



2021 Spring Meeting Results

On 31 March HRVCA members held our spring meeting from 7:30 – 9:15 PM on line via Zoom. Items on the agenda were:

- Treasurer's Report
- Friends of Holmes Run Spring Clean Up
- Regathering Opportunities
- Neighborhood Communications
- Neighborhood Watch
- County Development Activities - zMOD

There was no new business from the floor.

Participants in the meeting numbered 17 members. A brief summary of the meeting follows. Additional information is in two sets of slides available on our blog at <http://holmesrun.org>:

- Community Activities Slides
- County Activities Slides

Treasurer's Report:

The association has \$1309.59 in its bank account. There has been no expense from our account since the 2019 fall meeting.

Friends of Holmes Run ([Community Activities Slides](#)):

Debbie Rosse described Friends of Holmes Run (FOHR) as a community effort to monitor and improve Holmes Run Creek, which runs through our community. It is one effort among many to improve water quality and the scenic and recreational value of watercourses in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. A secondary value of these activities is they enhance the sense of community among residents as they come together for a common purpose.

FOHR is sponsoring a clean-up of the stream valley on Saturday, 17 April. The group in our area will meet at the entrance to the creek adjacent to the intersection of Slade Run Drive and Rose Lane at 10:30 AM.

Neighborhood Watch Program ([Community Activities Slides](#)):

Our Neighborhood Watch Committee, Debbie Rosse, Jacke Zeiher, and Jim Robinson, described several aspects of the Neighborhood Watch program, which is an initiative to increase community awareness of safety and security issues as well as suspicious activities that may lead to crime in our neighborhood. The program is sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department. Debbie spoke of the number of community services available through the program, including home security surveys. A Community Advisory Committee meets periodically with representatives of FCPD to discuss neighborhood issues. The meetings are open to all.

Jacke Zeiher emphasized the importance of establishing communications links among us and asked residents to sign up to both NextDoor and our own email distribution service (googlegroup) dedicated to HRVCA business.

We need Block Captains please for Sleepy Hollow Rd, Tansey, Radnor, and portions of Devon and Slade Run. The principal role of Block Captains is to greet new arrivals and introduce them to

HRVCA and NextDoor while keeping an eye out for suspicious activity and for neighbors who may need a helping hand from time to time. It's not a lot of work. If you can fill one of our vacancies, please send Debbie or Jacke an email, addresses below.

Jim Robinson provided a concise summary of resident behaviors that discourage petty crime. For example, lock your car at night and don't leave valuables visible inside a car. See more in the slides.

Pressures on Single-Family Districts ([County Activities Slides](#)):

Clyde Miller described national and local development pressures on districts, like ours, that are zoned for single-family homes. In Minneapolis, recent plans have been adopted to allow duplex and triplex housing in single-family districts as a means for increasing the housing supply. A bill was introduced in the last session of the Virginia General Assembly to allow duplex developments in these districts. It died in committee but may rise again in the next session.

The county Board of Supervisor recently adopted a new zoning ordinance (zMOD) that allows apartments in single-family detached homes without notification of neighbors and public hearings and without authority for the county to inspect such dwellings as a means for protecting neighborhoods from the dwellings becoming overcrowded boarding houses. Similar apartments are allowed in the county today under the condition that they must be preceded by public hearings and must allow inspections. The Board's rationale for deleting the hearing and inspection requirements was to foster an increase in the housing supply. More information is in the slides.

Rose Lane Entrance Renovation

Jacke, with the help of John Prahm, has cleaned up the area surrounding the white stone walls at the entrance to our community at Rose Lane and Annandale Road. They took down the old ugly light fixtures and installed two solar-powered lights in their place. Big improvement!

Working with Code Compliance

The Department of Code Compliance receives a lot of complaints (5500 last year), has limited staff, sometimes is unable to verify conditions complained about, and makes every effort to allow offending property owners adequate time to comply with zoning regulations. Consequently, resolution of complaints can take months and some simply cannot be resolved in any case. The following recommendations for working with DCC are based on the virtues of patience and perseverance:

- Call in your complaint (703-324-1300) and get the name and email address of the staff person you talk to. Follow up with an email.
- Call back in a week or so to find out who has been assigned the case. Call or email that person to learn the status and ask what you should expect re next steps and when.
- Continue to call back or send emails periodically to track progress. Pace your enquiries in accordance with what you have been told re the timing of next steps.

DCC recently published a helpful guide for improving code compliance in neighborhoods. A copy is available [here](#).

Next Meeting: The next scheduled HRVCA meeting is in October.

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

Clyde Miller

HRVCA Board:

Clyde Miller	President	cmiller1017@verizon.net
Mike Cook	Vice President	mikecook10@verizon.net
Mike Paup	Treasurer	mlpaup@gmail.com
Jacke Zeiher	Director	jzeiher11@gmail.com
Debbie Rosse	Director	debbiehr15@gmail.com

Resources:

HRVCA group email for association business	hrvca2@googlegroups.com
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