**BOYDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

**April 14, 2011**

President David Fraser-Hidalgo called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

The Minutes of the January 22, 2011 meeting were approved.

The Treasurer’s Report was accepted with no questions.

**Nick Maravell**, operator of an **organic farm** on Brickyard Rd. since 1980 spoke. He has been leasing a 20-acre middle school site where he raises seed crops that need to be isolated from other farm crops to maintain organic status. He was notified by the county that his lease would not be renewed. The site is to be used by a private group for soccer fields. He had no opportunity to make his case. Montgomery Countryside Alliance and a large number of others have prepared a supportive letter to County Executive Leggett. Nick has met Leggett and given him a tour. He proposes to make this 20A into the down-county agricultural education center. A motion was made for BCA to sign on to this letter from MCA, et al. There was much discussion. Nick’s point is that the process is illegal. Catherine Matthews, Director, Upcounty Regional Services Center, said the county followed the correct procedure. With that being said, the motion was withdrawn. People can act individually.

The request for an **airstrip** on Peach Tree Road is still active. Hearings are ongoing, but the zoning text amendment on airstrips would preclude this particular one.

**Hilltop Farm**: Subdivision of child lots on Fowler property on Slidell and West Old Baltimore Roads. This issue has gone all the way to MD State Supreme Court, which told Park & Planning to let the development go forward. Neighbors are waiting to see how P&P reacts, hoping for application of new ZTA to child lots.

**Boyds Historical Society**: Open house last Sunday of each month from 2-4 pm.

**Greenprint for the Future Conference**: Merritt presented a $1,000 check from BCA. The title is now “Farming on the edge of Metropolis—Agriculture in Frederick and Montgomery Counties.”

**Action Committee for Transit**: Boyds MARC station is the fastest growing, needs more parking. The Boyds Presbyterian Church offered their lot. MARC declined because there are no sidewalks. Still pursuing. Miriam suggests using park land next to her for parking. Also might use Anderson’s vacant lot or use Ginn’s now empty lot next to rails.

BCA will send letter supporting **traffic barrier** in front of Miriam Schoenbaum’s house at 121/117 intersection.

**Barnesville Oaks**: Owner given up on not counting tenant houses. Would leave total number of houses at 25.

How do we notify citizens of **BCA** **meetings**? Email, web site, signs (need a permit for a sign.)

**Boyds Post Office**: our delivery trucks are going to Germantown. Probably close our office in two years. BCA will write to Congressman and Senators to save Boyds Post Office.

Will invite **P&P, Development Review, and Permitting Services** to next meetings.

Invite **our Annapolis delegation** to address meeting; get them to coordinate their presentation. Also we should invite State Highway representatives, others.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.