

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
Town Council Meeting
September 12, 2011

- ATTENDANCE: Debbie Beers, Mayor
Nancy Long, Councilmember
Eve Arber, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Mark McCaffrey, Councilmember
Nicole Fraser, Clerk-Treasurer
- VISITORS: Jim McGunnigle, Echo Reporter
Polly Angelakis, Site Manager, National Park Service, Glen
Echo Park
Mark Batterson, Pastor of National Community Church
Tom Meeks, Glen Echo Baptist Church
Raya Bodnarchuk, Resident
Herb Niles, Resident
Matt Stiglitz, Resident
Cathie Polak, Resident
Phyllis Fordham, Echo Editor
Norman Knopf, Knopf & Brown, Town Attorney

Mayor Beers called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m. She then invited GEP¹ Site Manager Polly Angelakis to report on the park.

GLEN ECHO PARK

Ms. Angelakis reported:

- The Labor Day Art show, held over the three-day weekend, was very successful, with several patrons commenting on the quality and arrangement of the artwork.
- An Open House at Clara Barton NHS held on Labor Day, included a display of art inspired by Clara Barton and also a blood drive. The ARC said that it was a very successful blood drive; 13 pints were collected. The ARC hopes to have a media drive in early December and hopes to host more blood drives at Clara Barton NHS.
- Both GEP and Clara Barton NHS came through Hurricane Irene and the August 23 earthquake all right. However, during Tropical Storm Lee there was extensive flooding in the NPS office from a clogged downspout; Clara Barton NHS had some leaking problems.
- The NPS GEP volunteer program won the George B. Hertzog award, a regional NPS recognition of excellence. The volunteer program is now under consideration for a national award.

¹ Abbreviations used in this document include ARC (American Red Cross), GEBC (Glen Echo Baptist Church), GEP (Glen Echo Park), GEPPAC (Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts & Culture), NCC (National Community Church), NHS (National Historic Site),

- Sunday, September 25, 2011, GEP will hold the “Then and Wow” event. Thursday, October 6th, 2011, GEPPAC will hold a fund-raising member-donor event with wine tasting and a silent auction (Tickets: \$50 in advance, \$60 at the door).
- Progress on the bike path is on hold while the NPS waits for archeology test results and tree plan, then the Environmental Assessment (EA) can be written. Councilmember Long asked if trees would be taken out along Minniehaha Creek in the park. Ms. Angelakis replied that trees are to be removed between the trolley line and the bike path. Councilmember Long encouraged Ms. Angelakis to save as many trees as possible to protect the creek’s natural environment. Ms. Angelakis replied that the staff biologist is working hard to keep the natural environment.
- The Candy Corner space is on schedule to become an NPS visitor contact station. As historical artifacts will be housed in the Candy Corner, the installation of a security system is one of the final steps. Councilmember Long noted that the park display usually presented in the Popcorn Gallery during September is now upstairs in the GEPPAC offices. Ms. Angelakis said that someone requested use of the Popcorn Gallery space, before NPS.

GLEN ECHO BAPTIST CHURCH

Tom Meeks of GEBC announced that the GEBC congregation voted (11-2) on September 11, 2011, to give the Vassar Circle GEBC property to the NCC, and proceeds of the sale of the GEBC annex on the corner of University and Harvard Avenues would also be given to NCC to upgrade the Vassar Circle property.

Mr. Meeks introduced Pastor Mark Batterson of the NCC. Pastor Batterson reviewed the history of his organization. At the end of his presentation, many questions were raised by Town residents. Pastor Batterson said he was just starting out having just received the news yesterday and did not have any definite plans. Current NCC projects will keep him busy until 2012, Pastor Batterson committed to a meeting in early 2012 with town residents to listen and hear what their concerns are before any final decisions are made.

Motion 2011-27 to close the Town Council meeting and go into Executive Session.
Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Nicole Fraser