

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
COUNCIL MEETING
February 8, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: Debbie Beers, Mayor
 Dia Costello, Councilmember
 Nancy Long, Councilmember
 Steve Matney, Councilmember
 Matt Stiglitz, Councilmember
 Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

VISITORS: Debbie Sacks, The Echo reporter
 Aaron LaRocca, National Park Service
 Angela Hirsch
 Raya Bodnarchuk

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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REPORT

Aaron LaRocca provided the following written report.

Recruitment

A selection has been made for a seasonal employee who will be duty stationed at Glen Echo. This person will begin March 20th. Additionally, the Park is planning to hire several permanent park guide positions that will be doing programming at Clara Barton National Historic Site and Glen Echo Park. They will possibly start in late May.

Programs

On May 21st, in celebration of the Founding of the American Red Cross in 1881, the Park will host 2 performances of Clara Barton, Red Cross Angel in Glen Echo Park's Bumper Car Pavilion. The performances by Mary Ann Jung, a first person interpreter, will be held at 12 and 2 pm.

Safety Concerns

No Updates- The Park, GEPPAC and United States Park Police are working to address two safety concerns that seem to be on the rise in the last few month; car clouts and speeding in the upper parking lot. Park visitors are reminded to leave nothing of value in their car. Additional signage will be added to the upper lot. In FY15 there were 7 thefts from autos in the Glen Echo Parking Lots.

Cars continue to speed through the upper lot to avoid the backup at the three way stop at the Clara Barton Parkway. This is a safety concern for those who use the bike path, park visitors and Irish Inn patrons. The park is working to implement a speed hump plan to discourage using the trolley right of way as a high speed cut through. GEPPAC is also going to provide a proposal for a gate system. The upper lot is owned by the United States Army Corps of Engineers but managed, through a Memorandum of Understanding by the National Park Service.

Clara Barton Rehabilitation Project

NO UPDATE- Clara Barton National Historic Site is closed to the public for a two part rehabilitation project. The site closed on October 3, 2015 and will remain closed for approximately one year. The

Visitor Service staff is developing interpretive programs to educate the public about the site during the closure.

The rehabilitation project will be completed in two phases. The first phase, the roof replacement project is scheduled to be completed by spring 2016. The second phase, the fire suppression will begin once the roof replacement is completed.

During the project there will be impacts to the area of the parking lot referred to as the dogleg. For the entire project, the parking spots in the dogleg closest to Clara Barton National Historic Site will be closed for a construction staging area. During the fire suppression construction the entrance road to the main parking lot, the small Clara Barton NHS parking lot and areas of the flat lawn will be closed.

Glen Echo Park Partnership Agreement

NO UPDATE- The National Park Service, Montgomery County and staffers from Representative Van Hollen's office met to discuss the cooperative agreement between the NPS and the county that expires in Spring of 2017. The County is working on developing the starting framework of the agreement. The Superintendent of the GWMP is committed to involving the public in this process.

Comments on NPS Report:

Councilmember Costello noted Walt Whitman High School AP Environmental Science Club is available to help with trail maintenance this spring. Councilmember Matney will coordinate local volunteers to help with the April 17 – 23, 2016 Clean-up.

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE, INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY CAMPUS

Mayor Beers and Councilmember Long will meet with the Chair of the Traffic Committee for the Intelligence Community Campus to discuss the traffic situation along the Clara Barton Parkway and MacArthur Blvd. (N.B. – The committee chair is Harry Pfohl, who lives in Glen Echo Heights.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2016-64 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to approve the January 11, 2016 Town Meeting minutes as amended. Councilmember Long seconded. Motion passed.

Motion 2016-65 was made by Councilmember Matney to approve the February 1, 2016 Executive Session Minutes. Councilmember Cotello seconded. Motion passed.

The February 1, 2016 Official Hearing minutes will be reviewed and voted on once the transcript from the court reporter has been received.

POLICE CITATION REPORT

Attached.

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

Councilmember Stiglitz reported the next Police Advisory Board meeting will be in March.

SNOW REMOVAL ORDINANCE

Mayor Beers noted the snow removal ordinance (section 19.24, vehicle control) needs to be amended. Councilmember Stiglitz will review and make recommendations. Discussion ensued about snow emergency route signage, notification and the need for a formal agreement with a towing company to remove cars illegally parked.

STREECAR RIGHT-OF-WAY

Councilmember Long restated the need for a planting record detailing quantities and types of trees and shrubs planted by PEPCO on October 23, 2015.

DONATION TO GEPPAC

Discussion ensued about the notion of financially supporting GEPPAC because the Town is a member of the Board. Mayor Beers stated this donation request should be a regular December Town Council meeting agenda item.

Motion 2016-66 was made by Councilmember Long for the Town to make a \$2,000 donation to GEPPAC. Councilmember Stiglitz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL USE

Angela Hirsch would like to reserve the Town Hall for a weekly yoga class for teens. She also stated that Holly Sheldon is interested. Ms. Sheldon was not present at this meeting. Issues of liability and insurance were discussed, especially since children would be involved. Proof of insurance and release of liability to the Town the classes could start on a trial basis. According to Ms. Hirsch, the Hirsch and Sheldon families would use their allotted free resident rentals during trial. Councilmember Long questioned Ms. Hirsch on aspects of responsibility she would accept as the “user” for this activity as noted in the form “Application, Liability Release and Rental Agreement”.

TOWN MAINTENANCE

The elevator replacement issue was discussed. Councilmember Matney will contact Maryland Municipal League for guidance and Councilmember Costello will consult with Town resident JoAnne Murray (architect with specialty in American with Disabilities Act compliance) for ballpark price. The need for exterior painting of Town Hall was discussed. Councilmember Costello noted the street sign at Oxford Road was knocked down during the blizzard.

6102 BRYN MAWR AVENUE

The lack of a Town building permit at 6102 Bryn Mawr was discussed. There has been a complaint about possible set back requirement non-compliance. An inspector from Montgomery County will investigate. The property owner has begun rehabilitation work and has a Montgomery County building permit posted at the property, but a Town permit has not been requested.

Motion 2016-65 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to adjourn. Councilmember Matney seconded.

Meeting was adjourned 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

Deborah Beers, Mayor

Date