

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
July 12, 2010

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

VISITORS: Polly Angelakis, Site Manager, Glen Echo Park (GEP)  
Gerry Bodlander, Echo Reporter  
Matt and Kate Stiglitz, Residents  
John Barrett, Resident

Mayor Beers opened the Council meeting at 8 p.m.

**GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT**

Ms. Angelakis reported that the upper parking lot (parallel to MacArthur Boulevard) will be repaved in the next few weeks. She noted that the lot is for permit parking only from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

GEP is implementing a new sign program in and around the Park to assist visitors. Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture (GEPPAC) and cooperator locations will be designated by banners; both will be responsible for the associated costs.

Work on the Clara Barton National Historic Site (CBNHS) is “moving along.” Two students have been hired to work on the oral history project for GEP started by Sam Swersky. An intern program will be instituted.

The First Bloom event, which included adding new plants and trees to existing gardens in the Park, was successful. There were three new youth programs: a habitat walk, a scavenger hunt, and a Jr. Ranger program. Councilmember Long said it appears that the newly-planted larger trees seem to be doing well; the Park needs more trees, especially in the picnic grove in front of the Spanish Ballroom. According to Councilmember Long, more shade is needed on the west side of the picnic grove.

Ms. Angelakis reported that the event commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary the civil rights protests in GEP was well received. Councilmember Long was concerned that the NPS did not plan and carry out the program since it was part of the NPS interpretive responsibilities; instead it was presented by GEPPAC. She asked if this was because there is insufficient NPS staff. According to Ms. Angelakis, GEPPAC took the lead because the Park experienced a 50% staff turnover in the months just before the program was scheduled.

Mayor Beers noted that public transportation continues to be a problem in bringing a more diverse group to the park. Ms. Angelakis said that, while NPS does not get involved with public transportation issues, she will speak with Superintendent Dottie Marshall about stronger stand on the transportation issues. Councilmember Long noted that NPS can be involved, as evidenced by C&O Canal Superintendent Kevin Brandt's meeting with Ride-On bus management.

Mayor Beers said she has recent photographs of the C&O Canal between Sycamore Island and Lock 8, and plans to send letter to Congressman Van Hollen as a follow-up to Council's meeting with Superintendent Kevin Brandt on the poor state of the Canal in the above-noted area. Mayor Beers sees this problem as a George Washington Parkway issue, as well as a C & O Canal problem. Councilmember Long said she will report on Council's concerns at the C & O Canal Commission meeting on August 13. Councilmember Arber suggested getting Roger Berliner involved.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion 2010-13** to approve as presented the June 14, 2010, Town Council meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **DUMPSTER PERMIT**

Resident John Barrett plans to replace his driveway at 20 Wellesley Circle; the necessary dumpster will need to be placed on the street. Mayor Beers said the building permit can be modified for a dumpster permit. The fee should be \$10.

#### **ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Mayor Beers alerted Council she will introduce a letter from Knopf & Brown highlighting the Town's compliance problems with Montgomery County next month. Town ordinances need to be reviewed and clarified with the County. Matt Stiglitz asked if the town ordinances are on the on web site; Mayor Beers explained that there are inconsistencies that need to be addressed and updated before publishing them on the Town's web site.

#### **TOWN HALL USE**

Councilmember Long said there were no upcoming special events in the town hall. Mayor Beers thanked C/T Polak for a successful and well attended Town picnic on July 11. Kate Stiglitz supported return of the water slide next summer.

#### **USPS LEASE**

Mayor Beers reported that the U.S. Postal Service is willing to pay separately metered utilities; PEPCO is the only utility that would be involved, since water and oil costs are included in the town hall utilities. C/T Polak noted that USPS will need to provide a billing address for the PEPCO account.

Council agreed that the Town does not want to lose the Post Office and is willing to accept a lower rent beginning January 1, 2012.

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**Resolution 2010-1** that the Mayor is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Glen Echo the proposed lease with the U.S. Postal Service beginning January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2016, with a renewal option from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2021.

Resolution unanimously adopted.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

Councilmember Long reported that resident artist Raya Bodnarchuk was invited to show her decoupage work at a gallery in Arizona this month.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45.