

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
COUNCIL MEETING**

February 9, 2009

ATTENDANCE: Debbie Beers, Mayor
 Nancy Long, Councilmember
 Eve Arber, Councilmember
 Steve Matney, Councilmember
 Cathie Polak, Clerk-Treasurer

VISITORS: Maria Capozzi, GEP, Acting Site Manager
 Sophie Keefer, Echo Reporter
 Pam Mason, Resident, Better Hearing and Speech Month
 David Greenburg, Resident

Mayor Beers opened the meeting at 8 p.m.

Pam Mason then introduced herself with a summary of her resume and occupation as an audiologist. She explained that May is nationally proclaimed as Better Hearing and Speech Month and asked Council to adopt a resolution doing the same. Mayor Beers declined adopting such a resolution, noting that it could set a precedent that Council does not want to begin.

Ms. Mason wants to have an event to begin the Better Hearing and Speech month at Town Hall, on May 2. She reviewed the materials available and said she sees the event as a hearing and speech fair. Councilmember Arber asked if hearing screening would be done. The answer was no because a soundproof room and special equipment is required. Councilmember Long asked how many people could be expected to attend; Pam said she did not know how many would attend; she asked Council for assistance with publicizing marketing the event. Mayor Beers said the event is welcome at the town hall; all publicizing would be up to Ms. Mason as the Town does not have the necessary resources for such an undertaking. Past experience has shown a low attendance by Glen Echo residents for this type of event. Councilmember Matney suggested publicizing the event in other communities to attract attendees.

Councilmember Arber noted that May 2 is one of the busiest weekends in May.

C/T Polak said if Pam wanted to submit a flyer electronically, the Town could circulate it via the Town's resident email group and hand deliver it to each home. C/T Polak also suggested placing a table in the foyer throughout May, where brochures and literature about hearing and speech services could be available to groups using the town hall; Ms. Mason would be responsible for restocking the table.

GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT

Maria Capozzi reported that the propane tanks to be installed to provide heat for the Clara Barton NHS (CBNHS) will be placed about 25 feet from the existing furnace shed, up to the edge of the bamboo. A small berm will be placed over piping.

Mayor Beers asked if Senator Mikulski's office contacted the CBNHS, explaining that the Senator's office offered their assistance with the recent HVAC/propane tank placement issues. Mayor Beers told their office that the Park needs assistance with acquiring funding for a geo-thermal heating system, through the anticipated economic stimulus program. Ms. Capozzi said no, Mikulski's office has not contacted the Park. Mayor Beers will provide the name of the contact.

Superintendent Dottie Marshall will be at the March 9 Council meeting to give an update on the geo-thermal project.

Construction is moving along on the Crystal Pool façade which has been painted in generally historic colors; the neon sign, "Crystal Pool," should be added soon. Councilmember Long asked about a large contingent of tree cutting equipment she observed in the Park. Ms. Capozzi explained that the large Sycamore tree near the Caretakers Cottage was determined to be diseased, and had to be removed; the Park had taken protective measures to try to preserve the tree, but was unsuccessful. The glass blower's apprentice should be moving back in the cottage soon.

Mayor Beers inquired about plans for the classroom space adjacent to Adventure Theater; the space will be used by the Washington Music Conservatory which will use GEP as its headquarters; its current location is in the Westmorland Church.

C/T Polak asked if Maria had received a copy of an email showing the speed bumps damaged by the NPS snow plows after the recent snow storm. Ms. Capozzi said she had not received the information. C/T Polak said she would provide photographs and asked that the Park alert their snow plow crews to the new speed bumps on Oxford Road.

There was no additional information to report on the recent rash of car break-ins at the Park.

Mayor Beers reported that Councilmember Long will be an honoree at the Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture (GEPPAC) Gala on May 16, 2009; they have asked the Town to purchase a table for ten. Councilmember Long objects to the Town paying for a table, saying it is an inappropriate use of tax money, and said GEPPAC should provide a table to each honoree. Councilmember Matney suggested purchasing a table in lieu of a donation. C/T Polak said a \$1500 donation has already been sent to GEPPAC and suggested the Town purchase table for Councilmember Long, who would choose nine guests. Mayor Beers said the Town is proud that Councilmember Long is an honoree and should honor her

by purchasing a table on her behalf. The other honorees will be the Marriott Corporation, the Ambassador of Spain and Jeff Kirk, the Director of Glen Echo Pottery.

Councilmember Long asked to table a decision, repeating that she objects to the idea. Mayor Beers said that the GEPPAC Gala is a fund raiser; they have to sell tables. Councilmember Long asked for time to investigate the GEPPAC plans.

STREET REPAIR PROJECT

Councilmember Kogelnik was not present to report on the street repair project. Mayor Beers has contacted A. Morton Thomas who told her they are trying to prepare the bid documents to stay within the Town's budget. Mayor Beers directed AMT to bid the entire project, Council can decide what to eliminate through the review process. Mayor Beers expressed some dissatisfaction with how AMT is progressing with this project.

TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE

There was discussion about the noise level in the upstairs of the town hall. Resident David Greenberg suggested the Town contact Phil Kaylor, Recording Consultants (RCI), for a soundproofing consultation.

C/T Polak provided an estimate from CASE Handyman to add sound proofing tiles to the main room's ceiling.

Motion 2009-03 to accept CASE Handyman proposal to add sound proofing tiles to the town hall ceiling, not to exceed \$4000.

Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL USE

Councilmember Long reported a request from Karen Thon to use town hall on March 16 for the Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Committee meeting. This meeting has become an annual event for the Committee to hear comments from the Town and surrounding areas. The St. Patrick's Day party will be held at 5 p.m. on Saturday, March 21. Kate Horwitz will be organizing the event.

MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (MML)

The next MML meeting will be at 7 p.m., February 19, at the Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe Street.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2009-04 to approve as amended the January 12, 2009, Town Council meeting minutes:

- Page 5, paragraph 3, line 2: the first edition ~~has already~~ is almost sold out

Motion passed as amended.

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Motion 2009-05 to approve as amended the January 22, 2009, Town Council meeting minutes:

- Page 2, paragraph 1, line 3: Kogelnik will be in transition ~~until the March 9 Town Council meeting; she could submit a formal resignation whenever she ceases to reside in Glen Echo.~~ during the month of February.

Motion passed as amended.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Cathie Polak

Deborah M. Beers, Mayor

Date