

C500 Membership Meeting

6/30/08

Minutes

In attendance were Board Members: Chris Folger, Brenda Hagan, Brenda King, Pete Kolaskowski, Diane Kuechler, John LeFebre, Cristine Lynch, Horace McCaskill, Jr., Fred Messing, Stephen Thibault. Members attending: Bill and Toki Blaine, Alan Branfman, Charles Carrington, MaryLou and Tod Eikenberry, Dick Folger, Ann Heidig, Dorothy Miller, Fred Monner, Ethel Names, Dan Nicholson, Donna Purkowski, Doris Rankin, Hart Rutherford, Ann Shotwell as well as Friends of C500: Gary Bullis, Paula Kallay, Dottie Migliore, and Moe Petway.

Randy Wheeler, Spotsylvania County Administrator, was the speaker.

Business: C. Folger verified that a quorum was present and introduced D. Nicholson, Chair of the Nominating Committee. He introduced the proposed 2008 to 2010 C500 Board and Officers (attached). There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was accepted unanimously. C. Folger then gave a brief history of C500 before assuming the position of Immediate Past Chair and symbolically handing the gavel over to F. Messing, the 2008 Chairperson.

Design Standards: B. King and C. Lynch gave a summary of the status of the proposed Enhanced Design Standards Manual Amendment for Commercial and Industrial Design Standards (06-G). They strongly encouraged all to attend the 7/16/08 Planning Commission meeting (7:30pm in the Holbert Building). This meeting is a continuance of the Public Hearing. Individuals can contact B. King or C. Lynch for further information.

The Speaker, R. Wheeler, Spotsylvania County Administrator, was then introduced by F. Messing. R. Wheeler gave an overview of his job as "CEO of a one-half billion dollar a year organization". He discussed: areas of responsibility; mission statement; vision statement; core values (customer driven excellence, visionary leadership, valued employees, public stewardship, strategic planning); focus areas (general government, growth management, public safety, transportation). He described his evaluation tool for the above (quantifiable measures) as well as provided a summary of the current year, especially noting the recent budget process and tax increase. R. Wheeler discussed his personal priorities: fiscal stewardship (noting the current AA bond rating for the county) and transportation. Questions were taken.

The meeting was adjourned by F. Messing at 8:30pm

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FRED MESSING, CHAIR (previously elected in July 2006 and appointed as Vice Chair by the Board in 2008). Fred relocated here almost 5 years ago from South Florida, where he was a hospital CEO and five-hospital system COO. He is a Life Fellow (highest level of professional membership) of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Fred currently serves as the Citizen Member on the Spotsylvania County Fire and EMS Commission, and has been on the Steering Committee of the Spotsylvania Coalition for 24/7 Fire/Emergency Medical Services. He remains involved part time in healthcare management consulting.

PETE KOLAKOWSKI, VICE CHAIR (previously elected in July 2006). Pete has been a resident of the area since 1972. He has been employed in management positions in Virginia local government (in Fredericksburg), State government (working for VDOT) and, currently, at the federal government level (for the U.S. Navy at Dahlgren). In the jobs, all aspects of transportation have been an important part of the work. Also, Pete serves as one of the Spotsylvania County's representatives on the FAMPO citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee.

BRENDA KING, TREASURER (appointed by the Board in 2008). Brenda retired from administrative posts at UMW where she served as Special Asst. to the President responsible for Special Administrative Projects, and later as the first Director of International & Study Abroad Programs. Prior to moving here 20 years ago from Connecticut, Brenda was a Financial Associate at General Foods Corp. headquarters in White Plains, NY, serving in its Post Cereal Breakfast Foods Division, Distribution & Transportation Division, and Inventory Control Division. She has served on the boards of the Rappahannock Group of the Sierra Club, the Fredericksburg Center for the Creative Arts, and currently serves as the Salem District's appointee on the Spotsylvania County Historic Preservation Commission. Brenda serves on the ad hoc subcommittees reviewing the County's Comprehensive Plan and Enhanced Commercial Design Standards. Her primary County interests are in the areas of controlled/managed growth, improved commercial design standards, redevelopment of the blighted strip malls, open spaces, and the creation of a Tree Preservation ordinance.

BRENDA HAGAN (appointed by the Board in 2008). Brenda is an Alexandria, VA, native who received her BS in Nursing from UVA then left the state for FL to PA to NJ to MD then returned to VA 10 years ago. She is a full-time Nurse Practitioner in private practice with Fredericksburg OB/GYN Center, Inc. She continues to be involved in women's issues. Being married 36 years to Bob Hagan, President of the Regional Chamber of Commerce, keeps her in tune with many political issues and events. A self-professed "tree hugger", her other interests are in the environment and animal rights.

DIANE KUECHLER (appointed by the Board in 2008). Diane has been a resident of Spotsylvania County for twenty years. She served on the Comprehensive Plan Committee from 1993-1994 and was a Berkeley representative on the current revision of the plan. She was a representative on the Transportation Advisory Committee and a group updating planning department regulations. She was chairperson of Concerned Citizens of Spotsylvania—a group formed to oppose the Luck Stone Quarry. As founder of the Kenmore Garden Guild more than 15 years ago, she is still a volunteer in the gardens at Kenmore and Ferry Farm. Being married to a Volunteer Fireman, she is a life member of the Ladies Auxiliary and has been the bookkeeper for the Spotsylvania Volunteer Fire Dept. for 19 years. In a former life, she taught art at the elementary and high school level for 10 years and was a real estate broker for 12 years. Currently, she has a floral business with her main customer being the University of Mary Washington.

JOHN LEFEBRE (previously elected in July 2006). John has held various systems engineering positions over a 29 year career with Navy contractors. He has been a resident of Spotsylvania since 1980 and served on the board of the Spotsylvania Preservation Foundation.

CRISTINE LYNCH (previously elected in July 2006). Cristine represents the Lee Hill district on the Spotsylvania County Historic Preservation Commission and is also pursuing a bachelor's degree in historic preservation at the University of Mary Washington. She is the vice-president of the Courtland High School Parent Teacher Student Association. Cristine helped found the Committee of 500 in 2002 and served as treasurer at that time. She lives in the Fox Point subdivision with her husband and two teen-age sons.

HORACE MCCASKILL (new candidate). Horace retired as the Director of Alumni Relations of INROADS in November 2005. He established INROADS's Office of Alumni Relations and served as its director for eleven years. INROADS, Inc. is a non-profit organization that develops and places talented minority college students in business and industry internships and prepare them for corporate and community leadership. Before joining INROADS, Horace spent 5 years in alumni relations at The George Washington University, Washington, DC, of which the last three was as Director of Alumni Relations in the School of Business and Public Management. Among other responsibilities in that position, he served as the senior executive of the board of directors for the School's national alumni association. Prior to his career in alumni relations, Horace served in the U.S. Army and held progressively higher level staff and leadership positions from which he retired as a colonel. Horace holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL, and a master's degree in International Affairs from The George Washington University, Washington, DC. Horace and his wife moved to Spotsylvania County in 2003 from Prince William County, VA. He is currently involved in church and community activities.

STEPHEN THIBAUT (new candidate). Stephen has lived in Spotsylvania for five and a half years in the Battlefield District. During that time he has been an advocate for transportation solutions in the greater

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Fredericksburg area and Northern Virginia while attending various meetings and briefings with the Governor's office, VDOT and the Senate Finance Committee. He enlisted in the Navy fourteen years ago from NH and has been stationed in MS, CA, FL, HI and Washington, DC. He works in the Information Systems career field and is pursuing a degree in Information Technology from Strayer University.

CHRIS FOLGER, IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR (automatic position). Chris was elected chair of the Committee of 500 in July 2006. She facilitated a series of forums on Smart Growth which established the Committee of 500 as a player in that arena and set the tone for conversations during the 2007 County Elections. She successfully steered the organization through the 2007 County Elections—all 5 or the C500 endorsed candidates were elected. Chris brings leadership experience from both the not for profit and for profit sectors. She represented C500 on the Reality Check Regional Growth Planning effort and on the Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee. Before retirement, she provided information technology solutions to the federal government. She and her husband moved to Spotsylvania County in 2003, filled with enthusiasm for the county and a keen desire to be part of its remaining a wonderful place to live...for those who have lived here for a very long time and for those who are arriving daily.