

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
COUNCIL MEETING
October 10, 2016

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

VISITORS: Aaron LaRocca
Bill Vincent, The Echo reporter
Aaron Hirsch
Gloria Levin
Edie Springuel
Renny Springuel

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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REPORT

Work on the Union Arch trail should start in the upcoming weeks. The George Washington Memorial Parkway has partnered with Student Conservation Association to conduct trail work throughout the Park. The Trail Supervisor for the George Washington Memorial Parkway has tentatively scheduled the Union Arch Trail restoration project this summer. The project is being vetted through the compliance process and should receive the most streamlined review allowed under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), a categorical exclusion. There will be a crew of 4 that will work for one month on the trail. Mayor Beers asked that she be notified when work starts. Mayor Beers also mentioned the entrance to the C & O Canal from 79th Street in Cabin John needs maintenance. Big gullies have formed as gravel has washed away.

POLICE CITATION REPORT

Attached.

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

The police advisory board did not meet this month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2016-85 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2016 Town Council meeting as amended. Councilmember Long seconded. Motion passed.

REVISIONS TO POTOMAC RIVER FLIGHT PATH PROPOSED BY FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)

Mayor Beers, Councilmember Costello, Councilmember Long and Councilmember Matney attended the September 15, 2016 FAA Public Meeting concerning proposed changes to the flight path which now follows the Potomac River; the proposed change would bring the flight path over land specifically over Glen Echo according to FAA maps. Councilmember Matney had previously noted the document provided by the FAA was poorly written, maps were unreadable and some invalid assumptions were made. He will prepare a technical rebuttal.

TOWN HALL USE

The Halloween Party will be October 31, 2016 and the Holiday Brunch December 10, 2016 10:00 am – 11:30 am. The Town-wide yard sale will be October 22, 2016, with the Town Hall available in case of rain and/or for those residents who prefer to set up tables indoors.

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY CAMPUS - BETHESDA TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

Councilmember Costello gave a report about her attendance at the ICC-B Joint Traffic Committee meeting, Thursday, October 6, 7 p.m. in the Waldorf School auditorium. Interested citizens in neighboring communities were invited to attend to get a general overview of the ICC-B project as well as traffic related matters. Harold Pfohl, Chair ICC-B Joint Traffic Committee and John W. Harbeson, Secretary ICC-B Joint Traffic Committee attended.

A representative from the Montgomery County DOT reported on the status and nature of the signal design at the Clara Barton/MacArthur Blvd interchange. Also, Jennifer Mahoney, Director of Facilities for the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) commented on matters that will affect traffic and parking as the site is progressively populated.

Councilmember Costello relayed information about discussion surrounding overflow parking and shuttle service for the 200+ overflow parking spaces that are needed. The shuttles will be in Bethesda and Tenleytown. There was also mention of the National Park Service potentially granting permission to allow overflow parking at the Glen Echo Park parking lot. It is undetermined if this is “real” as there were conflicting reports. Councilmember Costello will investigate and report back as will Aaron LaRocca.

Mayor Beers restated the eventual need for the Glen Echo Park parking lot entrances to be reconfigured to eliminate heavy traffic on Oxford Road.

TOWN MAINTENANCE

Councilmember Costello reported the Town Hall exterior painting project is in progress. She mentioned her concern about the padlocked window grates that the Post Office installed. She was concerned they may pose a safety hazard. Councilmember Costello will share her concerns with the incoming Postmaster.

Councilmember Costello presented a proposal from Royal Painting for iron work around town. After discussion,

Motion 2016-86 was made by Councilmember Matney to accept the iron works proposal from Royal Painting and Light Construction, LLC. Councilmember Stiglitz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilmember Costello plans to ask Royal Painting to install a new weathervane to replace the existing slightly damaged weathervane. The style of weathervane was discussed and it was decided that a bird weathervane with a patina finish similar to what is current in place will be ordered and installed. Renny Springuel suggested the fire department may be willing to install the weathervane as they have been known to help with Town Hall rooftop problems in the past. In addition, Councilmember Stiglitz suggested a LED light be installed in the cupola.

COMPREHENSIVE RE-CODIFICATION

Mayor Beers announced that Town attorney, Ron Bolt will attend the November Town Council meeting to present the comprehensive code amendment draft. The draft contains revisions and a few additions to the code of ordinances. Following the meeting a fair summary will be available for resident review. The Town Council plans to vote on this issue at the December or January Town Council meeting.

ROADWORK

Mayor Beers asked the clerk to contact Stanley Paving (the vendor that paved the Town Hall parking lot) to create a lip (per resident request) at the bottom of Bryn Mawr Avenue to keep water out of the street. She also asked that Stanley Paving move the speed bump on Oxford to the original location that was suggested by A. Morton Thomas & Associates engineering firm. Councilmember Matney will search for the engineering study documents for specifics. Renny Springuel noted that Stanley Paving should also fill some small cracks on the paving joints of Town roads (some in front of 1 Vassar Circle and some on University Avenue were mentioned) with tar. He raised concern about water going into the cracks, freezing and potentially creating pot holes.

PUBLIC SPACE

Discussion continued about the creation of a design for a Town flag. All were in agreement that the community needs to be involved in the process and parameters for public works must be considered. It was decided that the first step is to solicit input from residents on whether a Town flag is wanted or needed. The Echo will include an article in the upcoming issue about the possible flag project and will ask residents to let the Council know if they are in favor of the concept of a Town flag. Aaron Hirsch is strongly in favor of a flag as a symbol for our Town and volunteered to serve as flag steward. If there is enough interest the project would move into the design phase. Mayor Beers stated she is not in favor of a Town flag. Councilmember Stiglitz does not have an issue with a flag in principle.

Councilmember Costello provided an update about the concept of a Free Little Library in one of the pocket parks in Town. She has volunteered to serve as outdoor librarian and some residents have volunteered to help create and maintain the small structure.

Gloria Levin inquired about the status of a written agreement to document the private use of the public right-of-way with residents at 6103 Cornell Avenue, 1 Vassar Circle and 6108 Bryn Mawr Avenue. Mayor Beers will follow-up with the Town attorney about the agreement.

The issue of Town signs was raised. The residents of 6005 Bryn Mawr Avenue were given permission to relocate the speed limit sign near their property to an existing utility pole. Councilmember Stiglitz will walk Town streets and designate potential sign locations. He seeks input from the community about Town signage, either pro or con. Mayor Beers floated the idea of the Town budgeting for and hiring a Code Enforcement Officer to enforce parking as well as other ordinances.

Motion 2016-87 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to adjourn. Councilmember Matney seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

Deborah Beers, Mayor

Date