

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
August 9, 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)  
Sophie Keefer, Echo Reporter

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

**GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT**

Ms. Angelakis reported that there are two upcoming events in the Park:

- Art of Clara Barton Show which will include historic-site art and artwork related to Clara Barton, on Sunday, September 5;
- Labor Day Art Show, which will be the 40<sup>th</sup> year, opens on Friday evening, September 3. The show will be open Saturday, Sunday and Monday from noon to 6 p.m. Mayor Beers noted that Councilmember Long has been involved in every Labor Day Art Show.

Work on the Hubble bedroom and sitting room is finished in the Clara Barton National Historic Site (CBNHS). Next asbestos will be removed in non-public rooms in CBNHS.

Summer camps in the Park will be over in a couple of weeks. Mayor Beers said that visitors bringing campers to the Park this past summer have all but ignored the stop sign on Oxford Road, creating a crossing hazard for pedestrians. She asked Ms. Angelakis to speak with GEPPAC camp administrators.

Exterior work has begun on the trolley parked under the GEP gateway sign. District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) has expressed interest in renovating the trolley to promote light rail in DC.

Installation of new signs for the Park begins in early September.

Councilmember Long inquired when the NPS plans to complete replacing the wood planking on the Minnehaha Bridge. Ms. Angelakis thought repairs would begin once summer camps were over and there is less daily foot traffic over the bridge. That would complete a project started about two years ago.

Councilmember Macy asked for an update on replacing broken lights along the footpath from the Minnehaha Bridge into the Park. According to Ms. Angelakis, the bollards will be replaced with three lamp posts; additional lamp posts will be installed within the Park.

The Park hopes to fill the vacant Supervisory Ranger position by early fall; other staff will be rotated in that position monthly until the position is permanently filled. This response was to a question from Councilmember Long about what appears to be difficulty in securing staff on a continuing basis; the concern is the seemingly lack of interest in providing adequate staff for NPS to fulfill its responsibilities to GEP.

The upper parking lot, off MacArthur Boulevard, will be paved within the next few days. All traffic will be directed to Oxford Road for Park entrance.

### **TOWN HALL USE**

Councilmember Long noted that summer use has been predominantly private parties by town residents.

FSGW Family Dance is requesting use of the hall once a month, on the second Sunday, from November through April. Family Dance is held in the Park during the warmer months. There was no objection to this request.

### **TOWN MAINTENANCE**

C/T Polak reported that Case Handyman has completed striping curbs and driveways. Council agreed that the work "looks great."

C/T Polak then presented a proposal from Affordable Signs in Alexandria, Virginia, to make "No Parking on this Side of Street" signs. She suggested purchasing 100 signs.

**Motion 2010-14** to purchase 75 "No Parking on this Side of Street" signs from Affordable Signs for \$31/each.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Beers requested that Chapel Valley Landscaping cut back overhanging bushes and branches from Town sidewalks and water the Town parks only after extended times without rain. It was noted that Chapel Valley has been using their watering truck to water the Town Hall garden when the Town's exterior faucet and hose are available. C/T Polak said she will speak with Chapel Valley.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion 2010-15** to approve as presented the July 12, 2010, Town Council meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

### **ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Council discussed a confidential letter from Knopf & Brown dated June 9, 2010, pertaining to enforcement problems the Town has encountered with Montgomery

County. She referred to two ordinances passed in 2000 by Council: Animal Control Ordinance and Tilley Frank Ordinance.

Mayor Beers had difficulty locating a signed copy of the Animal Control Ordinance and directed C/T Polak to contact the Town clerk at that time for a signature. Attached is a copy of a February 3, 2000, letter from the Office of the County Executive assuming animal control within the Town of Glen Echo. Mayor Beers asked Town attorney, Norman Knopf, to clarify with Montgomery County that the County resumed basic animal control within Town limits as of February 13, 2000.

Mayor Beers then suggested having Mr. Knopf redraft the Tilley Frank Ordinance, Article 9, listing which county codes apply in Glen Echo. Council agrees to have the Tilley Frank ordinance redrafted.

#### **MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE**

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) recently passed a resolution calling for reinstatement of Highway User Revenue (HUR) and other state aid diverted from municipalities to the State general fund and to provide additional local discretionary revenue raising authority for municipalities. MML asked the Town to pass a similar local resolution. Council sees the resolution as too vague; Council does support HUR reinstatement. Council did not support the Mayor's request to accept the MML local resolution.

#### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

Council discussed PEPCO's inadequate power management during recent storms. They also discussed noise complaints associated with the increasing number of resident-owned generators, especially at night. C/T Polak will invite Kim Watson to the next town council meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Cathie Polak