

TOWN OF GLEN ECHO
COUNCIL MEETING
March 13, 2017

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

VISITORS:

Dan Spealman, The Echo reporter
Susan Grigsby
Raya Bodnarchuk
Martha Shannon
Aaron Hirsch
Emily Parsons
Edie Springuel
Renny Springuel
Pete Epanchin

Mayor Beers called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE REPORT

Aaron LaRocca was unable to attend the meeting. He provided the following report:

Clara Barton Rehabilitation Project

The first phase of the rehabilitation project, the construction to replace the roof is complete. The National Park Service is waiting on a final invoice from the contractor. Payment of this invoice will complete this portion of the project.

The contractor for the second phase, the fire suppression system, is proceeding with upgrading the fire detection and alarm. The WSSC permit issue has not been resolved.

Clara Barton National Historic Site is closed to the public for a two part rehabilitation project. The site closed on October 3, 2015. The Visitor Service staff has developed interpretive programs to educate the public about the site during the closure. Offsite interpretive programs have been very successful!

Bumper Car Pavilion Work

The park and Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture (GEPPAC) are working to address the mural on top of the Bumper Car Pavilion. Work is being done to assess the treatment options. Once proper treatment is determined, the project will need to be reviewed, ensuring

compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and with the National Environmental Policy Act. (End NPS report.)

Glen Echo Park Partnership Agreement

In early February, The National Park Service received a draft of the Cooperative Management Agreement from Montgomery County. The draft is being reviewed by Regional Office and Park staff. The Park and the County will be working on an extension of the current agreement to allow for ongoing negotiations for the Cooperative Management Agreement. The Superintendent is committed to some type of public involvement for the Cooperative Agreement.

Councilmember Costello raised the issue of a trip and fall hazard from a low visibility chain hanging on two short posts on the grass field that fronts Oxford Road. She will follow up with Aaron LaRocca about this issue. Mayor Beers announced Councilmember Long will be an honoree at the May 20 Gala in the Park. She encourages all to attend. Councilmember Long reported the Glen Echo Park Partnership is planning an art show in June in the Stone Tower that will feature artists who taught in the Glen Echo Park Arts program, and who now live in our Town.

TOWN ELECTION

Susan Grisby, Supervisor of Elections reported no one had yet to file for candidacy for the upcoming May 1, 2017 Town election, the Mayor and two Town Council members will be elected. Candidates must file by April 10, 2017.

POLICE CITATION REPORT

Attached.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion 2017-07 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to approve the February 13, 2017 minutes as amended. Councilmember Matney seconded. Motion passed.

POLICE ADVISORY BOARD

Councilmember Stiglitz reported an arrest had been made in the recent MacArthur Blvd. 7-11 robbery. The subject was involved in an unrelated carjacking, was recognized and the case quickly solved. Councilmember Costello reported she recently contacted the owner of the Glen Echo shopping center regarding non functioning parking lot lights. Councilmember Stiglitz reported the Police Advisory Board met March 9, 2017. He mentioned the arrest of four people for residential burglaries. The new Bethesda police station, located on Rugby Avenue, is scheduled to open on time in July 2017. Councilmember Stiglitz will continue to work with the traffic compliance officer and hopes to install temporary electronic surveillance on MacArthur Blvd. focusing on the school crosswalks. A blinking crosswalk (like the one in Palisades) was suggested as was a plastic traffic sign in the middle of the crosswalk. Councilmember Stiglitz also reported that county police suggest the use of Next Door Software, as a way to stay in the know about what's going on in the neighborhood. Bannockburn and Cabin John make use of this commercial product. The next Police Advisory Board meeting will be in May.

TOWN HALL USE

Councilmember Long noted several uses of Town Hall by Town residents. An East Indian Concert is scheduled for March 19. The clerk-treasurer reported an electronic calendar with administrative password could be added to the Town website to track Town Hall rentals. Councilmember Long reported she had been contacted by a Cabin John resident about booking meeting space for a grassroots organization which currently has approximately 120 members but is expected to grow according to the group's spokesman. Since the Town Hall's capacity is 124 people she is concerned the group is too large.

COMPREHENSIVE RE-CODIFICATION OPEN MEETING

An open meeting for all residents will be held March 27, 2017, 8:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. for the public to provide input about possible changes to the Town's ordinances. The following articles will be discussed:

Article 2 (Animal Control)

Article 5 (Environmental Health)

Article 6 (Anti-Litter)

Article 9 (Applicability of County Legislation)

Article 11 (Licenses and Occupations)

PUBLIC SPACE

Mayor Beers reported 50 concrete blocks have been repaired and the process is ongoing as weather permits. Resident Matt McFarland suggested the vendor place caps on the rebar as a safety measure. Councilmember Stiglitz suggested the vendor be reminded to clean up supplies. Mayor Beers reported Lee Peyton is at the ready for any needed snow removal resulting from the impending storm.

WASHINGTON GAS FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

Counsel for Washington Gas has requested an extension of the franchise agreement, granted in 1968 and expiring in 2008, to operate in the Town. This ordinance, granting a utility franchise to Washington Gas Light Company was introduced and could be adopted at the April meeting as an uncodified ordinance, meaning it would not be a part of the Town's Code. A summary will be distributed to Town Residents.

Motion 2017-08 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to introduce the ordinance as amended by Town attorney, Ron Bolt. Councilmember Costello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

WELLESLEY CIRCLE LOCATION SURVEY

Prior to the meeting, Matt McFarland provided a location survey that was used to draft lease agreements to document the private use of the public right-of-way and associated properties (6103 Cornell Avenue, 1 Vassar Circle and 6108 Bryn Mawr Avenue). The property owners must sign the lease before a notary then Mayor Beers will do the same. Originals will be returned to Town attorney, Ron Bolt, for recording in land records with the Circuit Court.

TRASH AND RECYCLING VENDOR PROPOSALS

Trash and recycling vendor proposals from Waste Management and Unity Disposal (subcontractor - Elegant Refuse and Recycling) were discussed. It was decided the vendors would be invited to the upcoming April and May Town Council meetings to present proposals. Speaking of trash, Mayor Beers asked The Echo to include a reminder for residents to take trashcans off the street soon after trash/recycling pick-up.

FLAG

Renny Springuel reported there are 5 entries for the flag contest. Designs will be displayed on the bulletin board outside of the Post Office. Voting will be online via Survey Monkey with a paper ballot available upon request.

Motion 2017-08 was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to adjourn. Councilmember Matney seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

Deborah Beers, Mayor

Date