

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO  
COUNCIL MEETING  
September 8, 2014**

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

VISITORS:           Aaron LaRocca, NPS Supervisory Park Ranger  
                      Phyllis Fordham, resident  
                      Edie Springuel, resident  
                      Renny Springuel, resident  
                      Raya Bodnarchuk, resident  
                      Aaron Hirsch, resident  
                      Cris White, resident

Mayor Beers called the meeting to order at 8:04 pm.

**GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT**

Aaron LaRocca reported that construction on the Hall of Mirrors continues. The building will be used for dance and movement classes. There will not be a sole co-operator as in the case of Living Classrooms or Silver Working Studios. There will be opportunities for multiple instructors to teach classes. The space will also be available for groups to rent for rehearsals/practices. The Clara Barton House will be closed the week of October 5<sup>th</sup> 2014 to allow contractors to pack and move the museum exhibit for the NHS Rehabilitation Project. The compliance process is scheduled to be completed this fall. Construction will not begin until the compliance process is completed. The park staff is preparing for “Then and Now” festival on September 28, 2014. The maintenance staff will barricade the town to prevent overflow traffic from entering the town. Special thanks were given to Nancy Long for all her work on the very successful Labor Day Art Show at Glen Echo Park.

**MAJOR PROJECTS**

Gas installation is nearing completion and repairs to sidewalks and roads will be handled by Eastern Contracting Inc., a contractor of Washington Gas. Repairs will continue for at least a month. No parking signs will be posted by the contractor in work zones. All cars and construction dumpsters must be removed from a street that is being repaved. The contractor will remove any vehicles obstructing the repair process. Residents have one year to connect to gas without additional charges. Mayor Beers noted that the \$300 permit fee would be owed to the Town regardless of date of gas installation. Residents considering gas should take immediate action in order to complete installation prior to commencement of road repairs. Councilmember Stiglitz questioned whether our engineering firm, A. Morton Thomas, should monitor road repair work. Mayor Beers will inquire.

## **POLICE REPORT**

Councilmember Stiglitz gave an update from the September 3, 2014 Community Police Board meeting. There will be 12 new police officers working at the Bethesda Station within the next week. The to-be-built new Bethesda Police Station will be operational November 2016. It will be located on Rugby Avenue in downtown Bethesda. Councilmember Stiglitz shared trends in the crime reports. Thefts reported from autos increased district wide. Interesting note that 88% of thefts from autos are from unlocked vehicles. Residential burglaries have been occurring throughout the district both day and night. Many burglars enter homes through unlocked garages. August 27, 2014, the Glen Echo 7-11 was burglarized. This is the third 7-11 that has been burglarized in this area. July 14, 2014, the Glen Echo Exxon was burglarized. July 25, 2014 there was a residential burglary in Bannockburn. The homeowners were away on vacation. Councilmember Stiglitz noted that we are living in a relatively sedate area as we look at the rest of the County and in our area crime trends are down. Councilmember Stiglitz confirmed that the Montgomery County Police have jurisdiction in the Town of Glen Echo and as such they may write parking tickets. The issue was raised that the “no parking” signs in Town may not be official. Our Community Liaison Officer will look at the signs.

## **VEHICLE WEIGHT LIMITS**

Discussion ensued about vehicle weight restrictions both in Town and on MacArthur Blvd. It was noted that Maryland State Police have mobile units with portable scales to weigh vehicles. Resident Renny Springuel expressed concerns about large trucks in Town. His concern is heavy equipment will cause major street damage. He mentioned a section on University Avenue that has started to cave-in. He suggested an engineer take a look at how much weight streets in Town can handle. Mayor Beers said our streets are not structurally different than any other streets in the area. She mentioned she has lived here for 35 years and over those years there have been waves of construction. Construction requires heavy equipment and she sees no way to avoid it.

## **BIKE SHARE PROGRAM**

Resident Aaron Hirsch wants the Town to consider supporting Metropolitan Area Bike Share Program. He would love to see a park share station close to Glen Echo Park perhaps on the right-of-way. Mayor Beers will explore the possibility.

## **HALLOWEEN PARTY**

The Halloween party is scheduled for October 31, 2015, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm. A flyer will be distributed closer to the event.

## **TRASH CANS**

A public service request will be placed in The Echo asking residents to remove their trash cans from the sidewalks after the trash has been picked up.

## **PARKING AT THE INN**

To be discussed at a future Town Council meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from August 11, 2014 Town Council Meeting were not approved because there was not a quorum.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Malmgren

Clerk-Treasurer

---

Deborah Beers, Mayor

---

Date