

GCCA Meeting on July 12, 2012

Attendees: Dan Wilhelm, Pat Corey, Marguerite Raaen, Ed Weiler, Sara & Lee Leung, Marge Curry, Craig Gruwall, Mark Pankow, Peter Myo-Khin

Approval of July Minutes: Minutes were approved

Accepted the July Treasures Report: With the following comments on membership dues at \$2290, and \$840 of donations. There was also a Post Office bill of \$440.

Dan presented a possible 2023 budget of \$2,800 covering expenses for insurance, post office box and meeting place costs. Currently there is over \$14,000 in the treasury and not much in expenses this coming year.

Communications Committee: Marguerite stated that Facebook rules have changed for community based groups. The old automatic setting would not allow anyone to post just anything. The new rule allowed anyone to post anything unless you requested the change not to occur which she did. This controls all of the posts for ads that would be requested. She wants local East County, Library and other relevant Montgomery County information to be posted.

Marguerite is also responsible for the GCCA email account with her phone number is available on the web site. She has been contacted about the web site link being broken where no one can make donations or fill out membership info via the website. Dave and Noel have been working to resolve it. Pay pal is managed by Noel and the two links on the GCCA website.

Peter stated that he had to just deal with the same issue with pay pal and that there was coding fixes that needed to take place and that he would discuss this with Rob and me. Marguerite did state that the East County updates are appreciated by everyone and she scrapes information from about 20 articles and provides them with all the updates including food outlets, bus route changes, etc.

Community Issues: Discussed Airbnb rules regarding parties being passed over 2 years ago pre-pandemic. Lee stated that parties are permanently banned. Local neighbors found out that at least one home on Locksley was owned to be run as a business. The local residents have researched sound ordinance rules. However, violations need to be reported when occurring on either weekdays or weekends when they have exceeded in those certified times. A lawyer of the owner family was notified about these issues. This seems to have made a temporary impact. They also reported possible drug usage. Airbnb does not seem interested in enforcement but certainly needs to be contacted with the complaint.

There were a number of suggestions made including contacting the 4th district police community liaison, contacting the inspectors at the County Housing and Community Affairs to file complaints and insure that they are licensed. This can be done anonymously, and for each neighbor to make an individual complaints and not as a group. Complaints about smoking will probably not be effective because it is allowed in the house and in the yard. Also contact comptroller and ask about tax records for usage.

Neighbors did meet and they are organizing approach with different people heading up different tasks. A suggestion was made to check with neighbors on Beaumont that expressed similar issues and combine their efforts.

It was also suggested that the IRS and state tax bureau be contacted about property taxes for short term rental on the property to ensure that they are in compliance. And, to check on the owner occupancy being a part of the purchase agreement. Short term rental laws could also be out of compliance with stipulated 120 day periods required. Each of these agencies must be contacted and complaints need to be made for any progress to be made.

Safety Issues: A large 4th of July fireworks display took place in Tamarack on Sat and Sunday without proper fire marshal presence or patrols. Also discussed how much more is taking place in recent years.

There was a firetruck issue with a hook and ladder responding to a smoke issue on Broadmore. Because the road is so narrow it was essentially blocked with cars parked on both sides. Luckily a driveway was able to be used to exit area. This needs to be addressed with too many parked cars impeding emergency responders. It was also suggested that the council be informed about this safety issue. It will only get worse if multiple house zoning laws are passed.

Speeding is being addressed on Rte. 29 using unmarked cars with an encounter resulting in having 100 mph chase due to an exchange of gunfire. There was also a report of over 60 gunshots in the Briggs Chaney area with report of one person being hit.

On-going Business: A consultant was hired to review the Thrive 2050 changes and to issue a report in the September timeframe for an 25 October approval. The biggest issue being disputed is either a racial or housing shortage with public hearing having been done. The housing shortage can be addressed with changes to rules, building regulations and fees being too large to encourage building.

The new houses being built on Randolph Road have caused the storm drains to overflow.

Montgomery College is looking to expand into the East County, initially locating a temporary campus while they are looking for a permanent site large enough for the entire campus. A

number of individuals are promoting the Viva White Oak area. Two sites being looked at are the large Quality Host facility on Rte. 29 at Lockwood and the Sears site on New Hampshire and Lockwood. The State legislature will need to be involved in the permanent site selection.

US29BRT and NewHampBRT have nothing new to report. Hillandale road improvement still has not changed. Ride-On buses are disputing Fuel Cell because of charging issues. Old Columbia Pike study still has not been decided. White Oak Town Center and Viva White Oak are ready to go. Briggs Chaney Master Plan sited shortage of grocery stores but did not consider how many are south of them.

Adventist Hospital is expanding with more parking and a three story doctor's offices.

Sprouts Grocery is coming to Burtonsville Crossing and the \$5 million incentive with mixed housing with and underground transit center by late 2023.