

**McLean Community Center Governing Board**  
**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY 2011 BUDGET**  
**AND**  
**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**  
**September 23, 2009**

**Board Present:** David Sanders, Chair; Kevin Dent, Vice Chair; Risa Sanders, Secretary; Sean Dunn, Treasurer; Susan Bourgeois; Drew Clark; Lee DiCenso; Jennifer Dunn; Ed Shahin; Angela Wertz; Lori Wertz

**Staff Present:** Julie Rasmussen, Executive Director; Clare Kiley, Deputy Director

**Guests Present:** Karen Duvall; Jane Edmonson, representing the Office of Dranesville District Supervisor John Foust; Nancy Perry, Executive Director, McLean Project for the Arts

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FY 2011 BUDGET**

Treasurer Dunn convened the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.  
Citizen comments: None

**GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**

Convened: 7:40 p.m.

➤ **Motion: Approve the Governing Board Minutes of July 22, 2009.** Carried.

**1. Chair's Report:** David Sanders

**A. Park Authority.** D. Sanders and other MCC representatives met with the Park Authority director in August, and incremental progress is being made.

**B. Downtown Revitalization.** The developers and their planner held a public meeting on September 16 at MCC. They have made progress regarding the Verizon property behind the Giant store. Sasaki [Associates], based in Boston and San Francisco, is working with the developers. The developers are fairly close to the timeline they projected about eight months ago; they are far enough along for MCC to engage with them about how MCC can fit with their plans. Commentary from the developers indicated they identified the MCC as having a significant place in the redevelopment.

**DISCUSSION.** Nancy Perry said MCC and the Friends of MCC will be sharing a tent at Artfest. Fundraising overall is down by about 25 percent to date. Forty juried artists

were accepted, and 38 will be exhibiting. The event will feature a variety of media, price points, entertainment, and food from local restaurants.

## **2. Executive Director's Report: Julie Rasmussen**

Rasmussen reviewed the items in the Executive Director's Report for September 2009. She noted that the Administrative Assistant to the Governing Board position was advertised and would close September 25<sup>th</sup>; over 200 applications were received the first week. The opening event in the series of Sunday Tea Dances, held on Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, was very positively received. The next one, Harvest Masquerade, is scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup>. MCC received the Virginia Recreation and Parks Society "Best Promotion" Award for the 2008-2009 Alden Theatre Guide. The timetable and process for submitting MCC MOU changes to the County Board of Supervisors was reviewed, and a list of upcoming MCC programs and events was presented. She also mentioned that VDOT will hold a meeting at MCC on October 15 to discuss its plans for the intersection at Ingleside Avenue and Route 123.

**DISCUSSION.** Shahin reported that the first tea dance was well received. He appreciates this addition to programming and looks forward to the growth of the event.

Edmonson said a VDOT analysis showed that the rate of traffic incidents with damages of \$1,000 or more at Ingleside Avenue and Route 123 is too high for the number of vehicles. The idea of a turn barrier was discarded in favor of paint and signage. Supervisor Foust's office is helping to get information about the October 15 meeting to businesses and homeowners' associations.

## **3. Finance Committee Report: Sean Dunn, Chair**

The only change from the FY 2011 draft budget request published on the MCC website is an updated figure of \$740,576 for Capital Expenditures in the column, "FY 2010 MCC Board Approved." The budget uses the current tax rate [\$.024 per \$100 of assessed real estate value].

- **Motion: Approve the FY 2011 budget request as submitted by the Finance Committee.** Carried.

Chairman Sanders thanked staff for their hard work on the budget and the clear budget format.

## **4. Capital Facilities Committee Report: Kevin Dent, Chair**

Dent referred the Board to the latest Committee minutes and an attached staff report, "Capital Facilities Update." He reviewed the following highlights.

### **A. Capital Facilities Projects**

The bid received for the sprung wood floor in the Teen Center was quite low, and staff members want to ensure that bids include all necessary provisions, as well as quality. Staff will visit some facilities with similar floors before finalizing the specifications.

The Committee expects to receive a request from staff on the MCC re-keying project in October or November.

**DISCUSSION.** L. Wertz asked about use of local businesses for projects. Rasmussen said a variety of selection processes are used; sometimes the County has an open contract MCC can use, other times phone quotes, written proposals, or bids are required based on the project's dollar value.

### **B. Park Authority MOU**

Dent, D. Sanders, and Rasmussen met with the Longfellow school principal about a possible partnership on a gymnasium project, but the school renovation plans are too far along to accommodate changes.

Park Authority staff now report they will send the MOU back to MCC sometime after September 23. Once all agree, the MOU will be submitted for approval to the County Attorney, the MCC Board, and the Park Authority Board. During that process, discussions can take place about gym design and related matters.

### **C. Downtown Revitalization**

At the September 16 meeting, the MPC asked about a location for MCC, and developer Bob Montgomery seemed enthusiastic about an MCC presence downtown. The Committee is identifying appropriate contacts on this issue. The Committee and Board may need to focus soon on what a downtown facility should look like. The Committee would welcome any Board member who wants to attend its meetings or get involved in the gym or downtown projects.

**DISCUSSION.** D. Sanders said the Board needs to focus on the gymnasium design: What kind of gymnasium should it be if MCC is going to build one? Dent said MCC may not be able to afford both a gymnasium and a major downtown project.

Shahin said the overriding issues with a gymnasium are both cost to construct and cost to operate. He advocated a downtown presence and said he does not think a gymnasium is affordable. At first, estimates were in the \$3 million to \$5 million range but are now between \$8 million and \$9 million.

## **5. Program Committee Report: Lee DiCenso, Chair**

### **A. McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia Centennial Event**

DiCenso discussed Celebrate Virginia's proposal to reserve the first floor of MCC, excluding the theatre and Duvall studio, for a June 26 Centennial event. If the entire first

floor is not needed, the extra space can be released. The Committee recommendation is that *MCC should assign a staff member to participate in the meetings for a McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia event at MCC on June 26, 2010, and the MCC Program Committee should obtain quarterly planning updates.*

**DISCUSSION.** R. Sanders said this is an evolving endeavor; the Committee would like MCC to co-host rather than co-sponsor the event and provide staff support to help the group better define its space requirements. D. Sanders said part of MCC's mission is to foster a sense of community, which includes understanding the community's history, but it is not clear from the proposal why the entire space and time period would be needed.

DiCenso said the Committee also had agreed that this event would not take the place of any separate Centennial celebration MCC chose to organize.

Board members acknowledged Carole Herrick's history of support for the community; the group, however, is not yet able to provide details about event activities. On behalf of the Committee, R. Sanders offered a modified recommendation to clarify MCC's role in monitoring and to assist with planning.

- **Recommendation: MCC should assign a staff member to attend planning meetings for a McLean & Great Falls Celebrate Virginia event at MCC on June 26, 2010, and the MCC Program Committee should obtain quarterly planning updates from Celebrate Virginia to make a final determination regarding space allocation.** Approved by the Board.

## **B. MCC Role in Community 5K**

DiCenso said the Program Committee recommends that MCC co-host the Community 5K race to be held October 10. This will be an officially timed race, and all proceeds will be donated to Children's Hospital. Rasmussen said the County has no limitations on MCC's participation as long as the MCC Board approves it. R. Sanders said she does some work for Children's Hospital and recused herself from voting.

- **Recommendation: MCC should participate as a co-host of the Community 5K to be held in McLean on October 10, 2009.** Approved by the Board.

## **6. Communications Committee Report:** Lori Wertz; Drew Clark, Chair

L. Wertz said the MCC website still needs work and local photos. An MCC email address on the website for Board members will be considered to encourage communication with citizens. As part of signage replacement, staff will find out how to best coordinate with the Library and Park Authority. Clark later added that the Committee will be monitoring deadlines for timely completion of the Program Guide. It will work on signage issues in October so it can come to the Board with a recommendation and pictures.

## 7. Elections Committee Report: Risa Sanders, Chair

### A. MOU and Related Election Policy Change

R. Sanders reviewed the Committee's work on two motions to make Board candidacy and voting for youth members an easier process and to ensure that high school freshmen are not unintentionally excluded from voting. The first motion requires a minor MOU modification. The second represents an addition to the Board's Policy and Procedures.

### DISCUSSION

**MOU Change.** R. Sanders said after the Board decides on the MOU change, it will be sent to the County Attorney's Office. Rasmussen said the intent of the change should be explained, but no difficulties are expected. Placing the MOU on the November 16 Board of Supervisors' docket would allow the change to be in place for the current election cycle. D. Sanders said the existing language may have been intended to dovetail with a School Board change around the same time to include a student on the School Board.

- **Motion: The Governing Board of the MCC requests the Board of Supervisors accept the following changes to the language of the MOU:**

#### "IV. Composition of the Board of Governors

"The Governing Board shall consist of eleven members, all members residing in Small District #1 of the Dranesville District, Fairfax County, **nine of which shall be Adult Members of at least 18 years of age, and two of which shall be Youth Members who are (1) aged 15 through 17, or (2) attending high school prior to senior year and aged under 18. In all cases, the ages shall be attained as of the day of the election.** Residents of Small District #1 of the Dranesville District, Fairfax County, Virginia, shall elect members to the Governing Board as provided herein; however, the citizenry may vote only for those candidates in their own **Adult or Youth** category.

Adult members shall be elected for three year terms. Terms shall be staggered to promote continuity of experience. Three members shall be elected each year. Members may continue to be re-elected as long as they meet residency requirements.

**Youth members shall be elected annually for a one-year term.** One shall be elected from the area served by the McLean High School, and one shall be elected from the area served by the Langley High School. The areas served shall be set out in the current edition of Approved Boundaries, Fairfax County Public Schools, for those portions in Small District #1.

#### IV.A. Eligibility

Any resident of Small District #1 is eligible to file for election to the Board if the resident meets the **Adult or Youth** qualifications and petitions for a place on the ballot in the manner approved by the Governing Board."

➤ **Motion Carried.**

**Addition to MCC Board Policy and Procedures.** R. Sanders said this change recognizes that youth know others who go different schools, gives them experience in the voting process, and may increase participation. D. Sanders said it would also increase the chances of private school students to win elections.

- **Motion: Youth voters are permitted to cast up to two votes, for a maximum of one candidate from each of the high school boundary areas as defined in our MOU. Thus, each Youth voter would be permitted to cast up to one vote for a Youth candidate from the area served by the McLean High School District, and up to one vote for a Youth candidate from the area served by the Langley High School District, for a maximum of two votes.**  
Carried.

**B. Placement of Names on Ballots.** Dunn said his research on the last MCC Board election showed that, as with elections generally, there was a name placement effect. MCC can randomize name placement under the MCC Election Standards and Procedures document (approved by the Board of Supervisors on 1/22/07), which is part of the MOU; and rotation provides a systematic way of doing it that would not be hard to administer.

- **Recommendation. Adopt a system to rotate Adult names on ballots as stated in the August 26, 2009, Election Committee meeting minutes, Item D.**  
Approved by the Board.

**C. Other Business.** Responding to a question from Edmonson, Dunn explained that his letter to Supervisor Foust about the MCC absentee ballot process did not include a specific request for action.

**8. Liaison to Friends of the MCC:** Ed Shahin

Shahin attended the Friends of the MCC Board meeting on September 14. He praised the group for its support and recommended more opportunities for Friends Board members to get to know the MCC Board. Rasmussen said MCC has invited the Friends Board to the December 9 holiday potluck, and the Friends plan to host a summer cook-out for MCC.

**9. Liaison to Seniors:** Ed Shahin

Shahin toured three County senior centers. He was impressed with the Herndon center but found unfavorable conditions at the Lewinsville and Pimmit Hills centers. Concerns about Lewinsville include crowding and a \$48 fee for volunteers, which he has discussed with the Department on Aging. A good example of converting a school building to a senior center is Lee Center on Annandale Road. Other good examples include 55-plus programs in Arlington.

Shahin raised the possibility of using a \$1,000 AARP donation to help defray Lewinsville fees charged to Tax District residents. Chairman Sanders said the AARP donation was given for MCC senior programs and should be used for that purpose.

Shahin expressed a continuing desire for more senior programs. The new Program Guide's list of offerings of interest to seniors is a step in the right direction, and there were discussions earlier about hosting programs for seniors at the Teen Center.

**DISCUSSION.** Edmonson said Supervisor Foust is also concerned about the Lewinsville center expansion, which was approved in 2004.

**10. Continuing Business:** None

**11. New Business:** None

Adjourned: 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Risa E. Sanders  
Secretary