

BELLEVUE CIVIC ASSOCIATION SPRING MEETING
May 16, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting

The meeting began at approximately 6:30pm.

I. President Tim Pfohl called the meeting to order. Approximately 37 people were in attendance. Participants also joined the meeting via the Zoom option.

II. Minutes - The minutes of the February 2023 BCA were approved. Thank you to Jami Bricker for stepping in to take those minutes.

III. Treasurer’s Report as reported by Paul Wilson:

		Balance 1/16/23	5/16/2023
	Checking	\$ 9,601.79	\$ 5,069.42
	Savings	\$ 8,998.76	\$ 9,918.75
	PayPal	\$ 1,256.34	\$ 4,856.47
	Cash	\$ -	\$ -
	Total Cash		\$ 19,844.64
Liabilities	Reserve Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	Mural	\$ 8,998.76	\$ 9,877.19
	Total Liabilities		\$ 14,877.19
Available Funds			\$ 4,967.45

IV. Alex Griffin, a partner with Two Creeks Development, Inc has purchased the Bellevue Theatre in partnership with Corinthian Construction. Mr. Griffin shared exterior elevations of the project (see Appendix). They are in the process of converting the building to ten apartments (rentals) and a commercial storefront, keep the original marquee & returning glass to the front of the building. It is their goal to have retail on the ground floor. The building will remain at three floors. They have submitted the plans to the City for approval & are hoping to break ground Fall 2023. They are estimating approximately 18 months to completion. Mr. Griffin they are still trying to figure out the parking- the city does not require any parking. The back of the alley has some space; however, for various reasons, this may not be the best solution.

There was concern expressed regarding the impact of parking on MacArthur Avenue with the apartments/retail. Concerns were also expressed about parking and alley access during the

construction process. Mr. Griffin noted that the first 12' of the alley behind the building is private.

Tim Pfohl also noted that the McArthur Apartments have been sold & are scheduled for renovation.

V. Lt. Robert Fleming, Richmond Police Dept 4th Precinct, Sector 412 – Lt. Fleming spoke about crime in the 4th precinct which is primarily car break-ins & some theft of catalytic converters. He noted Ginter Park & neighborhoods to the east have had issues with garage break-ins. In October Bellevue had approximately thefts of catalytic converters between 9 – 12/week. This past month there has been one- representing a significant decrease.

He reported In Bellevue traffic continues to be an issue and stated that the traffic cameras are coming. He was unable to provide a timeline. The first test area will be on Laburnum in front of Holton ES.

Lt. Fleming said the city has a dedicated street light task force- if you see a streetlight out, you are encouraged to call 311- there is a push to have all streetlights operational. Car break-ins continue to be an issue for Bellevue. If your car does get hit, please report it. Residents often don't report because they don't think the police will do anything; however, it is helpful b/c it provides the police a pattern- by maps by days, etc. It was also noted that porch pirates continue to be an ongoing issue in our area.

There was a brief discussion regarding the individual who stands on the bridge with his political signs, generally with inappropriate language. Lt. Fleming noted that for the most part, he is not breaking the law. You may see him at the Farmer's Market as he is expanding his territory. Lt. Fleming noted that they are aware of him and keeping an eye on him. If you see him, you can call the non-emergency number. If you are engaging with him (which is discouraged) and it is escalating, call 911.

Lt. Fleming noted again – please do call the non-emergency number if you see non-urgent issues- it is very helpful to record patterns. Anyone with non-urgent issues can direct them to Tim Pfohl, BCA President and can compile them to share with Lt. Fleming. You can also email Tim Pfohl if you wish to have something brought to the attention of the police.

VII. Committee Updates:

-Membership - Jodi Teitelman reported on the Membership Works software. We are up & running with the new platform. This platform gives us many new functions- it will make membership dues easier to pay. Our membership was lower than usual- it was under 200. We now have an auto-renewal function. Jodi encouraged everyone at the meeting to check to see if they have renewed their membership. If you have paid your dues for 2023 you have been migrated to the new system. There are multiple options to pay dues- you can use the PayPal

link, the QR code in the newsletter or you can mail a check to PO Box 15623 Richmond VA 23227. They hope to have the function eventually to print membership cards.

-Porchella 2023 - Rob McAdams reported it is anticipated that Porchella will continue to grow. In October 2020 there were 7 bands & maybe 500 people. The April 2023 had 35 band slots and 50 bands applied. The need to move the event to the rain date resulted in losing some bands- Rob reported there were 28 bands, 12 hosts and 25 volunteers who made April's Porchella event a success. Rob estimated that about 3000-3500 people participated attended. Rob recognized Paul Quel for his quickness of updating the signs when it was decided to go with the rain date, as well our social media committee. Porchella merchandise can still be purchased, and all money goes to the BCA.

- Garden Walk- Patti Fogg reported that the 33rd Annual Garden Walk will take place on May 21 with 15 yards and 10 artists participating. Rock decorating will be available for the kids to participate in for the first time.

-Traffic – David Lydiard and Margaret Pfohl reported that sidewalks are being repaired. IF you have sidewalk issues go to RVA311. That tends to be more effective than just calling 311.

Laburnum Avenue now has enhanced speed zones- It has been requested that Lt Fleming provide a list of moving violations. During 2022 there were eighty-six summonses written. Twenty-two were for reckless driving and thirty-eight were speeding violations.

Jeff Bourne was very helpful in getting the school zones expanded. We now understand that the school must request the change to expand the school zone from Monticello to McArthur. The speed cameras will only be operational only during school hours &/or when the school zone is flashing.

The request for speed studies on Bellevue Avenue & MacArthur Avenue were denied. The city said they will continue to "monitor" Bellevue Avenue.

There is a plan to install 150 speed tables city-wide. For our neighborhood they will coordinate that with paving schedules. The Fire Marshal does not support speed tables on Bellevue. They are looking at Claremont near Monticello.

Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon at Laburnum & Monticello should be operational within 4 weeks. Running that red light is equivalent to running regular red lights.

Stop sign request for Fauquier & Nottoway- concerns re: the intersection due to a curve in the road. DPW will oppose the request. They stated they did a study & Fauquier did not justify a Stop sign. It is going before the City Council June 26th. BCA has sent a letter supporting it to the City Council.

-Beautify Bellevue – David Lydiard reported that the Meet & Mulch will be on May 20th 9am – 12pm. David needs volunteers for help with mulching. They have been keeping an eye on trees being removed earlier than the 30 days required after the notice for removal has been posted. Please let David notice if anyone notices this occurring.

-Social Media & Communications - Marcie Murphy, Social Media Chair & Shari Perago, VP. Shari Parego has agreed to provide back-up for website maintenance. FB & Instagram will always be the most updated for real time communications. We are in process of updating the website. We are hoping to make the website more robust and informative.

-Security Patrol - Jerry DeVoss shared that the Security Patrol is always looking for volunteers to drive, walk or bike the neighborhood. He shared that our security patrol in Bellevue is the only one in the city that is still operational.

-Mural Update - Joyce Foster shared that the mural is coming along & Ed Trask is working on in two days/weekly.

-Other Business & Announcements

-Potential Food Truck event – Tim Pfohl reported that Summer Gentry wanted to float the idea of having a summer Food Truck event and perhaps dedicate a portion of the sales to a worthy cause in Bellevue. Summer reported via Zoom. She said they are not entirely sure what the location would be- somewhere around MacArthur was most suggested. The initial thought was to do it in the Holton bus loop. She hopes to have more details by the end of next month. There has been positive feedback from the social media posts.

-Rich Souser wanted to address the membership re: **Fall Line Trail**. Rich attended a recent meeting re the Trail. The trail would be for biking, hiking and pedestrians. The plans call for significant tree removal on the East side of Hermitage from about Pope Avenue to Brookland Parkway. There has been some talk that rather than taking out the trees they may take a lane from Hermitage Road, as they did on Brook Road for bike lines. BCA is looking at learning more about the preliminary design timeline. The suggestion was made to have someone from the project come to a BCA membership meeting to hear and address any concerns.

-We need a new chair for the **Halloween Monster Mash**. The previous chair is willing to help however she cannot do the event herself.

Volunteers Needed

BCA is always looking for volunteers. Specific volunteer opportunities mentioned during this meeting include:

Halloween Monster Mash

Newsletter Delivery

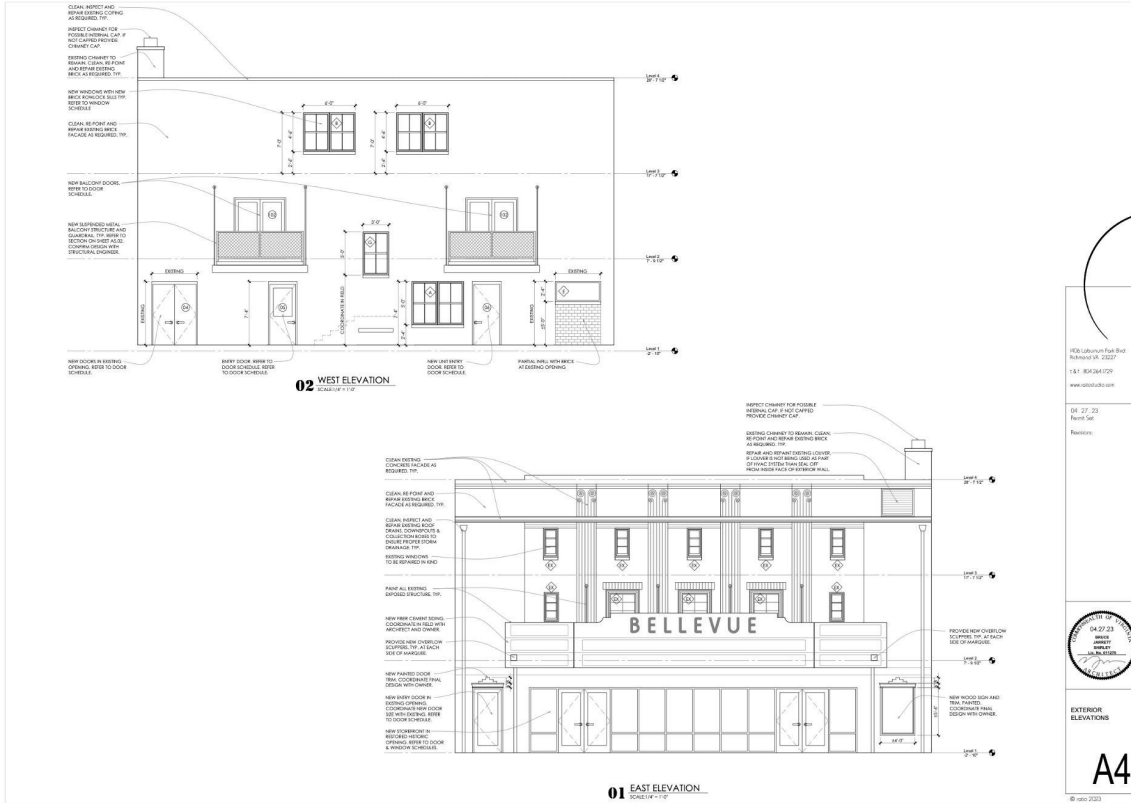
Mulching

Security Patrol

Please reach out to Tim Pfohl, Jami Bricker, Jodi Teitelman or committee chairs directly for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

APPENDIX





Grotto Apartment Renovation

4028 Woodbur Avenue
Belmont, VA 22207

04.27.23
Final Set
Revised:



EXTENSION
ELEVATIONS

A4 01

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