

**2021-2022 MCC Governing Board  
Regular Meeting  
December 8, 2021 6:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**Board Members present:** Barbara Zamora-Appel; Lisa Mariam; Bill Glikbarg; Max Blacksten  
Suzanne Le Menestrel; Carla Post; Melanie Sletten; Rasheq Rahman;  
Maria Foderaro-Guertin

**Board Members absent:** Ivy Chen; Shivani Saboo

**MCC Staff present:** Daniel Singh, Executive Director; Holly Novak, Executive Assistant

**Guests:** Christopher Henzel; Nicholas Kalis; Jeffrey Shapiro; Camila Alfonzo Meza;  
Deb Bissen (MPA); Alice Middleton; resident from MacBeth Street (name  
unknown); Adrienne Henzel; 3 others (names unknown)

**CONVENE MEETING**

Chair Zamora-Appel convened a Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the McLean Community Center on December 8, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. This meeting was open to the public attending in-person. It was tape-recorded and due notice was given to the public via signage and a courtesy verbal announcement about audio-recording taking place.

**DECISION: MINUTES OF RECENT MEETINGS WERE APPROVED**

MOTION: To approve Minutes of October 13, 2021, Special Called Meeting

**Unanimously approved.**

MOTION: To approve Minutes of October 27, 2021, Regular Meeting

**Unanimously approved.**

MOTION: To approve Minutes of November 3, 2021, Special Called Meeting

**Unanimously approved.**

These Minutes documents, having thus been approved, will be posted on MCC website.

**DECISION: ONGOING ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECENT PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Several comments from the public have been received recently. All community feedback is important and is taken into consideration by the MCC Governing Board. Rules being followed about public comment: A person wishing to submit comments into the record must first provide proof of their address as a resident of Small District 1A-Dranesville. Individuals who requested a designated speaking opportunity tonight have been verified as being a Small District 1A-Dranesville resident. Incoming written comments shown in these Minutes also were reviewed and documented as coming from a verified Small District 1A-Dranesville resident. Public comments from individuals who have no such residency verification within the tax district will not be adopted as part of the record. Such comments will be noted as ‘received’ and the board may look at it, but it will not become part of the official record.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. A qualitative summary analysis of open-ended comments and common topics from the 756 survey respondents was requested. AMS will provide this requested qualitative analysis.
2. To support relationships with community organizations requesting assistance, Youth Board member Max Blacksten volunteered to initiate contact for Executive Director Singh with McLean H.S. community career specialist. She issues a newsletter every week about various opportunities for student volunteer service hours.
3. Executive Director Singh will check with Joe McGovern about progress on a waste reduction program in MCC building (supporting sustainability objectives).
4. Develop a DRAFT of the postcard informing the public about 2022 Governing Board election.
5. Schedule FOIA training in early June 2022 for the newly-elected board and mention that confirmed training date on the “Key Dates” document in the Candidate Packet.
6. ADD to the Parent Acknowledgement Form in Youth Packet - to require the parent’s consent so that they know their kids will be active on social media.
7. Going forward, Ms. Novak will send us all an e-mail link to the folder to get pre-reads for every board and committee meeting (in SharePoint).

## STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

AMS Planning & Research lead consultant Michele Walter presented a preliminary summary of data developed from several sources: stakeholder surveys; interviews with MCC staff; interviews with all Board members; environmental scan (county-wide); operational analysis; public input meetings (Community Listening Session 1; virtual Community Listening Session 2).

Good evening. I wish to recognize the Board and staff of MCC as being such energized, active, engaged people! A flurry of activity in the past 3 weeks was a tremendous effort. You all worked hard to get the word out to make sure the community at-large knew of this opportunity to give feedback. It's rare to have so many survey respondents; and as a percentage of the population, it's even more significant. Thank you! The degree to which you all care about this organization is impressive.

NEXT STEPS: In a 'workshop' environment, we will review the entire situational analysis to close-out this first phase of the strategic work: 1. Definitions of "success;" 2. Discussions about "vision" and "mission."

## YEAR-END SUMMARY (CHAIR'S REPORT) \*Chair Zamora-Appel gave a summary MCC events and programs in 2021.

1. Hiring of Executive Director Daniel Singh, selected from a national search of highly-qualified individuals. He has brought a lot of what we were looking for in new leadership. He has contributed diversity and experience.
2. Still being in pandemic times, MCC has fared quite well. We have set-up successfully to convene meetings both virtually and in-person.
3. The "teacher recognition" program by OFC recognized the hard work of FCPS educators. It was very successful.
4. Virtual programming in all departments: classes; Special Events; Theatre – to support community needs during the pandemic. It is being planned to wire various MCC rooms so MCC can continue to have virtual usage in all spaces.
5. Drive-thru Drama received national media attention. If we offer it again, there are some things we can improve on.  
*NOTE: Three Drive-Thru Drama performances occurred in 2020, with the last one closing on November 1, 2020. It was a memorable experience for the public and is still being recalled today as ground-breaking innovation by MCC staff during the challenges of COVID-19.*
6. Social media campaign presenting our new Governing Board was recognized by an award from VRPA!
7. We have begun the process of website re-design. Registering for events requires navigating different screens. We are trying to merge all of that to improve the end-user experience.
8. MCC has become inclusive in programming. A parent reached out to ask if a mother could attend a dance with her son. That's the reason why we changed the name: "Father/Daughter" Dance is now "Parent/Child" Dance. Some parents wish to participate differently; this is the heart of what MCC tries to accomplish in diversity and inclusion.
9. Unruly Theatre Virtual Improv shows were excellent!
10. Drive-thru McLean Day 2021. People were excited to come to see the circus acts while safely seated in their car.
11. MCC hosted successful Red Cross blood drives.
12. 'Seniors in Action' was developed.
13. "Mission McLean" virtual event (included a lot of teens).
14. Summer concerts in the park were well-attended.
15. We had diverse, inclusive movies at The Alden.
16. We offered drive-thru ice cream for 4<sup>th</sup> of July.
17. The community was introduced to Garba – in which we learned about India.
18. Podcast conversation with Mason Young (corporate development for CapitalOne) -interviewed by Christian Hayes.
19. Teens went to an escape room on an OFC trip. OFC held a very successful Block Party!
20. The Governing Board released statement on MCC's commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusivity, Access.
21. ArtFest2021 with MPA.
22. PetFest was amazing (families with pets).
23. Tea and Talk with MPA – trying to figure out new ways of doing things.
24. Trunk or Treat – several board members decorated their trunks for Halloween. 1,200 people attended!
25. Festival of Lights (Diwali) – it is always good to learn about other cultures.
26. Virtual music workshop with Native American fusion music and dance group.
27. Documentary films
28. Antique show. There is always a lot of people interested.
29. OFC Bingo Nights
30. 38<sup>th</sup> Annual McLean Holiday Arts & Crafts show.
31. Touch a Truck – innovative program for children. Over 1,000 people showed up! Families with young children are interested in seeing new things.

32. Cultural Awareness programs: AAPI; Hispanic Heritage Month; Pride Month; Ally week; Native American Heritage Month; Veterans Day
33. Inter-faith clergy leaders panel – it was an eye-opening experience.
34. Film festival at The Alden Theatre – weekday movies in foreign languages
35. We are planning for MCC's 50th anniversary coming up in a few years (2025).
36. VR "Traveling While Black" 20-minute virtual reality experience in partnership with the Canadian Embassy.
37. Pocahontas is a 6-part virtual discussion group coming up in January 2022.

*Summary by Chair Zamora-Appel:* This is all based on feedback from the community we've been receiving ongoing. Some events are so interesting that people are buying tickets in bulk. We congratulate our staff and Daniel Singh for what has been accomplished so far since he joined the organization. And special thanks to the Governing Board! It is not easy to come to so many meetings and have to deal with so many different challenges during the pandemic. It's a great accomplishment to see 2021 coming to an end like this. Thank you!

*Thanks to MCC staff expressed by individual board members:*

You've said something very important: to thank the staff for creating these events and making them happen. The MCC staff has done an absolutely excellent job. And we should be sure they understand that we recognize the work they've done.

I agree! I want to acknowledge the staff for bringing in Damien Sneed in concert. He was fantastic and I hope he comes back and brings the Howard University Gospel Choir. I also wanted to commend staff on the Holiday Craft show. There were many young artisans of color selling amazingly beautiful crafts. I bought a lot and it was fun! Thank you!

Regarding the board's efforts toward sustainability, I want to thank you for believing in that. Because it is clear that almost all community responses also are interested in pursuing that as well. There's a lot we're going to do over this next year; it's important. All DEIA events have been fantastic! It's something we congratulate the staff on and are really pleased about.

Chair Zamora-Appel mentioned that we have a very diverse Governing Board – representing the community of McLean. Over 25% of McLean residents are Asian. AMS has done a great job in the various forums to provide demographic data. Seeing such data, it is a diverse community. McLean is changing and will continue to change. We need to embrace that change and embrace the differences... because that's the world we live in.

And it's not just racial diversity but we also learn a lot from each other because we have an inter-generational experience of folks in McLean. I learn every time I attend these board meetings. I'm proud to be a part of this organization.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**     *\*remarks by Executive Director Daniel Singh*

Gingerbread and Santa events are sold-out; people are on the waiting list! **Those are free-flowing events (no cramming-together of attendees; timed entry/exit; outdoors). However, indoor events are still a struggle.** Damien Sneed didn't sell-out; last time here, he sold-out. Klezmer band – fewer sales. **Indoor performance/seated in a closed space for a long time seems to be what people are not yet comfortable with. Public adjustment may take a while.**

Winter Block Party: MCC staff decided to offer a Winter Block Party (faux ice-skating rink) in Community Hall; S'mores and games outside – first week of January 2022. This has never been ever done before at MCC. People are attending outdoor events, so we are trying to see if that will encourage people to come here.

"Traveling While Black" VR exhibit: Friday, December 10, Supervisor Foust, County Executive Bryan Hill, Deputy County Executive Chris Leonard, and One Fairfax county leader will visit to open the event. Wednesday, Dec. 15 - opening to the public. We will program events weekly starting in January for people to come and discuss/respond. We will reach out to faith-based leaders in the community, including partnering with three Black churches to do some events with us. We are partnering with Safe Community Coalition and the two high schools, all leading into MLK Day and Black History Month.

Farmers Market (on Fridays in summer months): Very early stages of discussion with FCPA to see if Farmers Market can relocate to MCC: two-year process; contract for Summer 2022 is already set. *Complication:* MCC's lower parking lot is preferred for accessibility because many attendees are not very mobile and need to be able to get directly from their car to the Farmers Market. However, it would impact MCC programs, such as when Music in Motion parents arrive at the same time in crowded parking area with baby strollers. *Negotiation:* MCC is open to figuring out a way to host it here, if possible. It would mean 400 extra people coming through our doors seeing what MCC does (marketing exposure). We may suggest 'partial' usage: maintaining some access to the lower parking lot for MCC patrons, to keep our classes going. FCPA will survey the community this summer to gauge interest in moving the Farmers Market away from Lewinsville Park over to MCC.

2022-2023 calendar: Staff's goal is to get the 2022-2023 calendar up so as to match the other local agencies that announce their season for the whole year by April/May. We hope to be beyond the pandemic by March/April 2022 spring arts season.

Matrix (thematic programming; linked to budget): For this year, we are building-in measures based on the 'matrix' that was created in initial strategic planning discussions this summer - so that staff can say how our budget and programming corresponded on those themes. We will make sure the matrix continues being built as we forward-develop the season.

Website re-design is moving forward.

Migrating to SharePoint (Fairfax Co. e-mail addresses) is going slowly because the county process is complicated. MCC has no IT person: to get a new employee, it must go through budget approval and county DIT approval. IT positions have the least pool of applicants because county pay rate is so bad. It may be several months or a year before we can hire an IT person.

Joint summer recruitment: We are working with Fairfax Co. HR for joint summer recruitment because seasonal hiring has been a challenge. Summer camp last year was 8 people under-staffed; other MCC staff had to step-in to fill vacancies. We're partnering with FCPA, Neighborhood Community Services and Reston CC on a day-long joint recruitment event: people can show up, apply; run the background check; and at the end of the day, they will know whether they are hired. Age range= 21 and above. Persons must be able to drive the vans and pass background checks.

Strategic planning: Thank you all for pushing the surveys out to the public. The extra efforts made a big difference in the strength of the survey data. We are moving forward in our strategic planning effort while also coinciding with the county's CEPAP plan and One Fairfax plan. The county is trying to decide on metrics for the range of reports: all agency heads are meeting to figure out what would make sense so as not to duplicate data.

Liaison with community groups: We are trying to bring together community groups. Several different groups have reached out to MCC requesting help - Rotary; McLean Community Foundation; American Legion Post. We are trying to refine how to support each and bring them together in January 2022 to ask: How can we all work together? So that one person/organization does the toy drives; one person/organization does all the backpack stuffing. So that it's not every group doing everything... and then having them looking to MCC for help on everything! We are trying to bring them all together to see how we can barter and trade on our priorities to move things forward together.

*Question: MCC is here to support every part of the community so why would you not work with different groups? What is the problem here?*

**Almost eight different organizations have all requested space and staff time. MCC doesn't have the capacity.** Instead of doing eight [duplicative] toy drives or backpack collections and stuffing – could we have two and MCC will manage it, rather than trying to support all eight organizations in every activity? All organizations are struggling to find volunteers; that's why they are coming to MCC to see if we can staff some of their efforts. They have aging board members and can't get young people to come into these organizations. MCC cannot serve all eight organizations as they want us to support them. We give them space always, but they actually want MCC to staff the events and help with stuffing the backpacks or dropping-off food. We just don't have the capacity for that. *Question: So, you've actually been asked to do that? That's unusual.*

For the toy drive, yes. Some things we do take on; but we can't do every single thing requested. **We are trying to bring them all together and ask: How does MCC parse our work across all the community groups and support everyone?**

*Question: Youth are always seeking volunteer service hours. Announce to high schools the dates, times, skill set > then you can connect.*

Yes – once we convene organizations together and they decide how to move forward, then we will reach out to involve MCC Governing Board. Executive Director Singh also received a list of HOA's from Supervisor Foust's office. An intern is reviewing this list to fill-in missing information. Once it is complete, we will share it with the board.

Coordination with other similar agencies: *Question: There are many centers like MCC. Do these Executive Directors have a central forum where they meet to mutually communicate ideas?*

Yes, through FCPA -meeting once every three months. Moreover, all MCC staff are members of NRPA (National Recreation & Park Association which is a national trade association for parks & rec.). NRPA magazine offers a national perspective on topics and issues. They have excellent resources for specializations: managers of classes, special events; theaters. NRPA also does market research.

Sustainability objectives: *Question: Have you made any progress yet on waste reduction programs at MCC? It's all part of a larger plan of overall interaction and understanding of the steps. There is an Executive Order about plastic water bottles that we should be following. Much is forthcoming and I want to make sure MCC is keeping on-top of it.*

## **MCLEAN PROJECTS FOR THE ARTS – UPDATE REPORT** \*remarks by Deb Bissen

MPA is happy to be part of the programming at MCC and providing something of value to the community. Two new exhibitions opened last week, including a large sculpture exhibit of works by four DC-area artists. Proof of vaccination or

same-day negative COVID-19 test is required in the gallery. MCC Governing Board is welcome prior to the January 26 meeting to have a private tour of the exhibition. In 2022, it won't be possible to have a joint meeting as has usually been done in the past. ArtReach director has been very innovative in finding ways to still bring people into MCC and to MPA. We are also going out to community partners and doing it virtually. Adaptive curriculum at Oakton H.S. for special ed. students; virtual programming at Belvedere Elementary, Springfield Elementary and two Title 1 schools in Fairfax County. This was the first attempt at virtual programming; it worked. Local: St. Johns Middle School girls toured our last exhibition and enjoyed a gallery collage workshop afterwards. Second Story Culmore Safe Youth project – they worked outdoors to make large foam creations; they will be visiting again next week. MPA runs ongoing classes with ServiceSource individuals with disabilities and also at Lewinsville Senior Center – with underserved special needs seniors. Lewinsville has attracted seniors from other parts of Fairfax Co. who didn't have access to such programming. It's wonderful to be serving different areas that might have been under-served in the past. 5-6 seniors visited for a gallery tour this summer; they were thrilled to see the art in-person and to learn what is available in Fairfax County (they came from Kingstown in Alexandria). MPA hopes to continue to host such small groups and looks forward to offering more virtual programming.

Winter art classes are open for registration (in-person and virtual). For the first time in a few years, special home-schooled classes for ages 5 – 9 during the week with art teacher Pamela Saunders. A new paper artwork shop – how to create paper and work with different kinds of paper. MPA is actively looking for new teachers and are excited to add new offerings.

Best Buddies: MPA will work again this year with Best Buddies at McLean H.S. and Langley H.S. We learned about an organization that works with Best Buddies students after they graduate – a community-wide group that offers a continuing program for post-high school years. MPA is working with this organization.

Youth volunteers – Sign-up Genius online garnered youth volunteers to help with ArtFest2021. We had different representatives from each school to get a good distribution of youth volunteers from throughout the community. High school youth must do volunteer requirements for National Honor Society and other things they are a part of, so they are always looking for ways to give back to the community. It's a great experience for youth to be part of ArtFest.

#### **CAPITAL FACILITIES PROJECTS – UPDATE**      *\*summary remarks by Vice-Chair Post*

There was a detailed discussion and approval of emergency capital expense (\$100K) to improve a broken sewer pipe (burst cast iron pipe; will be replaced by PVC pipe) and concrete substructure in lower level of MCC. **Something we will pursue in the new year is future budgeting -when these large expenses come up. This has gone back-and-forth between boards: Should we have a 'surplus fund' with an annual allocation? Or should we just allocate the money as expenses happen? That's something we need to dig-into more next year to determine if we want to change the structure of decision-making. As the board turns over, so do the procedures and policies of how we do things.**

Roof repair and stormwater runoff issues. CFC's advice to staff is for a holistic approach: seeking a contractor versed in solar or green roofs rather than just going with the county's traditional contractor. We have since heard from the county that MCC should consider going forward with the repair based on the federal infrastructure bill passing and impact of supplies/labor shortages. But we still want to get a more holistic view of how to incorporate some sustainability objectives. There was also a long discussion about EV charging stations that was referred to Programs & Outreach Committee.

*Updates from Executive Director Singh:*

1. The contractor was able to get down to address the broken sewage pipe already; work started on Monday, 12/6. Now it has been replaced with PVC pipe and they are closing it back up. The next delay is supplies for the wood floor for Rehearsal Hall. We hope to find the appropriate flooring to get it repaired and opened back up in time for winter classes. It was anticipated to take longer, but the floor excavation only took 3 days instead of the 6 projected. Now we are just waiting for the floor to get completed. Once we get the wood, we must wait for it to age in the room because interior humidity causes it to stretch or shrink slightly differently. We will hopefully have project completion by January start of classes.
2. We reached out to the team that is almost finalizing a contract with the new county vendor for solar panels. They advised to wait a couple of months and then they will have this new vendor come to MCC to give advice on both the roof + solar panels and go forward from there. At that point, we will get a general contractor who will connect both aspects and also address the stormwater runoff problem. A separate person from the county also came out to inspect the roof. They said the stormwater runoff issue must be addressed and whatever we decide on the solar panels and the roof won't change it because the assessment is based on overall square footage of the roof and the [flat] structure. Both repairs could happen parallel or independently of each other. We will seek a general contractor to make sure all aspects are contained in a holistic proposal. In the meantime, we are doing all the tuck pointing, painting, and filling the cracks to get those pieces fixed as best as possible. Walking inspection of entire roof: there are 9 different levels of roof; it's just how this building is pieced together.  
*Question: I'm surprised about waiting to determine who the other contractor is until the solar vendor visits? Can't you look into that now?*

We want to make sure it would be someone who knows which kind of material/solar panels will work because each vendor has a different product. If solar panels are not what the general contractor knows, then we will have received advice that might not support the product we end up buying. To provide a holistic proposal, a recommended new contractor would have to go through the county procurement process. Though, if the initial consult is under \$5K, we won't have to go through the county process; we could do it as "sole source".

#### **ELECTIONS & NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE** \*summary remarks by Secretary Foderaro-Guertin

'Normal' process this year: early voting period of several weeks + in-person voting at McLean Day.

Electronic voting: This continues to be brought up for the purpose of trying to make it more accessible, so more people are able to vote. Technology is available; but MCC must ensure that the League of Women Voters doesn't have a problem with this method. *Issues/questions:* whether LWV will approve it... and secondly, if they have (or recommend) a particular software or platform for electronic voting, is it going to be approved by Fairfax County? Another complication is trying to have all three different voting methods utilized seamlessly by the public: 1. requesting a ballot and mailing it in; 2. voting in-person; 3. voting online. It all would have to be coordinated to make sure one individual doesn't vote three times.

Postcards: It was interesting to hear the survey research confirming the amount of touch time people get with MCC information if it arrives by mail to their house. *Benefit:* we know that 18K postcards will enter into a household. Whereas, with electronic communication you can only assume people will get on their internet or phone... click on MCC... and get information. *Timing:* We plan to send the first mailing in January/February to inform people about becoming a candidate (deadline for candidate applications is March 16). This allows enough time if they choose to run for a board position, to go ahead and pick up an application and get the 10 signatures. The other side of the postcard could mention some activities happening at MCC. We would like to do a second postcard in later weeks to alert the public that now it's time to vote.

Decision about electing officers for the Governing Board: The actual MOTION that took place where the legacy board last year voted for the new Executive Committee didn't ever get changed in the Elections & Nominations Policies. Therefore, we don't have to un-do anything because it was never completed all the way. We are just going to revert back to the way it always has been done: the new board will elect the new Executive Committee. The new incoming Governing Board should reflect the community from the top to bottom. There should not be any lingering 'legacy' impact or traction.

Schedule FOIA training soon! for newly-elected board: One addition into the Candidate Orientation packets is an advance date for FOIA training in early June – A.S.A.P. once the board members are elected. We are waiting to hear back from the attorney to schedule something early in June 2022. We will also add a link to the meeting with the Executive Director so people can review Notebook Tab 17 and Tab 18 to have an idea about FOIA before they go into the training. The date for FOIA training will be shown on the "Key Dates" document.

Candidate Orientation infographic and PowerPoint presentation: It was suggested to add the colorful infographic in both the Adult and Youth Candidate packets. We heard consistent feedback that it was a very helpful explanatory visual.

Campaign tips for Youth candidates: Ivy brainstormed ideas about the youth campaign process. They would like to have a Town Hall for youth candidates so that Max and Ivy can answer any questions. Megan Markwart's video from last year can be repeated – it is well done and catches everyone's attention. Information session on how to use CANVA for campaigning: clues and tips for the youth candidates. More guidance about social media so they can use Twitter and Instagram about the MCC Governing Board election. Do more Instagram live; however, no takeovers are allowed by Fairfax County.

*Clarification by Chair Foderaro-Guertin:* Regarding social media: ADD to the Parent Acknowledgement Form - to require the parent's consent so that they know their kids will be active on social media.

Marketing feature of all candidates: To feature one candidate from each school – one per week in MCC's newsletter. We will plan to feature all adult candidates as well, with each person getting the same number of marketing exposures.

Campaign poster signs: We will do that again (individual pictorial sign for each person).

#### **OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

##### **1. When will we officially start using our Fairfax Co. e-mail addresses?**

Rasheq asked everyone to confirm how they are doing in setting-up. The best advice is to call Fairfax County IT; they are very helpful and will assist in trouble-shooting. Because we are not accessing the county IT infrastructure from a county building (unless you happen to be physically here at MCC), there are some things you can't do unless you are literally in this building (security issues). Several have asked about getting e-mails on your phone: it is not officially approved. The county doesn't want us to do e-mails on phones. They want us to go to the portal/website

to get e-mails. We recommend January 1 or thereafter (January board meeting) to be our target. I'm starting to forward emails there and will start responding from that email as of January 1, just to get into the habit.

*Further clarification by Rasheq:* It's just the webpage; that is the portal. We can't even use our WA - must go straight to the portal. The challenge is: a lot of us use our phones to get e-mails. But we will not receive 'alerts' through the portal. Rasheq uses the Outlook app – but the county won't support it. The county won't support e-mails on non-county issued public phones (private board member phones). The Help Desk said you can do it, but they won't support it and don't tell them about it.

*Question: Can the county wipe our phone?* No – as far as I know, they don't do 'master' mobile device management. If you install Outlook Find on your personal phone, the county controls all the features. I can't cut-and-paste from my Outlook on my personal phone to an email. They disabled cut-and-paste because they don't want people copying county information. They do have a lot of control even on your personal phone. Be aware of this, even if you want to download the app. Rasheq did receive an alert when there is an e-mail. You will also get an e-mail about training; that is legitimate. Take the training so you are in compliance. Executive Director Singh put the AMS Planning & Research materials on strategic planning in a SharePoint folder. Given the volume (79 pages for today), by having it in SharePoint, we have the benefit of not losing anything.

## 2. **Feedback from community members about why The Alden doesn't require proof of vaccination.**

A board member has been receiving questions about why The Alden doesn't require people to be vaccinated or show proof of a negative COVID-19 test. Every major entertainment venue now is requiring such: Wolf Trap, CapitalOne Theater, Arena Stage. Is there anything MCC can do about this concern in the community? At the recent Damien Sneed performance, it was sad to see a Grammy-nominated artist facing a half-filled theater.

*Clarification by Executive Director Singh:* It is a county-level issue because the youth vaccine is still in a test phase; it has not yet moved to full approval so it cannot be required in FCPS. Because it can't be mandated for the youth, then MCC would have to have separate policies for youth vs. adults; differentiated policies about entry to the theater vs. entry to classes. It gets muddy. The county groups Neighborhood Community Services, FCPA and community centers under one category: their view is that, because MCC is a public-serving organization, we can't ask for vaccination because it's not approved for everyone beyond the trial phase. I tried to make the case that 20 years ago, you could smoke in public places but at a certain point, smoking was affecting health. I tried to make the same case for our staff: it's putting them at risk to being in an enclosed space with variants and boosters not holding up. The problem is that there are a few counties in the U.S. – mostly on the west coast and some in New York that have tried to mandate vaccine checks, and they've all been blocked by courts... or a portion of the mandate got approved while a portion was struck down. So, there is confusion on which policy can be approved vs. not approved. Rather than MCC becoming a pilot case and spending tons of money and court time trying to get this sorted-out, they are waiting to see how these other cases go before they make a decision. But we should always keep voicing. I was the only person asking for this test; the other community centers and Neighborhood Comm. Services didn't express it.

*Question: So, if a community member wants to express their opinion about that, who would they write to?*

*Clarification by Executive Director Singh:* Community members may express their views to Fairfax Co. Health office. It's an irony that MPA can require proof of vaccination cards in our building because they are a non-profit, but MCC cannot as a government entity. Same with Kennedy Center and Wolf Trap – as non-profits that operate in a government facility, they are all able to bypass government expectations. MCC is a government entity so we can't do that. However, if there is enough public opinion, the county may reconsider.

*Opinion expressed:* The 'public opinion' is shown by people deciding not to attend. They are walking away.

*Question: Have any artists declined to appear here at The Alden?*

No – not yet. The artists are required because we are paying them. MCC employees, volunteers, and anyone we pay through contracts are required to submit proof of vaccination. But we can't require of the public.

*Opinion expressed:* To be fair, it was also an incredibly busy week; MCC had two conflicting events on the same night. But I do think people still prefer the outdoor events. We are seeing that all over – not just here.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Zamora-Appel invited the public to introduce themselves and give verbal remarks if they wished. Some had requested in advance to speak; all were verified as Small District 1A-Dranesville residents. Each person was given 3 minutes to speak.

### 1. **Christopher Henzel**

Thank you. Last June, MCC paid three drag queens to put on two performances for small children. Since then, the community have been asking the MCC Governing Board whether it would fund such an event again. That Chair of this board stated on-the-record in July that the board would discuss this matter publicly. But the board never did. For over five months, I and other taxpayers have been repeating this request at every MCC board meeting except the ones that were called at the last minute with little public notice. But the board has still had no public discussion. I suspect the board has had many private discussions about this issue. And I wonder whether this would be compatible with Virginia laws on public meetings and on Freedom of Information [FOIA]. In its public meetings, the board did discuss options for restricting public comment. And at the same time, and at enormous expense, the MCC hired the consultants (AMS) to, among other things, engage the views of the community. We saw the MCC board in an on-the-record meeting discuss how they would work to pack AMS's so-called 'listening session' with family, friends and other supporters, hoping to nudge AMS's survey in the board's preferred direction. At AMS so-called listening session on Nov. 18, the view of citizens critical of MCC were not accurately reported. Clearly, the AMS report should not be relied upon. To conclude, we're still waiting for the public discussion on drag queens that was committed to. If you believe that what you are doing is right, then why not say so publicly? Thank you.

*Several members of the public applauded.*

*Executive Director Singh stated that the Board Chair has the authority to control the order of the meeting: if at any point it feels unruly, the Board Chair can adjourn. Chair Zamora-Appel asked everyone to abstain from applauding: "We are not in a theater, even though the Alden Theatre is over there. You are welcome to come to those events, in which place you can applaud."*

## **2. Jeffrey Shapiro**

I don't have any prepared remarks. But I just wanted to speak about the issue of diversity. The comments here tonight were very interesting and a good first step in terms of thinking about diversity – but kind of a superficial a superficial movement focused on skin color and ethnicity. I think diversity really goes beyond that. There is a lot more to it; there's a lot more depth: there is religious belief and all kinds of things. In the One Fairfax policy which the Board adheres to and Mr. Singh is bound by and cites, there is a commitment to full diversity for a range of options that goes well beyond skin color – which is this kind of this superficial approach, in my opinion. And that, I think, needs to drive the board's decision making on events. So, when Mr. Singh puts on an event that has an offensive cast to a significant sector of the community, that's not acceptable under One Fairfax and it shouldn't be allowed. And what you ought to do (and most of your programming IS community-friendly, focused on the common denominator) is: keep it that way. Don't extend it into these fringe areas that are offensive and violate the One Fairfax policy. Because it's a two-way street, not a one-way street. Mr. Singh doesn't get to pick who is included and who is not. I've seen the e-mails between him and Ms. Prisby in the Dolley Madison Library. She's been doing things over there that are in the same vein – they have an 'agenda.' They believe they are going to bring enlightenment to this community and that their version of inclusiveness is the only version. And I disagree with that. I think it's a violation of the One Fairfax policy. So, I would ask you to think broadly, broadly about diversity. Sure, racial, ethnic... it's cute; it's interesting, different customs...that's great. But there are other things too. There are things of the Spirit and of community morals that are really important in holding a community together. I would urge you to honor everyone's morals and not to trample on them. And to look for the common ground that can entertain children, and seniors, and members of the community. Thank you.

- 3. Nicholas Kalis** *\*This person requested to distribute handout material. One board member asked if was distributed previously by e-mail – she didn't want any paper handouts Mr. Kalis responded that he didn't know and that he was sorry she had that sensitivity. He gave his home address for verification that he was a Small District 1A-Dranesville resident. Mr. Kalis stated that, apparently there is a problem accepting news clippings. Question from another board member: Is this the same as was distributed in an e-mail? He said he didn't know; it is a Letter to the Editor and an article published in Fairfax Times.*

*Chair Zamora-Appel was directed to start the timeclock.*

Board members and guests, good evening. I have six questions to pose to our board this evening. 1. Directing your attention to the first page – July 30, 2021, Letter to the *Fairfax Times*. My question is: at the Dolley Madison Library, did Director Singh indeed make the comments attributed to him in Jeffrey Shapiro's July 30 Letter to the Editor and in an earlier report? 2. Directing your attention to the fourth and fifth pages – the July 16, 2021 story by Heather Zinker in the *Fairfax Times* – was the Director referring to rosary ladies as 'harassing' him? Reports are that attendees (hopefully not McLean Community Center staff) accused the rosary ladies as "of being bigots, racist, transphobes and hateful." 3. Are these two reports indicative of a pattern of anti-Catholic bigotry emanating from the McLean Community Center, as



reports suggest? If so, have any steps... including sanctions or censure... been taken to remedy this situation? 4. Do the board members believe that the activities at both drag queen events fall outside the definition of 'lewd' as proscribed by Code of Virginia Section 18.2-371, which, incidentally, carries a punishment classed as a misdemeanor – which, if you check the Code, is up to one year in jail plus up to \$2,500 fine? But the good news is it's not at the penitentiary; it's just at the local jail in Fairfax city. So that's the good news - no penitentiary time; just jail time. According to Cambridge dictionary – "lewdness" is defined as "behavior sexual and obvious in an offensive way." 5. Do you believe these drag queen events are causing or rendering children abused or neglected as punishable under Code of Virginia Section 18.2-371? Also punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor, and as defined in Section 16.1-228? Again – good news: no penitentiary time; just jail time up to a year or \$2,500 fine.

*\*At this point, the 3-minute allotted time had expired and the time clock alarm sounded audibly throughout the room, heard by everyone. Despite the time expiring, Mr. Kalis ignored it and continued his remarks:*

6. Sixth and final question: Is the board aware that the matter of reported anti-Catholic bigotry is under review by the Fairfax County Office of Equity and Human Rights Programs, reported by Stephanie Polumbo?

*Chair Zamora-Appel stated:* Thank you.

*Chair Zamora-Appel then announced that if there was anyone else who would like to speak, to please state aloud your home address for verification as a Small District 1A-Dranesville resident.*

#### 4. Alice Middleton

I feel that the Governing Board of the McLean Community Center has lost its way. After passing a resolution to adopt a policy of DEIA (Diversity Equity, Inclusiveness, Access), the Executive Director immediately violated its adopted policy at the very first event I attended. I was shocked and appalled on Monday, November 15, when I was refused admission to an MCC-sponsored event that I had registered for. Was I refused because of my age... my hair color... my position in life? With respect to equity, I was a diverse member of the audience and I was refused admission. With respect to equity, I was not treated with equity. I had made a reservation in advance. And I was told when I arrived that others would be admitted before me and only after they were admitted, I might be admitted if it was determined that there was room for me in the room. I was not going to be admitted because (this was the reason given): I did not have a child with me. There was no requirement upon registering that one had to be accompanied by a child. I would have brought my child had I known that. What kind of equity is that - to require all participants or patrons to bring children to all performances at MCC. Is having a child... or not having a child... a criteria for admittance to an MCC event? I was asked if I had ever attended a child's camp program at MCC? Is that a criteria for attending another performance at MCC? How equitable is that? Do you only allow people who have previously attended MCC summer camps to attend current programs? With respect to inclusiveness, I was being excluded. I was being discriminated against because of some reason I can only guess at: my gender, my hair color, my position in life, by having or not having a child with me. I was made to feel unwelcome. If MCC is going to adopt a DEIA as its policy, it ought to be sure that it educates its board members and particularly its Executive Director as to the meaning of DEIA. I was not treated in accordance with the Fairfax County BoS DEIA policy. Immediate action should be taken. Thank you.

*Question from a board member: Are you referring to the Alphabet Rockers event?*

Yes. I actually was eventually admitted to the room but made to feel very unwelcomed.

#### 5. Small District 1A-Dranesville resident who lives on MacBeth Street (did not give his name)

1. First, I'd like to say that, as a long-time DEIA advocate, I'm really concerned about a lot of things that seem to be going on. This country was founded on religious freedom, right. So that meant you could come here and practice your religion and nobody would bother you. I don't remember anything in there saying that that allowed you to go and try to shove your beliefs down other peoples' throats. 2. Number two (and I have five): This isn't a religious institution. It's a government agency, so everything that's done here is optional. No one is being forced to come and participate. 3. From my Roman Catholic upbringing, I was taught that Jesus was the God of love. I don't remember him going around and doing things against people that other people might not have felt good about. 4. And, from what I remember, he was the only judge. So, I don't remember anything about people being 'empowered' to go out and try to tell other people how to live and shame them and fear them because of what they believe and how they live. So, there's a big chasm here between what I thought I learned in the Bible and what I thought Jesus taught... and what people seem to think "empowers" –they have some sort of 'moral' obligation and ability to go and bother other people about. I think we can remember where and how

the KKK was founded. It's kind of sad: in Virginia, it's actually one of the biggest places for white hate groups. So, to end it all... point 5. With all the things that people need... all the things that people are going through... all the people that need food and shelter and things... it seems rather pathetic to me that, in one of the richest and most educated counties in this nation, that people choose to spend their time with certain things to harass other people rather than actually solving real, tangible problems that people in our community are facing. Thank you.

**At this point, one of the previous speakers (Nicholas Kalis) disrupted the meeting by loudly objecting to the Board Chair's stated requirement that the public is not allowed to applaud after a speaker:**

"Hey Barbara – even the Nazi's wouldn't have stopped you from applauding. Even the Nazi's wouldn't stop you..."

The previous public person (who lives on MacBeth Street) countered audibly: "Out of Order."

*Mr. Kalis responded:* "That's O.K. I don't work here. Call the police on me. Only a Nazi would stop people from applauding."

The same public person (who lives on MacBeth Street) countered again, stating: "Out of Order."

*Mr. Kalis responded:* "Fine. Again, I'll say it one more time – the Nazi's didn't stop people from applauding. The Nazi's did not stop people from applauding."

**At this point, Executive Director Singh stood up and escorted Mr. Kalis out of the room.**

*Mr. Kalis said:* "I'm leaving."

**Mr. Kalis continued verbally abusing Executive Director Singh in the hallway and lobby as he exited the building, which was witnessed by a recreation aide at the front desk.**

**Following the exit, a board member made a remark expressing surprise that people became really disruptive.**

*A member of the public responded:* "Oh, come on; that's ridiculous. It just shows you how much ill will you all have generated."

*Another member of the public said:* "Amazing. You're not being problem-solvers."

*After Mr. Kalis had been escorted out of the room, Chair Zamora-Appel gave the following remarks:*

We're going to adjourn this meeting. We have to go into "Closed Session." And I just want to remind everybody that everyone here except for Daniel Singh is a volunteer. We are community members. We're all taxpayers. We all have ability to participate professionally, with decorum. We respect others as we want to be respected. The moment you move away from decorum, what can we do other than to think: "What is wrong with that?" So, I am sorry that happened. I wish that I could have better ways of conducting a meeting. I respectfully will ask anyone – whoever wants to communicate or say anything – to do it with respect. If you want respect from us, you should provide that respect to us. Thank you.

**The following additional public comments by Small District 1A-Dranesville residents were submitted in writing in advance of this meeting. Each person received the following standard reply at the time they wrote to MCC:**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

We appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts regarding \_\_\_\_\_.

Your comments will be shared with the McLean Community Center's Governing Board.

All MCC Governing Board meetings are open to the public. You can view the board schedule on our website at:

<https://mcleancenter.org/about/governing-meetings/meetings-agendas>

Thank you.

Sincerely, Holly Novak - Executive Assistant to the Governing Board - McLean Community Center

## 1. Kathleen Mallard

**From:** Gillette-Mallard, Kathleen D (kdg4g) <kdg4g@virginia.edu>

**Sent:** Friday, November 5, 2021 1:25 PM

**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>

**Cc:** Gillette-Mallard, Kathleen D (kdg4g) <kdg4g@virginia.edu>

**Subject:** Thank you again for additional information re MCCs 20th Anniversary of 9/11 commemorative videos -

**Importance:** High

Good Friday Afternoon, Ms. Novak,

Thank you again for your kind message and additional information. Your explanation as to why there was no community event to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11 is appreciated.

However, in light of the many LGBTQIA+ events, for over a month and the in person Drag Story Hour, it seems the MCC could have found a way to hold an in person outdoor commemoration.

Instead, there was the large Rainbow + flag and rainbow lighting around the outside of the building. MCC should have displayed the American flag and installed Red, White, and Blue lighting as has been done a few days ago, perhaps in anticipation of Veteran's Day? **Will there be any other special events for Veteran's Day?**

Thank you again and we look forward to being with you on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, thank you for your many helpful and professional interactions.

*Kathy*

Kathleen D. Gillette Mallard [kmallard@virginia.edu](mailto:kmallard@virginia.edu) (703) 309 – 3880

**From:** Novak, Holly R <[Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, November 5, 2021 12:45 PM

**To:** Gillette-Mallard, Kathleen D (kdg4g) <[kdg4g@virginia.edu](mailto:kdg4g@virginia.edu)>

**Subject:** RE: Thank you and please forgive the delay in replying

Hello Ms. Mallard.

We noted your follow-up question in the e-mail below about whether the McLean Community Center's 9/11 commemorative program was available for participation by the public. Here is clarification on that point.

The design of our program in commemoration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 was to be virtual so that people could participate by sharing on their own personal social media networks. It was intentionally created that way for broad outreach during the peak of the Delta variant of COVID-19. Our goal was to create a very public program that could have meaningful impact while keeping safety in focus.

Sincerely,

**Holly Novak**

*Executive Assistant to the Governing Board*

McLean Community Center

**From:** Gillette-Mallard, Kathleen D (kdg4g) <[kdg4g@virginia.edu](mailto:kdg4g@virginia.edu)>

**Sent:** Monday, November 1, 2021 3:08 PM

**To:** Novak, Holly R <[Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov)>

**Cc:** Gillette-Mallard, Kathleen D (kdg4g) <[kdg4g@virginia.edu](mailto:kdg4g@virginia.edu)>

**Subject:** Thank you and please forgive the delay in replying

Hello Ms. Novak,

Thank you for the follow up and for sending these two tributes by MCC on the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11. Were these events made available for participation by the public? They are beautiful tributes.

Thank you again and please accept my appreciation for the follow up. I look forward to seeing you again in the not too distant future,

With best regards,

*Kathy*

Kathleen D. Gillette Mallard [kmallard@virginia.edu](mailto:kmallard@virginia.edu) (703) 309 – 3880

**From:** Novak, Holly R <[Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 9:54 AM

**To:** [kmallard@virginia.edu](mailto:kmallard@virginia.edu); Gillette-Mallard, Kathleen D (kdg4g) <[kdg4g@virginia.edu](mailto:kdg4g@virginia.edu)>

**Subject:** 9/11 programming at MCC

Dear Ms. Mallard,

Thank you for contributing remarks last night in the public comment portion of Programs & Outreach Committee meeting.

Indeed, 9/11 is very significant to McLean residents. Realizing the importance of supporting our community in a time of remembrance and grief, the McLean Community Center designed a special tribute program to honor the significance of 9/11. The effort was led by Executive Director Singh and MCC Performing Arts and Public Information Office staffs. This program was advertised widely in the community leading up to September 11, 2021. However, it may have been missed by

some because it was all happening around the same time of summer vacations concluding... Labor Day holiday... and parents focusing on the start of in-person school.

We are sharing these links of MCC's efforts to provide a meaningful observance of this very significant and historic day. We hope you enjoy this program.

MCC 9/11 Tribute: "Amazing Grace"

[https://youtu.be/mV6NArDUh\\_M](https://youtu.be/mV6NArDUh_M)

MCC 9/11 Tribute: "Taps"

<https://youtu.be/zugtL6icF64>

Sincerely,

**Holly Novak**

*Executive Assistant to the Governing Board*

McLean Community Center

[www.mcleancenter.org](http://www.mcleancenter.org)

2. **Nicholas Kalis**

**From:** Nicholas Kalis <nkalis@kaliscompanies.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 24, 2021 12:38 AM

**To:** [feedback@mcleancenter.org](mailto:feedback@mcleancenter.org)

**Subject:** Read this

[LGBT Indoctrination of Children \(churchmilitant.com\)](http://LGBT Indoctrination of Children (churchmilitant.com))

## LGBT INDOCTRINATION OF CHILDREN

NEWS: VIDEO REPORTS ([HTTPS://WWW.CHURCHMILITANT.COM/SEARCH/CATEGORY/267/NEWS-PACKAGE-REPORTS](https://www.churchmilitant.com/search/category/267/news-package-reports))



(<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/lgbt-indoctrination-of-children>)



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by Anita Carey (<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/author/anita-carey>) •

ChurchMilitant.com • June 11, 2018 16 Comments

### 'Kids are being groomed for early sexual involvement and exploitation'



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0:00 / 1:42

Children are being bombarded with messages normalizing debauchery.

In a Facebook post (<https://www.facebook.com/CBClife/videos/10155563960341964/>) promoting gay pride month on the CBC Life page, Canadian Broadcasting Company host, Jessi Cruickshank, asked young children, "Who here knows what gay pride means?"

One young girl answered, "It's when all the gay people, transitioners, lesbians, bisexual people gather up and celebrate."

Recent polls have shown that in addition to supporting same-sex so-called marriage, the majority of Democrats find pornography morally acceptable (<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/majority-of-democrats-find-porn-morally-acceptable>).

"Jodi Foster was a woman that made me question my sexuality because I liked her so much," Cruickshank told a group of young children, adding "and she did appear nude in the film *Nell*, not that I remember watching it several times as a child."

Messages warping pride into a celebration of individuality and ridiculing traditional values are being woven into media and school curricula.

For gay pride month, Nickelodeon showcases a number of children with different talents and abilities in a commercial played for children.

"We should celebrate pride and being proud of ourselves," says one boy. "I just do things a little different," says another, with a third adding, "You can be the wild child."

Studies have found one in four teens are sexting ([https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-switch/wp/2018/02/27/a-new-study-shows-one-in-four-teens-are-sexing-relax-experts-say-its-mostly-normal/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.4c9c503a56d0](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-switch/wp/2018/02/27/a-new-study-shows-one-in-four-teens-are-sexing-relax-experts-say-its-mostly-normal/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.4c9c503a56d0)) and underage sex trafficking is affecting over two million children every year, while police aren't stopping it (<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/u.k.-ignores-muslim-rapists-claims-child-protective-services-transformed>).

In a video promoting a petition ([https://www.change.org/p/please-read-and-share-with-your-friends-concerned-parents-of-sdusd-san-diego-unified-school-district-suspend-new-sexual-health-curriculum-for-san-diego-unified-school-district?recruiter=709019060&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=share\\_email\\_responsive](https://www.change.org/p/please-read-and-share-with-your-friends-concerned-parents-of-sdusd-san-diego-unified-school-district-suspend-new-sexual-health-curriculum-for-san-diego-unified-school-district?recruiter=709019060&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=share_email_responsive)) and rally protesting San Diego's pornographic sex-ed program, Dean Broyles, president of National Center for Law and Policy, said, "They're creating a very dark world where young children are over-sexualized by very graphic content where highly addictive and destructive pornography is being promoted as sex-ed where kids are being groomed for early sexual involvement and exploitation."

Parents all over the country are fighting back, calling out school districts (<https://www.churchmilitant.com/news/article/san-diego-parents-fight-pornographic-sex-ed-curriculum>) for their policies or homeschooling their children.

Featured image from Storks.

### 3. Nicholas Kalis

**From:** Nick Kalis <nkalis@verizon.net>

**Sent:** Sunday, December 5, 2021 11:26 AM

**To:** feedback@mcleancenter.org

**Subject:** Please explain why the MCC Board Is Bringing This Negative Publicity Upon Our Community - Are 1.2 Billion Catholics Owed an Apology?

Dear MCC Board Members:

As we end the year we should take stock of what the past year has brought the taxpayers and residents of McLean, Virginia. Here is a sampling (thirteen in all) of the negative publicity allegedly brought upon the McLean Community Center and McLean, Virginia as a whole by your programs. It also appears *Fairfax County Times* published a letter to the editor that alleged Director Singh was not content to offend many with his program but also allegedly possibly smeared the Pope and 1.2 Billion Catholics around the world.

A more robust inquiry may well find more instances of negative reporting on MCC involvement in what seems to be commonly referred to as the "Dray Queen Story Hour."

**Christina Laila** June 25 2021 *Gateway Pundit* [Virginia Library Invites Preschoolers, Babies and Toddlers to Drag Queen Story Hour to Celebrate Pride Month \(thegatewaypundit.com\)](https://thegatewaypundit.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-to-drag-queen-story-hour-to-celebrate-pride-month/)

**No author cited** June 25 2021 [www.truenewshub.com](https://www.truenewshub.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-for-drag-storybook-hour/) [Virginia Library Invites 'Preschoolers,' 'Babies,' 'Toddlers' For 'Drag StoryBook Hour' – True News Hub](https://www.truenewshub.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-for-drag-storybook-hour/)

**No author cited** Undated *Cybernistas* [Virginia Library Invites Preschoolers, Babies and Toddlers to Drag Queen Story Hour to Celebrate Pride Month – Cybernistas](https://www.cybernistas.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-to-drag-queen-story-hour-to-celebrate-pride-month/)

**No author cited** Undated [www.stationgossip.com](https://www.stationgossip.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-to-drag-queen-story-hour-to-celebrate-pride-month/) [Virginia Library Invites Preschoolers, Babies and Toddlers to Drag Queen Story Hour to Celebrate Pride Month - STATIONGOSSIP](https://www.stationgossip.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-to-drag-queen-story-hour-to-celebrate-pride-month/)

**JD's Curated Links** June 25 2021 *NOQ Report* [Virginia Library Invites 'Preschoolers,' 'Babies,' 'Toddlers' for 'Drag Storybook Hour' \(noqreport.com\)](https://www.noqreport.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-babies-and-toddlers-for-drag-storybook-hour/)

**Todd Starnes** June 25 2021 [www.toddstanres.com](https://www.toddstanres.com/library-to-host-drag-queen-event-for-babies-and-toddlers-todd-starnes/) [Library to Host Drag Queen Event For Babies and Toddlers - Todd Starnes](https://www.toddstanres.com/library-to-host-drag-queen-event-for-babies-and-toddlers-todd-starnes/)

**Todd Starnes** June 28 2021 *Newsmax* [Virginia Library Hosts Drag Show for Babies and Toddlers | Newsmax.com](https://www.newsmax.com/virginia-library-hosts-drag-show-for-babies-and-toddlers/)

**No author cited** Undated *wixsite.com* [Virginia Library Invites Preschoolers, Toddlers to Drag Queen Story Hour to Celebrate Pride Month. \(wixsite.com\)](https://www.wixsite.com/virginia-library-invites-preschoolers-toddlers-to-drag-queen-story-hour-to-celebrate-pride-month/)

**Joe Albero**, Publisher Undated *SBYNews* [Virginia Library Invites Preschoolers, Babies and Toddlers to Drag Queen Story Hour to Celebrate Pride Month – sbynews](#)

**Elisabeth Nieshalla** June 29 2021 *CNSNews* [VA's Dolley Madison Library Offers 'Drag StoryBook Hour' for LGBTQ 'Pride Month' | CNSNews](#)

**Merci Hobson** July 9 2021 *Connection Newspapers* "Drag Queen Storytime" [Photo \(connectionnewspapers.com\)](#)

**Richard Porter** October 8 2021 *Fairfax County Times* [One Fairfax, equity, drag queens and pornography | Opinions | fairfaxtimes.com](#)

**Jeffrey Shapiro** July 30 2021 *Fairfax County Times* [In reply to Drag Story Hour article | Opinions | fairfaxtimes.com](#)

"As one attendee reported, when she displayed disapproval of this event, Director Singh "angrily told me that if I was concerned about the well-being of children I should write to the Pope."

At a recent MCC listening event which took place on December 1 2021 via Zoom, one attending community member called for the resignation of the MCC board.



One child in this photo by Mercia Hobson looks barely old enough to walk

So McLean is mocked around the world and according to Jeffrey Shapiro's July 30 2021 *Fairfax County Times* letter to the editor, the McLean Community Center Director, according to the report of one attendee, allegedly possibly smeared 1.2 Billion Catholics and it is business as usual?

#### 4. Nicholas Kalis

**From:** Nick Kalis <[nkalis@verizon.net](mailto:nkalis@verizon.net)>

**Sent:** Sunday, December 5, 2021 12:16 PM

**To:** Chairman <[Chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Chairman@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Dranesville BOS <[DranesvilleBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:DranesvilleBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Leedist BOS <[LeedistBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:LeedistBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Mason <[Mason@FairfaxCounty.gov](mailto:Mason@FairfaxCounty.gov)>

**Cc:** Singh, Daniel <[Daniel.Singh@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Daniel.Singh@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Springfield BOS <[SpringfieldBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:SpringfieldBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Providence BOS <[Providence@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Providence@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Sully District Kathy L. Smith <[SullyDistrictKathyLSmith@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:SullyDistrictKathyLSmith@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Hunter Mill BOS <[HunterMillBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:HunterMillBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov)>; Braddock BOS <[BraddockBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:BraddockBOS@fairfaxcounty.gov)>

**Subject:** You may wish to obtain a legal opinion on this matter in regards to activities of the McLean Community Center in 2021

Dear Chairman McKay:

You may wish to obtain a legal opinion on the following question in regards to activities of the **McLean Community Center** in 2021 (one event was co-sponsored with the Fairfax County Public Libraries and the second event – held on October 4 2021 – appears to be held without a co-sponsor.

Do the widely reported – indeed, in a negative fashion - drag queen events held at both the **Dolley Madison Library** on June 26 2021 and at the **McLean Community Center** on October 4 2021 6PM [§ 18.2-347. Keeping, residing in, or frequenting a bawdy place: "bawdy place" defined; penalty \(virginia.gov\)](#) constitute "keeping a bawdy place" as defined by the Code of Virginia? Violations of the Statute is a Class 1 Misdemeanor.

A bawdy place is any place used, among other things, for "lewdness".

According to the *Cambridge Dictionary*  
lewdness

*noun* [U]

UK

/ˈluːd.nəs/ US

/ˈluːd.nəs/

[behaviour](#) that is [sexual](#) in an [obvious](#) and [offensive](#) way

Other dictionaries appear to contain similar definitions for lewdness.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Kalis - McLean, Virginia

5. **Nicholas Kalis**

**From:** Nick Kalis <nkalis@verizon.net>

**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 5:52 PM

**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>

**Subject:** RE: Please explain why the MCC Board Is Bringing This Negative Publicity Upon Our Community - Are 1.2 Billion Catholics Owed an Apology?

I read some of the previous board meeting minutes – it seems to be that there is a ground swell of opposition to the Drag Queen events you have sponsored and that the Board is stonewalling the community. I have sent an email to the **Fairfax County Chief of Police Davis** asking him to look into whether there were any violations of the **Code of Virginia Section 18.2-347 (which indicates that violations of this code section carry with them the penalties attached to a Class One Misdemeanor Section 18.2-11(a) which carries a punishment not more than 12 months in jail and not more than a \$ 2,500 or both)** in regards to alleged lewdness at your two events. I sent Davis links to 14 instances of media coverage of the event and attendant published photographs.

Nicholas Kalis

6. **Nicholas Kalis**

**From:** Nick Kalis <nkalis@verizon.net>

**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 7:24 PM

**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>

**Cc:** lcarbonneau@mpaart.org

**Subject:** For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday December 8 2021

For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday December 8 2021

Dear Ms. Holly R. Novak:

As a resident of the McLean special taxing district I would like to submit this for inclusion in the board meeting minutes of Wednesday December 8 2021. This is in addition to a separate email I sent at 6:22PM of same date. You may wish to print out the **Code of Virginia** sections included below after clicking on both links and include those in the minutes.

[§ 18.2-371. Causing or encouraging acts rendering children delinquent, abused, etc.; penalty; abandoned infant \(virginia.gov\)](#)

Your attorneys may also consider the following

[§ 16.1-228. Definitions \(virginia.gov\)](#)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Kalis - McLean, Virginia

7. **Nicholas Kalis (referring e-mail comments from Harry Panopoulos)**

**From:** Nick Kalis <nkalis@verizon.net>

**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 9:17 PM

**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>

**Subject:** Please include Harry Panopoulos of McLean Virginia Comments

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Harry Panopoulos <[panopouloshn@gmail.com](mailto:panopouloshn@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 7:40 PM

**To:** Nick Kalis <[nkalis@verizon.net](mailto:nkalis@verizon.net)>

**Subject:** Re: FW: Are 1.2 Billion Catholics Owed an Apology by MCC?

Excellent observation and analysis of what has gone wrong with the MCC board for approving such programs offered to the community. Are we going nuts in this society?

8. **Nicholas Kalis**

**From:** Nick Kalis <nkalis@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 6, 2021 6:22 PM  
**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>  
**Cc:** lcarbonneau@mpaart.org; Singh, Daniel <Daniel.Singh@fairfaxcounty.gov>  
**Subject:** For informational purposes, here is a link to a law governing Crimes and Offenses that may have been violated by your drag queen events  
For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday December 8 2021

For informational purposes, here is a link to a law that may have been violated by the several drag queen events sponsored by the McLean Community Center

[§ 18.2-347. Keeping, residing in, or frequenting a bawdy place; "bawdy place" defined; penalty \(virginia.gov\)](#)

Here is the **Code of Virginia** section pertaining to the punishment for conviction of a Class 1 Misdemeanor  
[§ 18.2-11. Punishment for conviction of misdemeanor \(virginia.gov\)](#)

Please include and make a part this email submission in the Minutes of the next board meeting Wednesday, December 8 2021 of the McLean Community Center

Nicholas Kalis - McLean, Virginia

**9. Elizabeth Kalis**

**From:** Lib Kal <elkay2132@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021 3:22 AM  
**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>  
**Subject:** For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Mins of Wednesday Dec 8 2021  
TUESDAY December 7, 2021

Dear Board Members:

I am opposed to any further events being held at either the McLean Community Center or the Dolley Madison Library that include drag queens or transvestites interacting with minors. Please include my comments in the minutes of the board meeting of Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

Elizabeth Kalis - McLean, Virginia

**10. Peter Kalis**

**From:** Peter K <petekalis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021 10:00 AM  
**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments for Board Meeting  
For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday December 8 2021

Dear Board Members:

I am opposed to any further events being held at either the **McLean Community Center** or the **Dolley Madison Library** that include drag queens or transvestites interacting with minors. Please include my comments in the minutes of the board meeting of Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

Peter Kalis - Falls Church, Virginia

**11. Irene Kalis**

**From:** Irene N. Kalis <irenenkalis@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021 3:33 PM  
**To:** Novak, Holly R <Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday December 8, 2021

Thank you. I appreciate it.  
Irene

On Tue, Dec 7, 2021 at 10:31 PM Novak, Holly R <[Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov)> wrote:

Dear Ms. Kalis,

We appreciate your taking the time to share your comments regarding Drag Story Hour. Your comments will be shared with



the McLean Community Center's Governing Board.

All MCC Governing Board meetings are open to the public. You can view the board schedule on our website at: <https://mcleancenter.org/about/governing-meetings/meetings-agendas>

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Holly Novak  
Executive Assistant to the Governing Board  
McLean Community Center

**From:** Irene N. Kalis <[irenenkalis@gmail.com](mailto:irenenkalis@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 7, 2021 3:18 PM  
**To:** Novak, Holly R <[Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Holly.Novak@fairfaxcounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** For Inclusion in the Board Meeting Minutes of Wednesday December 8, 2021

I am opposed to any further events being held at either the **McLean Community Center** or the **Dolley Madison Library** that include drag queens or trans interacting with minors. Please include my comments in the minutes of the board meeting of Wednesday, December 8, 2021.

Irene N. Kalis - McLean, Virginia

## 12. Betty Ende

(e-mail forwarded by Board Secretary Maria Foderaro-Guertin [mariamccboard@yahoo.com](mailto:mariamccboard@yahoo.com))

**Sent:** Thursday, December 2, 2021 9:20 PM  
**To:** Singh, Daniel <[Daniel.Singh@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Daniel.Singh@fairfaxcounty.gov)>  
**Subject:** Community Feedback

Hi Daniel! I wanted to forward some information from Betty Ende. She was at the listening session last night and found out about this education & solar energy opportunity. It really would be something to have this type of programming!

Betty also wanted to share that she is happy to have you as the Exec Dir. Of MCC.

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### We Share Solar Opportunity for DC-Area Teachers

We Share Solar® helps equip middle and high school students for the future through solar energy education with real world impact. The Solutionary Program offers a project-based learning experience with interdisciplinary curriculum designed around the 5E model of instruction. Teachers can apply to attend a one-day workshop to learn how to assemble a Solar Suitcase and equip and prepare it with their students for deployment to an energy deficient school in East Africa. Application forms are due by **December 10, 2021**. Selected teachers will be invited to a one-day professional development workshop scheduled for March 2022. [Learn more about We Share Solar and apply.](#)

Best Regards, Betty

## ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC SESSION

*Chair Zamora-Appel stated:* O.K. – we need to move into “Closed Session.” The public part of this meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

## CLOSED SESSION

Chair Zamora-Appel confirmed that all public attendees had now exited and the board could transition to a discussion in “Closed Session.” With the public having exited, only Governing Board members and MCC staff remained in the room.

**MOTION #1 Going into Closed Session:** \*Chair Zamora-Appel stated aloud the following:

I move that the McLean Community Center Governing Board go into Closed Session, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) for the purpose of the discussion and consideration of the

acquisition of real property for a public purpose, where discussion in in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position and negotiating strategy of this body. The subject matter to be heard, discussed, considered, and consulted upon concerns a bid for the purchase of real property and its facilities where the McLean Community Center will be offering a purchase proposal with multiple competing bidders for that property. **The MOTION passed unanimously.**

**MOTION #2 Going into Closed Session:** \*Chair Zamora-Appel stated aloud the following:

I move that the McLean Community Center Governing Board go into Closed Session, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) for the purpose of the discussion and consideration of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position and negotiating strategy of this body. The subject matter to be heard, discussed, considered, and consulted upon concerns a lapsed lease over a property owned by the McLean Community Center, potential new lessors, and best options for protecting and maximizing the McLean Community Center's return on the leasehold. **The MOTION passed unanimously.**

**Closed Session began at 8:34 p.m.**

**Closed Session ended at 9:41 p.m.**

#### **RECONVENE INTO PUBLIC SESSION**

**MOTION #1 Coming Out of Closed Session:** \*Chair Zamora-Appel stated aloud the following:

In accordance with Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712, I move that the McLean Community Center Governing Board members certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, considered or consulted upon in Closed Session.

**The MOTION passed unanimously.**

**MOTION #2 Coming Out of Closed Session:** \*Chair Zamora-Appel stated aloud the following:

In accordance with Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712, I move that the McLean Community Center Governing Board members certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, considered or consulted upon in Closed Session.

**The MOTION passed unanimously.**

Following the MOTIONS to reconvene into Public Session, Chair Zamora-Appel announced that public attendees were now welcome to return to the room if they wished to continue observing the meeting. No one from the public returned.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Zamora-Appel thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Holly Novak, Executive Assistant to the Governing Board