

# **2025 Spring Meeting Results**

17 April 2025

The spring meeting convened in the cafeteria of Beech Tree Elementary School on Wednesday, April 9, at 7:00 pm. The meeting agenda included:

- Discussion with Supervisor Andres Jimenez
- Treasurer's report
- Neighborhood safety and security
- Changes to association name and logo
- 2025 HRVCA activities
- List of community resources
- Traffic update

Sixty members participated in the meeting. The meeting slides are available online.

## **Discussion with Supervisor Andres Jimenez**

Our district supervisor, Andres Jimenez, met with us for 90 minutes discussing county plans and responding to our questions and comments. His opening remarks focused on the 2025 site-specific plan amendment process that includes a proposal to change the plan for the Sears site at Seven Corners to facilitate its redevelopment. He also discussed the county budget, including a draft ordinance the Board of Supervisors is considering to establish a meals tax of up to 4%. Members questions and comments covered a wide range.

Hannah Frank, a member of Andres's staff who accompanied him to the meeting, followed up with an email providing Internet references and meeting schedules pertinent to the topics discussed. That email was forwarded to members via our Google Group on Apr 12.

# Treasurer's Report

Our bank balance as of April 14 is \$854.11. Expenses since the last meeting have been \$100 for National Night Out 2024 and \$119.92 for liability insurance for the spring meeting. Mike collected \$260 in dues during and since the spring meeting.

During the fall meeting, the Board recommends dues for the year ahead, or not, depending upon our current bank balance and expected expenses. If members vote to collect dues, the dues are payable over the following 12 months. The dues for 2025 agreed upon in our 2024 fall meeting are \$10 per household. If you haven't paid your 2025 dues you may do so as follows.

- Mail check payable to "HRVCA" to Mike Paup, Treasurer; 3350 Rose Lane; Falls Church, VA 22042
- Online via Venmo: Mike Paup (@michael-paup-1)
   Online via Zelle: dueshrvca@gmail.com
   If paying online, please include your street address.

#### **Neighborhood Safety and Security**

Jim reported that crime rate in our community continues to be relatively low and mostly related to property crimes like stolen packages and pilfered cars. Make sure your cars and your homes are locked, especially at night. Look out for your neighbors if they are travelling. Pick up their newspapers or packages and save them for their return. Make sure your neighbors know when you are travelling. Consider a timer for your lights so the home does not appear empty when you are away. Leave at least one outside light on at night and consider installation of an alarm system to deter crime.

Immediately report any suspicious or concerning activity to the Mason Station of the Fairfax County Police Department. The emergency number of course is 911. The non-emergency number for the Mason Station is 703-691-2131.

The <u>Annandale Today blog</u> publishes a weekly newsletter that includes a crime report covering the Bailey's Crossroads, Annandale, and Seven Corners areas. In addition to its crime coverage, 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.

A few members of the HRVCA Board routinely attend meetings of the informal FCPD <u>Community Advisory Committee</u> that meets on the first Tuesday of every month, 7 PM at the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike. The meetings are an opportunity to monitor security issues in Mason District and to speak with the police officers who keep us safe. All are welcome to participate in the meetings.

#### **Changes to Association Name and Logo**

The Board recommended changing the name of the association from Holmes Run Valley <u>Citizens</u> Association to Holmes Run Valley <u>Civic</u> Association. Membership in our civic association has always included all residents living within our geographic boundary regardless of citizenship. For example, foreign residents assigned to Washington as members of a diplomatic mission would be welcome to join. In addition, "civic association" better expresses our purpose than "citizens association." The vote to change our name was unanimous.

The Board also recommended minor changes to our logo, a darker blue background and larger text to make the graphic more conspicuous. The vote to change was unanimous. The old and new logos are on Slide 4.

#### 2025 HRVCA Activities

A number of activities for members are planned between now and the fall season.

### Stream Valley Clean Up: Saturday, April 26, 10 AM to 12:30 PM

Location: Entrance to Holmes Run II Park at intersection of Rose Ln and Slade Run Dr. This is the 5th year that Debbie has organized what has become a fun annual event. It is open to all. Children and

dogs are encouraged. Bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Prizes for sure! Questions: Contact Debbie Rosse, email addresses below.

# Spring Meet Up and Play Date: Saturday, May 3, 9 to 11 AM.

Location: Rose Lane Park Playground. The formal address is 3584 Terrace Dr, Annandale, but the park is directly across the creek from our neighborhood. (Directions: Walk into the stream valley at the Holmes Run II Park entrance at the intersection of Rose Ln and Slade Run Dr, bear left and cross the stream on the bridge, continue straight a short distance, the park will be on your right). Gillian described this new opportunity to welcome spring in a local park that many of us didn't know existed. It will feature coffee, donuts, and the park's gym equipment that kids will enjoy. We plan to set up near the playground so adults can chat and kids can play. All are welcome. Questions: Contact Gillian Weber.

# White Gardens Work Party: 3rd Wednesday of Every Month, 9 AM to Noon.

Location: White Gardens Park, 6711 Princess Anne Lane at the bitter end of the road. The work parties are systematically resurrecting the once-renowned gardens with direction and support from the Fairfax County Park Authority. It's a worthy neighborhood activity to restore a unique neighborhood resource, a 13-acre rhododendron and azalea garden populated by mature trees and a broad meadow at its center. The work parties are a fun outdoor activity that add value to our community. Bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes. Next work party May 21. Questions: Contact Clyde Miller.

# National Night Out Ice Cream Social: Tuesday August 5, 6 to 8 PM

Location: Sleepy Hollow United Methodist Church, 3435 Sleepy Hollow Rd. Informally meet neighbors and members of the Fairfax County Police and Fire Departments to discuss and bolster community safety and security. This annual event on the first Tuesday in August invariably features a fire engine for kids to climb on and the music of an accordion orchestra, not to mention the ice cream. Questions: Contact Jacke Zeiher.

#### **Block Party: Fall Date TBD**

During our spring meeting, John offered the possibility of a block party this fall and asked members interested in helping organize the event to please let him know. A Fall Block Party would be a worthy addition to our list of activities that bring us together as a community. If you would like to help shape and stage this event, please contact John Edwards.

#### **Community Resources**

Jacke's "Hotsheet" of essential phone numbers and Internet links supporting our community, including directions for joining the neighborhood Facebook group, has been renamed our list of Community Resources. An updated edition was distributed at the meeting and is <u>available online</u>.

# **Traffic Update**

Our traffic safety survey completed 18 months ago recommended deployment of \$200 Fine signs and Watch for Children signs. The signs have been installed. (See the <u>report</u> of our Fall 2023 meeting for a concise summary of the survey.)

Toward the conclusion of the survey in Fall 2023, the Board asked the FCPD Mason Station Commander to assign officers to monitor traffic in the community. Recently, PFC Pshko Siteki sent an email stating that during that period he monitored our traffic for 13 hours distributed over a time span of one month or so. He issued 12 citations. Most were for running stop signs; others were for "other traffic violations." PFC Siteki encountered no speeders. Among people running stop signs, most lived in our community.

On March 20 this year, the Board again asked FCPD to monitor our traffic. In response, FCPD installed a speed display sign at the top of Rose Lane facing traffic entering Rose Lane from Annandale Rd. The sign sends a text message to PFC Siteki every time it detects a car driving faster than 35 mph. In the first four days the sign was installed, he received one text message. In the next full week, he received two messages. Among the three messages, the fastest car was driving 45 miles per hour at 9:30 in the evening.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting of HRVCA is planned for October.

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

Clyde

#### **HRVCA Board:**

Clyde Miller	President	cmiller3436@gmail.com
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Mike Paup	Treasurer	mlpaup@gmail.com
Debbie Rosse	Director	debbiehr15@gmail.com
Gillian Weber	Director	gmginter@gmail.com
Jim Robinson	Director	jrcares@yahoo.com
John Edwards	Director	john@buyinthedmv.com

#### **Resources:**

HRVCA group email for association business

- holmesrunvalleyca@googlegroups.com
- **HRVCA Community Resources**
- https://holmesrun.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/hrvca-resource-sheet-2025-4-9-2025.pdf HRVCA blog
- http://holmesrun.org.

# Annandale blog for community news • https://annandaletoday.com

# Mason District Supervisor Andres Jimenez

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

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