

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
January 10, 2011

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

VISITORS: Polly Angelakis, Site Manager, Glen Echo Park (GEP), NPS  
Matt Stiglitz, Resident  
Bret Agnew, Echo Reporter  
Raya Bodnarchuk, Resident

Councilmember Long called the meeting to order at 8 p.m., noting Mayor Beers' absence.

**GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT**

Ms. Angelakis reported the following:

- Environmental Assessment process for the Montgomery County bike path along MacArthur Boulevard is on-going.
- The trolley restoration project will continue in the spring, using National Park Service (NPS) funds, led by the NPS regional architectural conservator.
- NPS is working with Harpers Ferry Design Center to plan, create and install interpretive waysides throughout GEP.
- New way-finding signs for GEP and Clara Barton NHS will be installed by Family Day 2011. The design plan for placement of the signs is in the Park office.
- On December 23, a water main break occurred on the Clara Barton NHS grounds; it was fixed by 7 p.m.
- On December 24, a water leak on Oxford Road was reported to WSSC, who determined that it was a valve leak and not a high priority. Numerous calls and emails to WSSC from the Town Council, NPS and GEPPAC finally resulted in repairs on January 4, 2011.

New staffing at GEP:

- Kimberly Robinson, who has been acting Curator since 2010, will be the Curator for both GEP and Clara Barton NHS.
- Aaron LaRocca, who served as Acting Supervisory Park Ranger in the summer 2010, has been permanently hired to this position.
- Sharna Plater is the Acting Facilities Operations Supervisor, replacing Malcolm Willoughby, who moved to Harpers Ferry Design Center last December.

**HARVARD AVENUE TRAFFIC**

Raya Bodnarchuk, who lives directly across from the Town Hall at 6105 Harvard Avenue, asked Council to provide a solution to the repeated destruction of her front fence and property (trashcans). Ms. Bodnarchuk explained that, although the offenders usually

pay for repairs, she is left with the responsibility of getting estimates and overseeing the repairs. Ms. Bodnarchuk told Council that she is concerned that a car will end up taking out her front porch; she is asking for help from the Town.

There was extended discussion and speculation about how to help. Suggestions included:

- Making Harvard Avenue a one way street.
- Larger curbs.
- Move or eliminate the mail drop box.
- Hire a planner to resolve the issue.
- No parking in front of the Town Hall.
- Better signage.
- Contact Maryland Municipal League (MML) for traffic planning recommendations.

C/T Polak will have the Montgomery Council Police (currently monitoring Oxford Road traffic) review the problem and make suggestions on appropriate signs and possible solutions.

Council will approach the USPS about relocating or removing the mailbox.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion 2011-01** to approve as corrected the Town Council meeting minutes of December 13, 2010. Motion passed.

#### **TOWN HALL USE**

Councilmember Long said that, in the future, she will provide a list of events in the town hall, rather than a calendar printout.

Councilmember Long then reported a complaint from a nearby resident about excessively loud music from a party held by a resident at the Town Hall; users need to be reminded that the facility is in a residential area and the noise level must be controlled.

#### **TOWN MAINTENANCE**

Councilmember Matney noted WSSC is again checking sewer lines near the trolley trestle bridge at end of Radcliffe.

#### **OXFORD ROAD STOP SIGN**

Council was given the report prepared by Montgomery County Policeman, Mike Miglianti, for the month of December 2010. Officer Miglianti, when off-duty, is hired by the Town to monitor traffic on Oxford Road and other intersections of concern that may arise within the Town. Councilmember Macy asked for a breakdown of citations and warnings. (Note: The warnings are recorded in the officers' citation book, as is a citation, for running the stop sign on Oxford Road, for future reference.)

#### **STOP SIGN CAMERA**

C/T Polak reported that, according to Mr. Frank Harrison (202-438-0664) of ACS, the purchase and installation of a stop sign camera would be approximately \$100K. (ACS installs and manages the stop light cameras in Washington, D.C. and Maryland.) The fee for ACS to install, maintain and manage citations for Glen Echo would be \$5000/month, after Glen Echo acquired permission to install a camera from the State of Maryland. There was discussion about the installation and maintenance cost of a stop sign camera at the intersection of Oxford Road and University Avenue. Council agreed that the costs, plus the challenge of getting permission from the State of Maryland for such a camera, prohibit pursuing such an enforcement camera at this time.

#### **ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

**1. Glen Echo Baptist Church (GEBC) Annex:** Councilmember Matney said he spoke with Bill Canon about the sale of the GEGC Annex. Mr. Canon said the other buyer's initial interest has not followed through. There was discussion about inspection/appraisal of the property. All agreed that an engineer (structural) should look at the building; Councilmember Long suggested Council look at the building interior first.

**Motion 2011-02** to hire an engineering firm to study the GEBC Annex (after Council inspects the building interior). Motion passed unanimously.

**2. William E. Briggs, Jr:** Councilmember Long reported that Mr. Briggs, known locally as "Billy," recently passed away; she read from the minutes (attached to these minutes) of August 29, 1968, when Mr. Briggs resigned from the Council. Mr. Briggs served on the Town Council from September 1960 to August 1968.

Meeting adjourned 9:30.