

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
COUNCIL MEETING
October 13, 2014

ATTENDANCE: Debbie Beers, Mayor
Nancy Long, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Mark McCaffrey, Councilmember
Matt Stiglitz, Councilmember
Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

VISITORS: Aaron LaRocca, NPS Supervisory Park Ranger
Jack Higgins, Washington Gas
Phyllis Fordham, resident
Eve Arber, resident
Edie Springuel, resident
Renny Springuel, resident
Raya Bodnarchuk, resident

Mayor Beers called the meeting to order at 7: 59 p.m.

GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT

Aaron LaRocca provided the following updates:

The construction in the Hall of Mirrors building is nearly complete. Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture (GEPPAC) has begun hosting movement classes in the space. The Superintendent and GEPPAC are seeking a program partner to present environmental education programs. The cooperator will occupy the former stables facility, including indoor and outdoor space. GEPPAC is currently accepting Letters of Interest from appropriate organizations.

Clara Barton NHS Rehabilitation Project

The curator and other regional staff have begun packing the collection of historical items for storage until restoration work is completed. The house will be closed for up to seven days starting 10/27 to allow contractors to pack and move larger items. The house will reopen, unfurnished after the seven day closure. Once the house reopens, tours will be offered on the hour, every hour between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

George Washington Memorial Parkway Reorganization

Brent O'Neill, former site manager at Great Falls Park's is serving on a special assignment to the Superintendent. Mr. O'Neill will be serving as the partnership liaison for the George Washington Memorial Parkway. Glen Echo should not be impacted by this assignment. Aaron LaRocca will continue to attend town council meeting and serve as the primary point of contact for the Town.

WASHINGTON GAS

Jack Higgins, Project Manager, Washington Gas, attended the meeting to provide a status report. He reported 74 services were installed with two pending. He indicated there have been delays due to the two pending service requests. If weather is good, he projected October 20 as the start date for paving contractor to work on base pavement with milling to begin October 22. He projected job completion within two weeks from the start date. The contractor will post “no parking” signs in work areas. Upon completion, the Town will conduct a final walk-through. Resident Renny Springuel volunteered to walk the Town with the foreman, Mayor Beers, and Councilmembers. It was suggested that the walk-through take place while the equipment is still in Town. If there are any problems, Washington Gas will rectify. Compliments were shared about the rebuilt sidewalks.

Jack indicated only 28 meters have been set. He reiterated that residents have one year from their service installation date to set meters. After one year the lines will be considered abandoned and will have to be dug up and removed. Home owner would be responsible for resulting fees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2014-28 Council approved August Meeting Minutes. Councilmember McCaffrey made the motion; Councilmember Long seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion 2014-29 Council approved September Meeting Minutes as amended with one change. Robbed was changed to burglarized. Councilmember Stiglitz made the motion; Councilmember Long seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN SIGNAGE

The installation of more visible “no parking” signs was discussed. Councilmember Stiglitz, the liaison to the Montgomery County Police Department, will explore the possibility of using traditional Montgomery County “no parking” signs in Town. Mayor Beers noted some residents object to placing signs in their yards. Discussion of yellow striping ensued. Resident, Cris White has contacts in this industry and had previously volunteered to make connection on behalf of the Town. Councilmember Long suggested the possibility of placing “no parking” signs that the county police would consider valid for enforcement on Town sign poles along with Town signs (which county police do not accept as valid).

Mark Peyton will be contacted to uncover the existing “No Outlet” sign on upper Yale as well as posting another.

TOWN HALL USE

Glen Echo’s Holiday Bruch was confirmed for Saturday, December 13, 2014, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

In light of recent automobile break-ins Matt Stiglitz encouraged all to lock their cars and if a victim of crime file police reports so crime statistics can be compiled.

SOLICITORS

It was noted that the magazine sellers are back in Town as well as the Solar Power representatives. All solicitors in Glen Echo should have a commercial solicitation permit that can be obtained at Town Hall. Matt Stiglitz will work on updating the permit process.

TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE

The potential safety issue regarding the location of the gas line hardware that was installed at the outside northeast corner of Town Hall was raised. It was noted that a vehicle coming around the corner could cause damage. The idea of building an enclosure was discussed. The Town handyman/CASE Remodeling will be contacted for guidance.

MCARTHUR BOULEVARD AND WILSON LANE PEDESTRIAN ISLAND

Mayor Beers will inquire with County officials about plans for the pedestrian island at the intersection of MacArthur Blvd. and Wilson Lane. The awkward placement and interruption of traffic flow was noted.

GOLDSBORO ROAD TOWNHOUSE DEVELOPMENT

Nancy Long reported the second preliminary plan application meeting was October 13, 2014. The developer expects to build 19 Townhouses. Councilmember Long expressed concern about storm water management and the redirecting of the stream from its present location to the other side of the development site. She recalled the 1989 parking lot cave-in at Glen Echo Park that was created by water issues, a powerful surge of water that swept approximately 75 cars in the Glen Echo parking lot away from their locations, 13 of the vehicles were carried into the Potomac River, others to the banks of the C & O Canal, others to different locations in the parking lot..

Meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Malmgren

Clerk-Treasurer

Deborah Beers, Mayor

Date