

Greater Colesville Citizens Association

Minutes

Feb 8, 2022

Attendees: Dan Wilhelm, Marguerite Raaen, Bob Peters, Pat Corey, Ed Weiler, Ben Eng, Dr. Idong Gibson, Karlyn Walker, Evelyn and Les Hamilton, Marge Currie, Peter Myo-Khin, Barbara Buchanan, Heather Philips

Approval of Minutes: January minutes approved.

Approval of Treasurer's Report: Accepted without any change. Dan noted membership and donations receipts were of \$101, but with the printing (\$1090) and mailing (\$1356) of Clarion and sign insurance (\$798) payment made it an expensive month.

Barbara Buchanan was nominated and accepted as an Area 27 representative.

Noel Gregos was also nominated and accepted for an Area 1 representative.

Clarion Production. GCCA has been using Morevang for printing the Clarion plus Marketing Matters for addressing (and taking it to the PO and paying them). Marketing Matters indicates the machine they have been using to print addresses on the already printed newsletter is worn-out and is too costly to replace. Rather they can print the newsletter and address it at the same time. The estimated cost per issue (four times a year) with this new approach is \$4300 compared with \$2500. GCCA can't afford that cost increase, since we generally have been operating in the red. Dan proposed we stop mailing the Clarions but rather email out news for those we have email addresses for. That also means we no longer have advertisers.

After a lengthy discussion, the Board agreed to the following by consensus:

At the GCCA meeting last night, we decided the following.

- We will have one more Clarion mailed to all households within the GCCA boundaries. After that, we will use email and social media (i.e. Next Door) to communicate with the community. The newsletter would still be called the Clarion but would be an email attachment. We also may decide to send it out more often and with fewer articles.
- The Clarion will be distributed one more time via mail for the May annual meeting. We will not have a Clarion in March. We will use Marketing Matters for printing, addressing and mailing.
- The May Clarion will highlight that the Clarion will no longer be mailed and ask for email addresses if they want to receive it.
- Dues will still be requested.
- We will eliminate ads after the May 2022 Clarion. We will not accept any new advertisers from this point on. We will reimburse advertisers for any issues for which they have already paid.
- (Marguerite will obtain an email address for GCCA that would use to send out the Clarion.

- Marguerite, Heather, and Pat (and his son-in-law), will undertake the task to update our web site. This includes transferring it from Dave, Marguerite will get the facebook account form Deborah that Fred had maintained.

Community Issues: None brought up

ECCAB: A lengthy discussion on police issues were the main items at the meeting. An announcement was made about the promotion of two new Lieutenants, Lt Kim in the 3rd District and Lt Miller in the 4th. They also discussed a successful burglary and stolen vehicle task force resulting in several arrests.

Safety Report. Ed reported a horrible accident had occurred where three people were killed. A separate accident occurred during an ice storm when snow plow operators were trying to unclog a salt dispenser and a car ran into them. Nearby policemen were able to save the driver's life. Ed also discussed the driver that ran over his wife at Capital One bank in Colesville and was found mentally unfit to go to trial, and another speeding and traffic task force on Rte. 29 which clocked cars at over 100 MPH and made several arrests. Traffic enforcement reported recovery of guns and drugs in traffic stops. The problem of recruiting was discussed again with eligible police retiring and moving to other police forces surpassing the ability of recruiting. It was also noted that Police Officer Haggerty was killed in an off duty traffic accident.

And a draining pond near Broadmoor Road was clogged, reported and properly drained.

There was no follow up discussion on gunshots heard last month near Cannon Road.

On-Going Business: Rezoning for the White Oak Apartments was approved by the Council. A paper by Dan and Peter on changes that need to be made on Viva White Oak and Labquest is almost ready to be released. It also addresses the college as well as other schools and is quite detailed. Dan also sent out a draft letter on CIP projects to the Council which included BRT and sewer work. He believes that we will need to lobby for something to start happening. We discussed the BRT ending at District Line which makes no sense and should end at the Fort Totten Metro stop, and that the Purple Line going to the Green Line Metro Stop and Bethesda could be another potential end point.

New Business

Peter was going through the budget from an East county perspective especially the Viva White Oak and all three of the school extensions which will be completely supported. What the WSSC proposes is unclear especially as it affects both PG and Montgomery County bordering projects and replacing smaller pipes with larger ones.

Evelyn brought up a TV report about mail being stolen from mailboxes in Silver Spring. New mailboxes are being installed, but master keys have also been stolen and locks also need to be replaced. Mailmen have also reported being robbed.

An email was brought up about the arrest of an elementary school student and a go fund me page and Tom Hucker had a press conference about it.

Peter brought up the Feb 20th brunch zoom with Congressman Jamie Raskin.

Submitted by Pat Corey