

LPCA November 2011

Meeting Notes

- I. Police Report with Officer St. John
  - a. Ashton Heights Flasher plaguing TJ–St. John’s team taking it on now vs. a patrol unit and they have been staking out the area from 6-9 am – a lot more adults and dog walkers at that hour and they can’t release what they do know about the suspect . Stopping anyone matching the description and taking photos/id. Suggests kids go to a safe place if confronted but if they can get a photo with their cell phones, GREAT! Time is the problem that the cops are having. Police need to know immediately about the incident, not after school once a kid informs their parents, in order to catch the guy.
  - b. Vehicular Matters – 30 tickets in an hour were recently handed out in Ballston neighborhood based on various issues, some having to do with pedestrian problems . Police specifically making their presence known by stopping cars that have safety violations (lights out, expired registrations, etc.); cars not stopping for pedestrians crossing in cross walks is the main goal.
  - c. Police wearing Tasers – immobilizes suspect if a fight is going on and allows the police enough time to handcuff suspect. Controversial weapon but a much safer alternative and option for the officers.
- II. Health Forum:
  - a. Dr. Mary Buesing – recently opened the Clarendon Urgent Care
    - i. Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Grand Opening - 3301 Wilson Blvd.
    - ii. Treats urgent issues like bronchitis, fractures, etc.
    - iii. Travel vaccinations available, even for those going overseas
    - iv. \$15 Flu Shots
    - v. X-Ray facilities, can do simple labs
    - vi. Hours: 9-9 M-F; 10-6 Sat., 10-5 Sun.
    - vii. They handle pediatrics
    - viii. Webpage has listing of accepted insurance plans
    - ix. Shingles vaccination is available and recommended for adults and anyone that has had Chicken Pox can still get it. Approved for 55+ adults
    - x. Visits are considered more like a Dr. office visit and use same co-pay codes as such
    - xi. They do basic stitches
    - xii. They are not affiliated with VA Hospital Center – films are put on CD Rom and you can take them to your Dr.
    - xiii. They see the uninsured and have a fee per service on a sliding scale
    - xiv. Midatlanticurgentcare.com
  - b. Dr. Ruben Varghese – Public Health Director of Arlington County

- i. Health of the county is good overall but pockets of disparity and infirmities
- ii. Robert Wood Foundation teamed up with U. of Wisconsin on a nationwide study so that counties could see how they fared compared to their statewide counterparts – Some highlights of the snapshot include...
  - 1. We scored very well in the Commonwealth – 2<sup>nd</sup> best after Fairfax
  - 2. Looking at illness overall we do very well in the region
  - 3. 12% still are smokers and we could see further declines in death if folks kicked the habit
  - 4. Obesity – exercise is key and the more pounds you lose the longer you can live – start looking at the population at the kindergarten age
  - 5. We have no known substance abuse issues in the county - we have a lot of 22-40 year olds in our population
  - 6. We have a higher rate of sexually transmitted diseases than the state rate, especially HIV- need to get rid of the stigma
  - 7. Our teen birth rate is better than the state – hoping teens are making appropriate choices but the Health Dept. is available to discuss options
  - 8. 22% of uninsured adults – probably the 22-40 year old population
  - 9. Primary Care physicians – not as many are based in Arlington; Falls Church has a huge amount
  - 10. We do have Lyme disease, West Nile Virus, Rabies, etc. Our population needs to realize that we have wild animals and those viruses move into the area. We need to check for ticks; any wild animal that appears tame or is wandering around during the day when they are normally nocturnal... call animal control, leave the feral cats alone, etc.
  - 11. Partnership for a Healthier Arlington – groups that aren't seeking vaccines are being addressed by hosting clinics at various community centers providing services for those 6 mo. or older and \$30/pp. The thought is to offer one convenient place where the entire family can go – currently a pilot program and if it increases the vaccination rate, will continue
- iii. Some of the things the Health & Human Services Dept. provides:
  - 1. Provide school nurses and aides
  - 2. Prevention activities
  - 3. Environmental Health –restaurant inspections for example
  - 4. Community Health Services – maternity care, dental clinic; family planning; HIV testing clinics; occupational health, to name a few

III. Clarendon Alliance Update with Larry Mayer

- a. Voccelli Pizza Use permit up for review - we will authorize another renewal

- b. All bars up for renewal of use permits

IV. Treasury Report with Bill Anhut

- a. LPCA is doing well

- b. Trees: Please read article on page 5 – chart that maps out all trees in the park

- i. 105 out of the original 130 are gone

- ii. We have a real need to replenish the tree population in the park as there is a slow decline

- iii. We have planted about 10 new trees over the past year or so and 11 more will be planted by the Tree Canopy Fund in mid Nov. Flyers attached to stakes marking the new locations of the seedlings.

- iv. Concern by some that the placement of them isn't optimal due to neighborhood park use (soccer practice, for example).

V. Neighborhood Conservation

- a. Go online until Thanksgiving and please complete and return your survey TODAY!