

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO  
COUNCIL MEETING  
December 14, 2015**

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

VISITORS:           Bill Vincent, The Echo reporter  
                      Aaron LaRocca, National Park Service  
                      Holly Shimizu  
                      Susan Grigsby  
                      Gloria Levin  
                      Ellen Leary Edelman  
                      Aaron Hirsch  
                      Leah Hertz  
                      Edie Springuel  
                      Renny Springuel  
                      Sally McGunnigle  
                      Chip Nusbaum

Debbie Beers called the meeting to order at 8: 03 p.m.

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REPORT**

Aaron LaRocca provided the following written report:

**Clara Barton Rehabilitation Project-**

The Park has collected submittals from the contractor and given approval for the contractor to begin mobilization for the roof restoration portion of the project. Clara Barton National Historic Site is closed to the public for a two part rehabilitation project. The site closed on October 3, 2015 and will remain closed for approximately one year. The Visitor Service staff is developing interpretive programs to educate the public about the site during the closure. The rehabilitation project will be completed in two phases. The first phase, the roof replacement project is scheduled to be completed by spring 2016. The second phase, the fire suppression will begin once the roof replacement is completed. During the project there will be impacts to the area of the parking lot referred to as the dogleg. For the entire project, the parking spots in the dogleg closest to Clara Barton National Historic Site will be closed for a construction staging area. During the fire suppression construction the entrance road to the main parking lot, the small Clara Barton NHS parking lot and areas of the flat lawn will be closed.

**Glen Echo Park Partnership Agreement-**

The National Park Service, Montgomery County and representatives met to discuss the cooperative agreement between the NPS and the county that expires in Spring of 2017. The County is working on developing the starting framework of the agreement. The Superintendent of the GWMP is committed to involving the public in this process.

## Union Arch Trail

On Friday, November 13 the Road and Trail Supervisor, the Park Chief of Staff and the Mayor of Glen Echo and Town Council Member Matney walked the Union Arch Trail (The trail that connects MacArthur Boulevard to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park- trail head near one lane bridge) to identify trail issues and develop trail work strategy. The Park is committed to working with the town to host an onsite trail day to address the trail issues along the Union Arch Trail.

## Comments on NPS Report:

Renny Springuel noted that trail cleanup is a typical Eagle Scout project and local troops could get the word out about needed help. Councilmember Costello noted Walt Whitman High School AP Environmental Science Club might also be a good resource. Councilmember Matney suggested the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club as a source of potential volunteer power.

Mayor Beers mentioned troublesome potholes on Clara Barton Parkway and Canal Road. Noting some potholes had been patched but are getting bad again. She suggested filling in the holes before winter.

## REQUEST FOR WAIVER

On December 14, 2015 the Town was presented with a request for a waiver of the Road Construction Ordinance 2014.01 17.1 from Aaron Hirsch pursuant to his new plan concerning Vassar Circle.

Leah Hertz raised a procedural question regarding proper notification. Mayor Beers indicated there is nothing in the Town ordinance requiring 30 days notice. Leah Hertz also asked on what grounds Aaron Hirsch is requesting a waiver. Mayor Beers indicated a determination will be made if a strict application of the ordinance would deprive Mr. Hirsch of reasonable use of the property. Mr. Hirsch will electronically post his waiver request and drawing. Also, the plans will be at Town Hall for resident review. Mayor Beers urged resident return comments to be germane to the spirit of the ordinance, comments to be received by January 18, 2016.

**Motion 2015-55** was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to hold a special hearing January 25, 2016 to vote on the new plan as amended. This latest version calls for 28ft. paved surface, accomplished by easement.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion 2015-56** was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to approve the November 2, 2015 Town Meeting minutes as amended. Councilmember Costello seconded. Nancy Long abstained as she had not seen an advance copy of the minutes. Motion passed.

**Motion 2015-57** was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to approve the November 2, 2015 Executive Session minutes. Councilmember Matney seconded. Nancy Long abstained as she had not seen an advance copy of the minutes. Motion passed.

**Motion 2015-58** was made by Councilmember Matney to approve the November 9, 2015 Town Council Meeting minutes with the deletion of Cabin John Gardens traffic survey comment regarding Glen Echo funding and the addition of Councilmember Stiglitz walking Wellesley Circle to determine number of parking signs needed. Councilmember Stiglitz seconded. Motion passed.

**Motion 2015-59** was made by Councilmember Matney to approve the November 10, 2015 Executive Session minutes. Councilmember Stiglitz seconded. Motion passed.

**Motion 2015-60** was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to approve the November 10, 2015 Open Meeting Regular Session minutes. Councilmember Matney seconded. Motion passed.

**Motion 2015-61** was made by Councilmember Matney to approve the December 8, 2015 Executive Session minutes. Councilmember seconded. Councilmember Stiglitz abstained as he was not present. Motion passed.

**POLICE CITATION REPORT**

Willem Polak has asked that police presence be more active on Oxford Rd. Clerk will ask police to step up their traffic efforts especially surrounding weekend dances. Discussion ensued about repeat stop sign offenders and impact of police presence. Renny Springuel noted police presence during summer camp carpool hours is necessary and impactful. Aaron LaRocca noted the main recommendation of traffic engineers for Oxford Road has been relocation of the speed bump.

**TOWN HALL USE**

Councilmember Long reported there were seven Town Hall dates booked for residents and one non-resident in January 2016.

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD**

Councilmember Stiglitz reported the next meeting will be January 6, 2016.

**TOWN MAINTENANCE**

Councilmember Long stated the need for carbon monoxide detectors in Town Hall since the installation of natural gas. Suggested locations were the entryway on the first floor, including chambers and office, the second floor, the furnace room and one in the Post Office. The Clerk will contact Uneeda.

**HEALTHY LAWN BILL**

Holly Shimizu requested that the Town Council support the Healthy Lawn Bill 52-14 that bans the cosmetic use of pesticides. Holly will speak to the Town landscape vendor, Chapel Valley about realistic pesticide alternatives for Glen Echo. Mayor Beers stressed the need for weed control as it relates to street and sidewalk integrity.

**Motion 2015-62** was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to adjourn. Councilmember Matney seconded. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

Meeting was adjourned 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

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Deborah Beers, Mayor

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Date