

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
Town Council Meeting
June 11, 2012

ATTENDANCE: Deborah Beers, Mayor
Nancy Long, Councilmember
Eve Arber, Councilmember
Steve Matney, Councilmember
Mark McCaffrey, Councilmember
Nicole Fraser, Clerk/Treasurer

VISITORS: Matt Stiglitz, Resident
Polly Angelakis, NPS¹ Site Manager of GEP
Julia Wilson, The Echo Reporter
Bill Vincent, Resident
Stephen Hathaway, Resident
Mark Steele, Resident
George Atallah, Resident

Mayor Beers called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT

GEP¹ Site Manger Polly Angelakis reported that an after-action meeting for the Washington Folk Festival will be held 6/15 at 2 pm in the Arcade Conference Room. Councilmember Long offered to represent the town to share concerns and discuss possible solutions. A NPS carpenter completed several repairs: removing rotted railing from the front porch roof and floor boards of Clara Barton NHS, repairing the Carousel's band organ housing door, a leak in the Candy Corner roof and painting the Candy Corner walls. With repairs to the Candy Corner now complete, it will be used as the NPS Visitor Contact Station and exhibit space.

NPS will meet 6/13 to discuss an EA and funding for the geothermal system at Clara Barton NHS.

Ranger Kevin Patti returned from the US Embassy in Armenia where he represented GEP at events that honored Clara Barton. He spoke at several events and was featured on Armenian television. Councilmember Long suggested that Mr. Patti come to the Town Hall to present the program.

NPS received funding to remove hazardous materials and repair rodent chewed and water logged phone lines at Clara Barton NHS. Funding will also be used to clean out black

¹ Abbreviations used in this document include EA (Environmental Assessment), EECBG (Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant), GEP (Glen Echo Park), GEPPAC (Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture), (National Historical Park), NHS (National Historic Site) and NPS (National Park Service).

mold that is growing in sea containers at GEP, and to replace the bollards on the main path with taller lampposts.

The GEPPAC Gala was well attended and was featured in the Washington Post's Style section with photos of Mayor Beers, Ms. Angelakis and Councilmember Long.

Councilmember Long asked again if GEPPAC can construct a new building in GEP. Ms. Angelakis said that the park is close to its 40% of buildable space, but possible sites could include the maintenance area or the miniature golf course area adjacent to the Spanish Ballroom. However any plan would have to include a major fundraising campaign by GEPPAC and an extensive EA process by the NPS which could not be circumvented. Councilmember Long reiterated that GEP needs more park space not another building and the golf course would be a perfect place for expansion of the park.

Councilmember Arber noted that the Folk Festival tents were set up on Town property on Tulane Avenue but no request to use that space was sent to the town to set up on Tulane Avenue. Councilmember Matney said that during the Folk Festival, cars were parked on the bike path and the barricades were placed down on the hill instead of near MacArthur Boulevard. He reiterated a need for better communication between NPS and the Town during these large events.

Councilmember Long said she asked a park ranger why the barricades were set so far down from MacArthur Boulevard; he replied that he understood the Mayor had requested that placement. Mayor Beers said she had not.

PARKING ON BRYN MAWR

George Attalah, resident on Upper Bryn Mawr Avenue, reported that many non-residents visiting the Wild Bird Center building and its tenants, are parking on Upper Bryn Mawr Avenue leaving no spaces for residents to park. Mr. Atallah and Mr. Steele have raised the issue politely with the tenants five or six times, requesting that they use the available parking spaces under the building. Mayor Beers offered to write a letter to the occupants of the Wild Bird Center making them aware of the situation and asking them to use the parking spaces available to them in the lot.

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Matt Stiglitz reported from the June 6th Police Advisory Board Meeting. Early in the morning of June 11th, two cars in Bannockburn were stolen, an attempted break-in on Vassar Circle and two unlocked vehicles on lower Bryn Mawr (owned by Bill Vincent and Stephen Hathaway) had items stolen [*N. B.* – three suspects have been arrested related to the vehicle thefts and breakins]. Mr. Stiglitz reported that 70-80% of all automotive thefts are through unlocked cars. The trend of robberies on Western Avenue noted in the spring have ceased since the arrest of two suspects. Mr. Stiglitz reported that some personnel are being moved from District 2 over to Silver Spring and the current boundaries of District 2 will expand north. Mr. Stiglitz offered to invite the District

Captain to Glen Echo in the Fall; a list of relevant issues will be drafted for a possible meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2012-11 to approve the minutes with changes of the May Council Meeting.

Changes were:

- 1) Page 3, 2nd paragraph, 2nd sentence, remove “she” between that and GEPPAC.
- 2) Page 3, 2nd paragraph, 3rd sentence, rewrite to read “She noted her concern that some operators in the park are suffering from increased rents.”
- 3) Page 4, under MML, 4th point, after “violations” add “the reason was that penalties were not uniformly enforced.”

Motion approved unanimously.

Budget hearing and meeting minutes were tabled until July.

TOWN MAINTENANCE

Clerk/Treasurer Fraser reported that the new Frigidaire Energy-Star refrigerator and LED lights had been replaced in compliance with the EECBG grant administered by the Maryland Energy Administration. WiFi (wireless internet service) is now available in the Town Hall with a password. Curb striping around town is nearly complete, the post office parking lot and a stripe along the west side of Columbia Ave will be completed in the next two weeks.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Nicole Fraser

Deborah M. Beers, Mayor

Date

Attachments : Town Hall Use Report
Police Citation Report
Note from Captain Falcinelli about arrests in vehicle thefts