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ABOUT OUR MEETING

This meeting is being set aside in order that the membership can meet the new officers, discuss the ideas Mr. Helein has proposed in his article, which follows, and propose new ideas for the Association to consider.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Mr. Charles Helein

Reflecting on my first official contact with the members of our Association, I could not help but recall the remarks made by Mr. Agnew upon his acceptance of the nomination for the Vice Presidency of the United States. My name is not exactly a household word either. By way of introduction, then, I, with my wife, Judy, and our four children, have resided in the community for approximately three years.

Since this is a new year and I have just entered office, it seems appropriate to outline some of the work and challenges that lie ahead for our Association.

You are all well aware of the construction of drainage facilities in the vicinity of Custis Parkway. Your Association intends to continue the efforts in getting this project completed quickly and it is my intention to then study the feasibility of converting the lot between Cameron and Greenway into a playground complete with recreational equipment.

JANUARY MEETING

DATE Wednesday, January 29
TIME 8:00 p.m.
PLACE Devonshire School Cafetorium
 Graham Road and Lee Highway

**BUSINESS MEETING
 REFRESHMENTS**

There are other important projects which must be carried forward. A petition is being circulated to have the County study the costs and other problems involved in constructing sidewalks, curbs, and gutters throughout the community. Work is being continued to have Cavalier Trail repaved and lighting installed along its pathway.

These projects and goals will need the cooperation, assistance, and talent of as many members of our Association as we can muster.

The Bylaws of the Association empower the President to appoint the Chairmen of the Standing Committees: Child Activities, Community Beautification, Editor of *The Downs*, Hospitality, Membership, Program, Schools, and Streets and Utilities. Over the next few weeks, it is my intention to contact those in our Association which may have a special interest or talent which

CURBS AND GUTTERS

At our last meeting, the Director of Administration Division, Department of Public Works, Mr. John E. Behrend, discussed the problems involved in obtaining curbs, gutters, and sidewalks for Greenway Downs. In doing so he compared our area to Sanitary District 8 which encompasses 450 homes in Pimmit Hills, a subdivision west of Falls Church on Route 7. There, the residents voted a \$370,000 bond issue for a project costing a total of \$650,000 with the state and county funding the difference.

The procedure for obtaining such an improvement would be to first petition the Board of Supervisors for a feasibility study and preliminary cost estimate. (This is being circulated at present.) Then the Association would petition the Board to become a Sanitary District. The Board, if it accepted the petition, would authorize a referendum of the homeowners affected. If a majority of those voting decided in favor of issuing the bonds, the work would be done and each homeowner would be assessed his share depending on his frontage.

Existing sidewalks will have to be replaced. On narrow roads land might have to be acquired. Probably sidewalks will be laid on only one side of the street in order to cut cost of land and installation. Many of the roads will have to be regraded and resurfaced but this would be a Virginia Department of Highways job and subject, therefore, to their money and time schedules.

According to Mr. Behrend, it would take approximately four years to complete the job. This estimate includes a one- to two-year period of preliminary matters including the petition and study. He felt that this work would easily increase the value of property about 5%.

Many thanks to Mr. Behrend for his enlightening report to us.

DIRECTORY DELAY

Due to much illness, the printer has fallen behind in completing our Directory. We are now hoping it will be ready by the end of January. Perhaps the suffering will not be much longer.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The next four meetings will be held on Wednesdays:

January 29
February 26
March 26
April 30

PICNIC - Saturday, June 14

PTA MOVIE

The Devonshire School PTA will sponsor a movie to be held at the school on Saturday, February 1, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. The name of this animated, color movie is "Hey, There, Yogi Bear," and the cost is 50¢ for children of any age.

FEDERATION REPORT

At its January 16 meeting, the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association, of which Greenway Downs is a member, reaffirmed with one exception the testimony presented by the Federation to the Fairfax County School Board on November 18, 1968. The highlights of the Federation recommendations are:

1. Addition of 50 teachers' aides.
2. Extension of physical education, foreign language, and music programs to all county elementary schools.
3. Expansion of special education to the educable, trainable, gifted, and those with specific learning problems.
4. Extension of psychological counseling services to intermediate and high schools.
5. Addition of school librarians to meet American Library Association standards.
6. Curtailment of the tuition grant program except for special education to the handicapped not provided by the county.
7. Increase in the base salary for teachers from \$6400 to \$7000.

-H. Rodriguez

SCOUT NEWS

Girls—The end of January begins the frantic preparations for a highlight of the Girl Scout and Brownie Scout winter—the Father-Daughter Banquet to be held this year on Monday, February 24, at Falls Church High School. This serves as an extra notice to all Fathers of Scouts to especially reserve this night. It's always full of fun and surprises. The Brownies of Troop 575 are going to represent Puerto Rico with table decorations, dress, and a dance. The Girl Scouts of Troop 601 are keeping their plans secret.

On December 23 the Brownies went to the Whitehall Nursing Home where they sang Christmas carols to the patients. Afterward they soothed their tired throats with much appreciated hot chocolate at Mrs. Roadcap's home on Custis Parkway.

Many thanks to the girls of Troop 601 who sang Christmas carols in our community December 22. All those of us who were visited thoroughly enjoyed hearing you bring the Christmas message into our homes.

Boys—The two major money-making projects of the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts were completed very successfully within the last month. Boy Scout Troop 677 reports that they had only eight trees left at the end of the annual sale on Herb Jones' lot. Many thanks are due to Mr. Jones and to all of the community who bought the trees. This money will enable some of the boys to go to camp this summer and will pay for the addition of some camping equipment.

The Cubs of Troop 677 were equally successful in their quarterly paper drive held on January 11. The drive, which had been postponed from December 14 because of bad

weather, gave the hard-working boys \$53.20. Many thanks to the parents of the Cubs who helped the boys pick up the papers and to the residents who contributed their magazines and newspapers. The next drive will be in April.

The boys are now anxiously preparing for the annual Blue and Gold Banquet to be held on February 28.

The boys of Troop 677 are as busy as all the other groups. On January 25 and 26, the Winter Camporee will be held at Burke Lake. And, David Jacobs has been promoted to Star Scout.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Thanks to the Olympian efforts of a few of our neighbors, the annual Children's Christmas Party was very successful. In spite of a week-night date and the failure of *The Downs* being delivered to all the homes, 110 children and Santa had a delightful party.

The Association wishes to thank especially Mrs. Layland, the Chairman of the committee who with her committee—Mrs. Dorothy Comer, Mrs. Georgia Taylor, and Mrs. Norma Maxon—did such a fine job. Thanks, too, to Mr. Jerry Comer for his special help.

The children enjoyed punch, cookies, and favors and received a gift wrapped toy from Santa as well as a box of candy. Some children who were sick on the night of the party also received candy and a toy. What was left over was donated to the Salvation Army for distribution.

Mrs. Layland asked that we thank those parents who stayed and helped and especially all those who picked up their children promptly. Not one child had to go home with Santa!