41.1.)

<sup>2</sup>RPA delineations are shown on the Chesapeake Bay map by hatched and cross-hatched areas:



<sup>3</sup>OLDA and dog park are the same thing, according to FCPA.

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### HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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The Committee, as announced in the December Report, did not meet Jan. 4. Instead, members who were available on Jan. 10 convened with others as part of the Route One Task Force for Human Services, to review draft documents developed for the Supervisor's Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force by its Committees for Human Services and for Housing. Supervisor Gerry Hyland, who requested this review, was present. Convener Anne Andrews welcomed Deputy County Executive for Human Services Pat Harrison and Mount Vernon Representative to the Redevelopment and Housing Authority Elizabeth Lardner, who presented information related to the draft "visioning" issues papers. The meeting provided an opportunity for both general discussion of priorities and for specific questions, clarification, and recommendations for revisions in wording in the draft papers. After further review of the reports from all Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force Committees on Jan. 20, the Visioning Task Force will report at the annual Town Meeting on Feb. 5.

#### HUMAN SERVICES MEETINGS—Jan.-March, 2011

In planning the first quarter of 2011, the committee has agreed that

review of the housing and human services work of the Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force and response to the County Executive's *Advertised Budget Plan for FY 2012* will require additional meetings and important variations from our usual "first Tuesday" meeting schedule. The committee recommends that HHS representatives participate in the public meetings described below. (Some may wish to "team" with an alternate, as needed, especially to review and respond to the FY 2012 budget planning for County support of human services.)

**Saturday, Feb. 5 Mount Vernon Annual Town Meeting** at Mount Vernon High School, 7:45-1 PM. Don't miss the early bazaar of information on local services, the Report from the Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force, and the virtual bus tour.

**Tuesday, Feb. 8 MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee** meets 7:30 PM in the Engh Room at Inova Mount Vernon Hospital to consider service needs and resources in our area, in preparation for publication of the County Executive's proposed *Fairfax County Advertised Budget Plan for FY 2012*, to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2011 (televised on cable public access Channel 16, with documents published immediately after on internet, [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov)).

**Feb. 24-March 1 MVCCA Health and Human Services Committee members plan to participate in three key meetings, in six days, in order to (1) review the proposed Fairfax County FY 2012 Budget Plan for its impact on human services in our area, (2) draft an informed response in the form of a resolution, for committee consideration, and (3) discuss and vote on a Resolution, "Fairfax County FY 2012 Health and Human Services Planning" (to be forwarded to the MVCCA Executive Board on March 10 for approval for publication in the Record and for consideration at the MVCCA General Council meeting on March 23.**

(1) **Thursday, Feb. 24, The Route One Task Force for Human Services convenes at 7 PM** at the South County Center, with Deputy Co. Exec. for Human Services Pat Harrison, to analyze the impact of the budget plan and receive informational materials;

(2) **Saturday morning, Feb. 26, 9 AM-noon, Board Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor) Inova Mount Vernon Hospital. At this Ad hoc HHS Committee meeting**, members will rough out a draft resolution responding to the *Budget Plan*, including any \$ restorations to be recommended;

(3) **Tuesday, March 1, 7:30 PM, the Health and Human Services Committee meets** in the Inova Mount Vernon Hospital Engh Room (2<sup>nd</sup> floor, use Yellow parking and entrance please) to vote on an HHS Resolution, "Fairfax County Health and Human Services Planning for FY 2012."

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### PLANNING & ZONING

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#### Minutes of the January 3, 2011 Planning & Zoning Committee meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 and was attended by representatives from the following member associations: Collingwood Springs, Hollin Hills, Huntington, Huntington Club, Mount Zephyr,

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## Committee Reports

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Newington Forest, Spring Bank, Sulgrave Manor, Wellington, Wellington Heights, Williamsburg Manor North, and Woodlawn Manor. There were no land use presentations and an update on cell phone Distributed Antenna Systems. One resolution was passed.

The Committee heard a quick update from the subcommittee on an alternative to cell phone towers in residential areas called a Distributed Antenna System (DAS). The subcommittee's research has led to the conclusion that in many residential areas, DAS would be a better way of providing cell phone coverage.

The subcommittee presented a resolution with two part resolves: opposition to the cell phone tower proposal at Saint James Episcopal Church (from the December meeting) and recommendation that DAS be considered as an alternative in residential areas. After discussion, the Committee agreed that the resolution should be split into two separate resolutions. The one in opposition to the Saint James location was passed, the one in support of DAS will be considered at the February meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20. The next meeting is Monday, February 7, 2011, at 7:30pm in the Jack Knowles Lecture Hall of Whitman Middle School.

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### PUBLIC SAFETY

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Associations represented: Collingwood on the Potomac, Hollin Hills, Mount Vernon, Mount Zephyr, Riverside Estates, Riverside Gardens, and Waynewood. Co-chair Al Bornmann also attended.

#### Old Business

The chair opened the meeting with a brief review of the progress on the Public Safety Committee of the Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force. That committee reviewed the information that had been given at the two citizen input meetings that were held. It then narrowed the ideas for inclusion in recommendations down to five areas. (The chair will review the five later in the meeting.) The chair discussed the recent letter from Nick Beltrante printed in the Mt Vernon Gazette. In the letter he stated that the Public Safety Committee had accepted the idea of supporting a Citizen Police Review Board and was including that in its recommendations concerning police services. This is not correct. We will include a statement in our recommendations concerning Police Services that: The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Office of the County Executive and the County Attorney's office, in consultation with the Chief of Police, should study whether or not it is necessary to create an independent review broad to address any citizen allegations of police misconduct. The board, if implemented, would report its findings and recommendations to the Chief of Police for consideration.

Copies of the MVCCA Public Safety Committee meeting schedule for 2011 was provided to those that missed last month's meeting.

Copies of School Board member Martina Hone's presentation 'Review of the Fairfax County Public Schools Disciplinary Process' were provided.

#### New Business

The chair provided copies of the five service area recommendations from the Mount Vernon Visioning Task Force Public Safety Committee. The area recommendations are in: Police Services, Fire and Rescue Services/EMS Support, Disaster Planning, Hospital/Medical Access, and Judicial Services. The committee briefly discussed some items that the committee had sent forward resolutions on, particularly the one concerning establishing judicial services at the South County Governmental Center (2003). There was some discussion about pedestrian safety on Richmond Hwy. It was noted that the recommendations do not include discussion about neighborhood watch, CERT training, medical service corps, or fire emergency response teams. As there was insufficient time to do an in depth review, the chair requested that the members send him emails on items they believe should have been included.

The adopted 2011 Fairfax County Preliminary Legislative Program was provided. No significant changes were noted in the public safety positions included in the draft published by the Board of Supervisors. Of interest, it was noted that included is a request that the General Assembly 'initiate/support legislation to make the financial exploitation of an individual suffering from a diminished mental capacity a criminal act, whether the victim is impaired due to advanced age, mental illness, mental retardation, physical illness or disability, or other causes.' Another item is the request for adequate compensation for jail reduced the per diem payment for prisoners from \$8 per day to \$4. The third item is the pay for magistrates. 'From low pay for magistrates and court support staff (leading to a high turnover rate); to the current freeze on judicial vacancies, the courts are feeling the effects of repeated underfunding.' Finally, it was noted again that an important item not included is support for continuation of state funding for the VASAVOR program. This program provides support for prisoners being released after long periods of confinement, e.g., 20 years in prison. It helps them with education, finding a home and job, etc. It has been established in only Fairfax County and Newport News, but it has proven over the last six years to be of great value, in most cases, in keeping released prisoners out of crime and, instead, making a productive life for themselves.

#### February Meeting

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will begin at 7:30 pm Thursday, February 3, 2011 in Community Room #3, Mount Vernon Governmental Center.

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# Committee Reports

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## TRANSPORTATION

The MVCCA Transportation Committee met on Monday, January 3, 2011 in the Library of the Walt Whitman Middle School. Catherine M. Voorhees chaired the meeting. Attending were representatives of 16 member citizen associations (Belle Haven Terrace, The Fairfax, Hollin Hall Village, Huntington, Riverside Gardens, Marlan Forest, Montebello, Mount Vernon Manor, Mount Vernon on the Potomac, Mount Vernon Terrace, Mount Zephyr, Stratford Landing, Southwood, Waynewood, Wellington Heights, Wessynton).

The December 2010 minutes of the Transportation Committee, as written in the Record were approved.

Happy New Year!

### Proposed Costco

The attorney and the transportation engineer for the proposed Costco on US Route 1 next to the Wal-Mart will be attending our February 7, 2011 meeting. There was a brief discussion of areas in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District that may be impacted by additional traffic at the Sherwood Hall Lane/US Route 1 intersections area. VDOT has provided Costco with their recommendations and it was suggested that we might want to invite a VDOT representative to the meeting to hear VDOT reasons for their recommendations. The chair is following up on inviting a VDOT representative. If civic associations/residents have concerns about increased traffic and the access to their homes, please attend our February 7, 2011 meeting.

### Visioning Task Force, Transportation Committee Draft

The committee was provided with a draft of the issues that the Visioning Task Force, Transportation Committee (VTF,TC) generated so that the transportation committee of the MVCCA had an opportunity to provide input to the VTF, TC. The committee believes that the main issue is funding of our transportation infrastructure. Without money, nothing will be built or maintained. Thus, on the issue of funding, three ideas were expressed: 1) Make Transportation Funding a Priority! 2) Adopt a Transportation Impact Fee on new development, which includes "by-right" development so that both commercial and residential developers pay a reasonable amount of the cost for road improvements that benefit the new development (The Virginia Assembly authorized the transportation impact fee in 2000). 3) Redistribute revenue that is already collected to provide funding for transportation infrastructure.

If the Commonwealth had made transportation funding a priority, sufficient funding to expand and modernize our transportation infrastructure may have been available for both new construction and maintenance. But, unfortunately, the Commonwealth's attempt at dedicated transportation funding failed to index the tax to inflation. While this did not raise taxes in the Commonwealth, it did nothing to help transportation funding.

In 2000, the Virginia General Assembly granted localities (the County) the authority to impose transportation impact fees for new development in order to generate revenue for the cost of reasonable road improvements that benefit the new development. The statute does not qualify "development" so if this transportation impact fee was adopted, there would have been money available to construct dual left turn lanes at the King Crossing Wal-Mart alleviating the congestion at that area. While at this point in time, only one locality (Stafford County) had created and imposed transportation impact fees, Stafford County has widened its 2-lane US Route 1 to a wide 4-lane highway as more development occurs north of Fredericksburg (perhaps, residences for BRAC employees). Thus, U.S. Route 1 in Stafford County was widened to a 6-lane ROW and development has not abandoned Stafford County. Consequently, the transportation impact fee is a good mechanism to fund existing roads as our area is redeveloped.

Another mechanism to increase transportation funding would be to redistribute how the Commonwealth distributes revenue in the general fund so that our limited resources are spent on functions that are necessary (i.e., transportation infrastructure). While this might mean that relatively new departments/functions that were created when the economy was booming would receive less, now that state and local revenues have shrunk, it would seem that those newly created staff and functions are absorbing resources that should be redirected to transportation infrastructure that is essential for the future economic success of our state and county.

In order to realize the economic potential of the U.S. Route 1 corridor, priority should also be given to development projects that recognize the transportation issues on U.S. Route 1 and include in their plans traffic enhancement and congestion mitigation features. According to VDOT's study of U.S. Route 29 from the North Carolina border to I-66 (Prince William County), "strip development, the proliferation of driveways and traffic signals, and the overloading of traffic on a single roadway are all symptoms of a past approach that has emphasized exploitation rather than management an important north-south transportation corridor. This trend cannot be allowed to continue. It's time to move forward, building upon the consensus reached during this study that land use and transportation planning should tie together to support the roadway's functionality."

That is, transportation and land-use issues must be handled jointly. Another section of the VDOT Route 29 paper stated that strip malls with individual entrances and exits were bogging down traffic. Thus, U.S. Route 1 needs to be revitalized with businesses at nodes as set forth in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. And, as the Mount Vernon Council recommended in a resolution requesting the closure of excessive curb cuts (i.e., the proliferation of driveways) along U.S. Route 1, curb cuts need to be closed because their function does not provide access to shops, but clogs traffic on U.S. Route 1.



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## Committee Reports

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The next Transportation Committee meeting will be Monday, February 7, 2011 at 8pm in the Walt Whitman Middle School Library. Our guest speakers will discuss transportation issues surrounding the proposed Costco at the site of the former Multiplex Theatre on U.S. Route 1.

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### SFDC

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At the Dec. 16, 2010 board meeting, the board voted to keep the MVCCA and the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce seat as a voting member of the board. Each organization will have one voting representative, instead of two, to comply with the SFDC board restructure to reduce its' voting board members. The SFDC will be adding an advisory board for interested organizations or persons to participate in SFDC matters. The advisory board will be non-voting.

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### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AFFORDABLE AND WORKFORCE HOUSING

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December 16, 2010

The Committee was not able to hold a regular monthly meeting on this date since hazardous winter road conditions prevented members from attending. The few members who were able come discussed plans for meetings coming up in the new year.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27, 7:30 pm at the Mount Vernon Government Center Conference Room.

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### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE STRATEGIC PLANNING

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The MVCCA SCLRSP met on January 10th. The Committee post introductions including noting that 2 new members from the Waywood community have joined the Committee began by discussing the progress of the MVCCA Listening Tour. To date the Committee has met with MVCCA member associations and is currently communicating with 20+ MVCCA member organizations relating to setting up Listening Tour stops for the New Year. The Committee further discussed and decided to begin reaching out to other Community organizations and setting up Listening Tour stops.

A member of the Committee whose Community was met with at the end of 2010 was asked to comment on her views of the Listening Tour stop held with her Community. She commented by stating that the Listening Tour stop with her Community was well presented and truly engaged the attendees into the MVCCA's Strategic Plan creation process. Additionally it was felt to be thought provoking and a education for many who may not have been aware of the issues effecting the Community.

The Committee then began discussing the schedule for the upcoming year and how to expedite further outreach and to ensure that every MVCCA member organization is given multiple avenues to learn about the Listening Tour. It was mentioned by members of the Committee that multiple avenues have already been pursued and all MVCCA member organizations should have via at least one avenue heard about the Listening Tour by this point. However the pursuit of continued promotion should continue throughout the process. Therein the Committee decided to begin personally calling MVCCA member organizations members as another avenue of outreach. The list of MVCCA member organizations was split up and divided amongst Committee members for outreach.

The next meeting of Committee will take place on February 14th at 7:30 pm at the Mount Vernon Governmental Center.

\*\*\* If you have any questions about the MVCCA SCLRSP Committees work to date and or would like to schedule a Listening Tour stop for your Community please contact the MVCCA SCLRSP Committee Chair Kahan Dhillon either by e-mail at [ksdjr@regentcompany.com](mailto:ksdjr@regentcompany.com) or by phone at 703-768-8437.\*\*\*

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### FAIRFAX FEDERATION

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The legislative agenda of the Fairfax Federation for 2011 is available for review at [fairfaxfederation.org](http://fairfaxfederation.org).

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# Committee Resolutions

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## PLANNING & ZONING

**P&Z-2011-001:**

**RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED CELL PHONE TOWER DEVELOPMENT AT THE ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

- 1. WHEREAS** T-Mobile Northeast, LLC (hereinafter, "T-Mobile") and the St. James Episcopal Church have submitted three applications to construct a 100 foot cell phone tower at 5614 Old Mill Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22309; and
- 2. WHEREAS** The proposed cell phone tower is in a predominantly residential R-2 zoned neighborhood with the nearest home being less than approximately 250 feet away; and
- 3. WHEREAS** A petition opposing the construction of the cell phone tower was signed by over 150 residents of the Woodlawn Manor Community on all three sides, including all landowners directly adjacent to the site, and many residences located across Route 235 from the proposed tower site; and
- 4. WHEREAS** There may be a reduction of property values for the residences located near the proposed cell phone tower site if the tower is constructed; and
- 5. WHEREAS** The majority of the trees on the proposed site are deciduous and will not provide adequate screening for the tower and the equipment sheds for many months of the year; and
- 6. WHEREAS** T-Mobile has not adequately evaluated alternatives that would be less visually intrusive to the surrounding community, such as nearby Mount Vernon Country Club or a Distributed Antenna System; and
- 7. WHEREAS** The US District Court Eastern District of Virginia has required, pursuant to its recently handed down decision in New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T Mobility v. Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, 1:2010cv00283 that telecommunications carriers, such as T-Mobile, evaluate the Distributed Antenna System alternative technology, as well as, alternative site locations; and

**A. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS** that the Fairfax County Planning Commission, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Board of Zoning Appeals deny the applications filed by T-Mobile & the St. James Episcopal Church's to build a cell phone tower at 5614 Old Mill Road.

**END: MVCCA RESOLUTION P&Z-2011-001**

## 2011 Budget Report

<b>Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations, Inc.</b>						
<b>2011 Budget Report</b>						
					<b>BUDGET FYE</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>
					<b>12/31/2010</b>	<b>BUDGET FYE</b>
					<b>12/31/2011</b>	
<b><u>Receipts</u></b>						
Dues-Current Members					4,000.00	4,000.00
Dues-New members					200.00	200.00
Gala Income					4,100.00	6,000.00
MM Interest Income						
<b>Total Receipts</b>					<b>\$ 8,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,200.00</b>
<b><u>Disbursements</u></b>						
Record Production					2,200.00	1,550.00
Gala Expenses					3,200.00	6,000.00
Insurance					700.00	700.00
Outreach/Town Hall Meet**					-	650.00
Student of the Year Stipends					900.00	600.00
Web Site					600.00	300.00
Administrative Exp					500.00	300.00
Public Safety-Mailings					-	100.00
New Member Marketing-Town Hall Meet					200.00	-
(Budget Line item included above at **)						
Membership Meeting Exp					-	-
Training					-	-
<b>Total Disbursements</b>					<b>8,300.00</b>	<b>10,200.00</b>
<b><i>Cash Balance as of December 31 Carried Forward</i></b>						
<b><i>to New Fiscal Year</i></b>						
					<b>\$10,195.93</b>	

# Mount Vernon District Organization of the Year Nomination

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations presents an annual Mount Vernon District Citizen of the Year award to an organization in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District which has made an outstanding contribution to our community.

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of organization's activities and contributions to the quality of life in Mount Vernon (you may attach additional pages and supporting materials).

Name of Nominating Organization or Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Send nominations to:  
MVCCA, P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121  
Address questions to Queenie Cox (703) 360-2414 or Carol Coyle, (703) 780-7955.

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Nominations must be received by February 21, 2011.

# Mount Vernon District Citizen of the Year Nomination

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations presents an annual Mount Vernon District Citizen of the Year award to a resident of the Mount Vernon Magisterial District whose volunteer efforts have made an outstanding contribution to our community. Activities include, but are not limited to, the areas of human services, education, the environment and recreation, public safety, public health, land use, the arts, and civic leadership.

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of nominee's volunteer activities and how they have contributed to the quality of life in Mount Vernon (you may attach additional pages and supporting materials).

Name of Nominating Organization or Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Send nominations to:

MVCCA, P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121

Address questions to Queenie Cox (703) 360-2414 or Carol Coyle (703) 780-7955 .

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Nominations must be received by February 21, 2011.

# MVCCA Student of the Year Civic Award 2011

For more information, contact:

MVCCA; ATTN: Queenie Cox; P.O. Box 203, Mount Vernon, VA 22121

[queenecox@aol.com](mailto:queenecox@aol.com)

703-360-2414

The Mount Vernon Student of the Year Civic Award is sponsored by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA). The purpose of the award is to recognize a high school senior from Mount Vernon HS, South County SS and/or West Potomac HS who demonstrates personal achievement through community involvement, volunteer work, and/or exceptional civic duties. The award will be made during the MVCCA Annual Gala. The amount of the 2011 award is \$300 per qualified student for no more than one student from each of the above-mentioned high school. If a qualified student does not meet the criteria for the award, no award will be given. Failure to provide contact information may result in delay or denial of award. Amount of future awards depends on available funding.

## Criteria for Award

1. Student must be a U.S. citizen and resident in the Mount Vernon Magisterial District ([http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/maps/gallery\\_BOSdistricts.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/maps/gallery_BOSdistricts.htm))
2. Must be a graduating senior of Mount Vernon HS, South County Secondary School or West Potomac HS.
3. Must be nominated by a high school career specialist or teacher.
4. Must provide a short essay (250 words or less) describing personal achievement through community involvement, volunteer work and/or civic projects.

## Deadlines:

- Advertising to students: January 3, 2011 through February 3, 2011.
- Deadline to turn in application to the student's career specialist: February 3, 2011.
- Deadline for career specialist to transmit letter of recommendation and student's application to MVCCA: March 1, 2011. (Late applications will not be accepted).
- Selection made by MVCCA Civic Award Committee during March 2011.
- The recipients will receive the award on April 9, 2011 at the MVCCA Annual Gala that will be held at the Laurel Hill Golf Club.

The MVCCA Student of the Year Civic Award is not based on financial need and may be used for any purpose by the awardee(s).

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# 2011 MVCCA Student of the Year Civic Award

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide in the space below or attach a short essay (250 words or less) describing your personal achievement through community involvement, volunteer work and/or civic projects during the past year in the space below. Please include your contact information and contact information (e.g. name, telephone number and/or e-mail) who can verify your contributions to a community or organization project and any other information which you feel will be helpful in considering you for this award. Excluding your career specialist, you may attach no more than three letters of recommendation.

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***FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL CAREER SPECIALIST ONLY***

Printed name:

Signature:

e-mail address:

Telephone number:

Please provide a brief statement below certifying that the above-mentioned student meets the criteria for the MVCCA award. Letter(s) of recommendation may also be attached.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

***Please turn in to your career specialist no later than February 3, 2011. Late applications will not be accepted.***

## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, January 26, 8 p.m.  
Walt Whitman Middle School  
Jack Knowles Lecture Hall

### AGENDA

#### Call to Order

Approval of Secretary's Minutes  
Approval of Treasurer's Report  
Committee Reports  
Co-Chair's Report on Board Actions

#### Published Items and Resolutions

#### New Business

Member Association Representatives' Time  
MV Supervisor's Time  
Other Elected Representatives and Public Time

#### Adjournment

## COMMITTEE CALENDAR

MVCCA Board—Feb. 10, 7:30 pm, MVGC Supvrs Conf Rm

Comm	Date	Time	Place	Chair
AWH	1/27	7:30	MVGC	Jeszenszky
BUDG	2/2	7:30	WWMS/PrinConf	D. Voorhees
COAF	2/1	7:30	Teleconference	Cox
EDUC	2/2	8:00	WWMS/Library	Harbeck
E&R	2/2	7:00	MVGC/Rm. 3	Martin
H/HS	2/8	7:30	IMVH/Eng	Cleveland
PL/Z	2/7	7:30	WWMS-LH	Dale
PSAF	2/3	7:30	MVGC/Rm. 3	Shawkey
LRSP	2/14	7:30	MVGC	Dhillon
TRAN	2/7	8:00	WWMS/Library	C. Voorhees

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P.O. Box 203  
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[www.mvcca.org](http://www.mvcca.org)