

Del Ray Citizens Association Membership Meeting Minutes

Feb 12, 2025 - 7:00pm

Virtual via Zoom

DRCA Board Introduction and Welcome by President Katie Waynick

Contact the DRCA Executive Board: execboard@DelRayCitizen.net
[Del Ray Citizens Association](#)

- President: Tim Laderach president@delraycitizen.net
- Vice President: Elena Hutchison vp@delraycitizen.net
- Membership Chair: Elizabeth Reyna membership@delraycitizen.net
- Activities Director: Rachel Lazarus drca_activities_director@delraycitizen.net
- Treasurer: Lisa Quandt treasurer@delraycitizen.net
- Secretary: James Miceli secretary@delraycitizen.net
- Chief Information Officer: Caitlin Leach admin@delraycitizen.net
- Immediate Past President: Katie Waynick pastpresident@delraycitizen.net

Crime/Traffic report from Captain Dennis Andreas

Contact Captain Andreas: dennis.andreas@alexandriava.gov 703.746.6872
[Alexandria Police Department](#)

20% Decrease in 2024 in Larcenies from 2023

Larcenies in Del Ray - 3 at pharmacies

8 crashes in Del Ray, 2 on Commonwealth Av, one

Community Academy coming up in April

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/police-department/community-police-academy>

Sheriff's office report from Captain Quentin Wade

Contact Sheriff Casey: sean.casey@alexandriava.gov
[Alexandria Sheriff's Office](#)

Sheriff's Community Academy every weekend in March

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/academies/sheriffs-community-academy>

Sheriff's Office is going through CLIA accreditation, make comments

<https://www.alexandriava.gov/sheriff/accreditation>

Sheriff's Office is always hiring, JoinASO.com

Parks Committee

Leaf Blower Presentation and Vote

- Presentation:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ZBvDHxOgNZ9WVb72JDHBLyS78uLyt2t2zPxRtS5JVw/edit?usp=drive_link
- Catherine Rice presented the Parks Committee's approach on banning Gas Powered Leaf Blowers (GPLBs)
- There was some discussion about changing the implementation timeline, but we decided on 1.5 years

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- Motion is adopted by voice vote

Special Guests - Casa Chirilagua and Blessings in a Backpack

- Anass Yahyaoui spoke about Casa Chirilagua's programs, including field trips, college prep, tutoring and other activities
- Opportunities to contribute include donations, materials, volunteering, internships and job shadowing for youth.
- Cultural celebrations and events - such as for Hispanic Heritage Month, businesses can support to connect with the community

- Evan Wilson presented on Blessings in a Backpack; majority of kids at MVCS are Free and Reduced Price lunch, but the school is not a title 1 school, so there is no provision for meals outside of school time.
- The program provides food for 125 students, no need to fill out forms. Takes ~\$20k a year to run the program; about \$150 can provide food for one kid for a year.
- <https://giving.blessingsinabackpack.org/organizations/mount-vernon-community-school>

Committee Updates

Announcements

Parks

- Ask for volunteers

Historic

- Committee met last night to talk about preservation options
- Aiming to be less onerous than Old Town and Parker Gray
- Creating sub groups to work on more aspects of the community, 1-2 hours a month
- Talked about doing a workshop or outreach event in May which is historic preservation month
- Architect is looking at what it would take to do a historic district for all of Del Ray

TCC

- Next activity is to do an audit of blocks on MV Ave and Commonwealth and put signage up near daylighting areas to help mark no parking areas.

Announcements

- Chili Cook Off is 2/22
- Don Beyer on Monday 2/17
- First Thursday is 4/6
- DogFest is 4/6 11-3 by GWMS

Meeting adjourn