

**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Luxmanor Citizen's Association
11400 Hollow Tree Lane
Tuesday, August 24, 2010**

Members Present: Barbara Gold, Renee Howell, Harris Leonard, Judy Morenoff, Della Stolsworth, Joan Suwalsky, Lynn Waters

Guest: Sandra Friedman

President Della Stolsworth opened the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Montgomery County Civic Federation.

Motion: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to pay this year's Montgomery County Civic Federation annual dues in the amount of \$65.00. The money is budgeted in Planning & Development.

LCA Meetings.

Motion: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to set the following dates for upcoming meetings of the LCA:

09/07/10	September Board Meeting
09/15/10	Community-wide Traffic Discussion
10/04/10	October Board Meeting
10/21/10	LCA General Meeting

Traffic Committee Report. After thanking all members of the committee (Jeff Abend, Sandra Friedman, Dee Knapp, Carol Liu, Debby Orsak, Ellen Paul, Peggy Souza, and Bruce Stinson) for their time and thoughtful effort, chair Renee Howell presented the draft Traffic Calming Recommendations report.

- 1) **Speed on Wayside Drive/Lux Lane.** The hope is to slow traffic down with calming methods that increase neighborhood aesthetics and don't require enforcement.
- 2) **Speed on Marcliff Road between Tilden Lane and Tuckerman Lane.** It should be easy to obtain installation of speed limit signs, which are nonexistent. Speed bumps should be raised to the highest height allowed. Discussion with MCPS will be initiated to address speed and etiquette of school buses. Sandra Friedman, Marcliff Road representative to the Traffic Committee, was present and reported that there was almost unanimous agreement among Marcliff residents about these issues.

- 3) **Traffic volume on Cushman Road and Danville Drive.** Discussion will be initiated with Greenacres to discuss ways of reducing heavy traffic during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up and the possibility of eliminating bus traffic on Cushman (initially agreed to by the school). The LCA and Greenacres have established good lines of communication and will continue to work together to obtain an entrance to Greenacres from Executive Boulevard. The White Flint II Sector Plan, expected to begin in 12-18 months, may allow for this. LCA is working to build a coalition with other community interests in this area to help support this.
- 4) **Challenges on Tuckerman Lane.** Problems on Tuckerman include speed, the difficulty making turns onto Tuckerman from neighborhood streets, safety crossing the road and at Ride-On stops, and the overall poor condition of the road. These problems exacerbate the fact that Tilden divides our community into two parts. It was recommended during discussion that adding a stoplight at Whisperwood be added to the list of recommendations. Concern was also expressed about the volume of traffic and safety at the intersection at Tuckerman and Old Georgetown Road. Della expressed the opinion that it is only a matter of time before that intersection “fails,” i.e., exceeds the maximum volume of traffic allowed, and that when this happens the county will be forced to redesign it. The White Flint Sector Plan states that well-formulated suggestions for traffic abatement from the LCA will be considered before construction starts. Thus, it’s in our best interests to decide on the improvements we’d like and make them known sooner rather than later. Renee feels that the issues with Tuckerman are so extensive and complicated that we may do well to hire a knowledgeable traffic engineer to consult with us about remedies. An expert will know about possible funding sources, etc. that could facilitate change. Della pointed out that the 1992 Master Plan is still in effect, which calls for bike lanes on Tuckerman, and the county owns enough right-of-way on either side of the road to create these.
- 5) **Challenges on Tilden Lane.** The most critical issues are speed between Old Georgetown and Luxmanor Elementary School, lack of enforcement of speed limits, and excessive signage. Renee pointed out that there is a great deal of agreement among residents on these problems. It was suggested that the Traffic Committee get input from the elementary school about proposed solutions, such as moving the flashing school sign closer to Old Georgetown Road. There was little support by members of the traffic committee for traffic cameras (they are big and ugly), although some at the Executive Committee meeting disagreed, pointing out that they can be unobtrusive. It was agreed that we will protest the “adopt a road” signs that have recently appeared, adding to the visual clutter. It was also felt that we need to insist on stepped-up traffic enforcement. A suggestion was made that we initiate a

campaign to ask residents of the neighborhood to set a good example for others by obeying speed limits and coming to full stops at stop signs; possibly, bumper stickers with an appropriate catchy slogan could be distributed to supporters of this effort. Finally, concern has been expressed about the recent repainting of the lines on Tilden, and a recommendation was made by the Traffic Committee to return the road to its former configuration. Some bikers feel it is unsafe, and there is concern that both pedestrians and drivers are put at risk by the narrow shoulder on the south side of the street. It was suggested that the Traffic Committee seek input from WABA (Washington Area Bikers Association) about the biking safety issues.

The draft Traffic Committee Report will be published soon on the Luxmanor Website, and a message will be sent out on the Listserve announcing this. Members of the community will be asked to submit comments about the draft report to the Traffic Committee in writing. All comments and questions will be heard and discussed at a neighborhood Traffic Discussion meeting at Luxmanor Elementary School on Wednesday, September 15 from 7:30 – 9:30 pm. The draft plan will be finalized to reflect input from the 9/15/10 meeting and will then be voted upon at the LCA General Meeting, to be held at Luxmanor Elementary School on Thursday, October 21, 7:30 – 9:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.
Submitted by Joan Suwalsky, Recording Secretary