

## **Lyon Park Citizens Association Meeting**

Wednesday October 9, 2024

President Michael Kunkler called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. 25 people present. He announced that the LPCA meeting program for November 13 will celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first LPCC meeting (November 17, 1924). Arlington County Fire Department Chief, David Povlitz, will be a guest – bring the kids for the first part of the meeting (7-7:30 pm) when we will celebrate with the fire chief and cake!

Members held a moment of quiet reflection to honor those lost or supporting the country following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

### **Committee reports:**

- **Anne Bodine, Development:** Anne reported that the planning commission voted unanimously to ok sober homes new zoning. Ready to incentivize conversion of commercial to residential. No plans done to add services. Incentive is to speed up the process (100 day approval vs 6 months +) plus adding density.
- **Elizabeth Sheehy, Secretary and Historian:** Minutes from September to be approved at November meeting. Historic sign panels (from the HPF Grant) are available for viewing in the back of the room. Draft signs Will be posted on website ater this week. Next month is the LPCC's 100th Birthday.
- **Paul Showalter, Special Events:** Paul reviewed upcoming events:
  - October 26 Halloween Parade of Costumes & Yard Sale
  - October 31 Halloween Bonfire and Donuts
  - Bounce Houses are set up at Paul's house on Danville for kids to enjoy while the weather remains nice. All are welcome!

### **Program: Meet the Arlington County School Board candidates:**

- Dr Vell Rives: 25 years in Arlington. Psychiatrist. Served on School Health Advisory Board. Church choir leader. Coached in Arlington rec league. Focused on common sense solutions. Wants to use existing funds better. Only non-Democrat on the slate.
- Zuraya tapia-Hadley: 20 years in Arlington. Kids at Claremont and Gunston. Lawyer, focused on Public Policy and Non-profits. Proud Progressive Democrat. Served on APS Technology Board. Involved in Anti-gun store efforts. Will focus on budget-deficits and boundaries.
- Kathleen Clark: lifelong Arlington and lifelong Democrat. Graduated Yorktown. Experienced school closings as a child. Auditor for GAP Inc. with budget expertise. Has two autistic kids and one gifted. Feels students with disabilities are under served. Something was outlawed.
- Paul Weiss born and raised in NoVa. Parents both 1st generation. W&M. Democrat and son of Depression-era parents (financial care). Kids went to W&L. 16 years in Arlington. Recently retired Teacher in APS. H-B Woodlawn.

Questions from the community included:

### **Positions on School Phone Pouches**

ZTH - wants tech to assist instruction, not the other way around. Cost?

KC - limits her kids cell phone use. Execution not thought through. Parenting vs Operations

PW - phones should be away all day. But funds should not be spent.

VR - away for the day. Pouches not the solution. Grant exceptions.

How would you close gap on learning (disabilities and ESOL)

KC - missing identifying kids with issues due to ineffective screeners.

PW – rely less on ADHD diagnoses and more on literacy diagnoses. Kids act out when they can't succeed with reading. Reduce class size

VR - maximize instruction time. Reduce class sizes esp in the core reading classes. Reading at home.

Optimal placement (vs falling behind)

ZYH - early childhood literacy. Aspire after-school program.

With available land scarce, where will we put new students?

PW - look at possible land options. Choice schools can move.

VR - could build vertically. More urban commercial sites. Look at underfilled schools (esp in North)

ZTH - consider swing spaces before changing boundaries. Look at all the options.

KC - 27,500 students. 32,000 capacity. Good estimates overall but not by zone.

Technology challenge. How to influence Central Office decisions.

ZTH - does not like that tech is guiding instruction

KC - ok with increasing prevalence of tech.

PW - opposed to Elementary iPads.

VR - no need in Elementary School. No industry data collection.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.