

**TOWN OF GLEN ECHO  
COUNCIL MEETING  
August 10, 2015**

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

VISITORS: Phyllis Fordham, The Echo reporter  
Aaron LaRocca, National Park Service  
Jerry Pasternak, Vice President Pepco, Government Affairs & Public Policy  
and three technical staff  
Jordan Cooper, intern from Delegate Marc Korman's office  
Tisha Anderson  
Susan Grigsby  
Leah Hertz  
Aaron Hirsch  
Diana Hudson-Taylor  
Norman Hudson-Taylor  
Aaron Hirsch  
Jim McGunnigle  
Sally McGunnigle  
Emily Parsons  
Edie Springuel  
Renny Springuel  
Raya Bodnarchuk

Debbie Beers called the meeting to order at 8: 02 p.m.

**GLEN ECHO PARK REPORT**

Aaron LaRocca provided the following report:

Clara Barton Rehabilitation Project

The park has completed the process to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Environmental Assessment (EA) was finalized when the Regional Director signed the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on June 5, 2015. The construction for the rehabilitation project is in the process of being contracted. Bids from contractors are due to the NPS by August 19<sup>th</sup>. Work should start on the house by late September. At the time of construction, the house will be completely closed. Visitor Services staff is creating a new ranger program to continue to interpret Clara Barton National Historic Site.

### Glen Echo Park Partnership Agreement

A meeting is scheduled for August 26th to discuss the status of the agreement between the National Park Service and Montgomery County for management of Glen Echo Park. The Superintendent of the GWMP is committed to involving the public in this process. The Superintendent of the George Washington Memorial Parkway is interested in increasing services throughout the Parkway area. Mayor Beers restated the need for the Town to be kept informed of the progress of this agreement.

### Glen Echo Park Aquarium

The Glen Echo Park Aquarium is a Chesapeake Bay discovery center is the newest park co-operator and is located in the former barn area of Glen Echo Park. They will focus on outdoor education about the Chesapeake and its tributaries. Their grand opening is scheduled for September. The park staff is working with the Glen Echo Park Partnership and Glen Echo Park Aquarium to create a pollinator garden. Plantings started last year and will continue into the fall planting season. NPS visitor service staff is working to create interpretive waysides (panels) to help educate park visitors about native plants. The cooperator will operate the aquarium for a 15-year term.

### **PEPCO**

The Regional Vice President of Pepco, Jerry Pasternak along with three technical staff attended the meeting at the request of Mayor Beers. They were there to explain recent power outages especially those during “blue sky” conditions. The Pepco team described the reliability enhancement plan that is in place to reduce frequency and duration of outages. Pepco tracks outages as momentary (less than five minutes) and sustained (more than five minutes). They have made equipment upgrades in our area to enhance reliability. During the installation and testing of these upgrades there were some recent outages. Pepco’s ASR System isolates a fault and reroutes the power resulting in faster restoration times for customers. Mr. Pasternak explained the hierarchy for power restoration. The first priority is public safety. The next restoration efforts focus on the highest number of customers impacted. Mr. Pasternak also commented on the merger with Exelon. He highlighted options for renewable and sustainable energy, increased reliability standards and the ability to rely on crews from other areas during high impact outages. Councilmember Stiglitz requested that Pepco provide advance notice of planned outages in Town. Mayor Beers expressed her thanks to the Pepco representatives at the meeting and extended an invitation for them to return to provide future updates.

### **TWO VASSAR CIRCLE**

Aaron Hirsch pitched a new idea that would allow for widening of the public right of way to allow for emergency vehicle access on Vassar Circle. He presented these details merely for informational purposes. It was difficult to discern how the new drawings differed from earlier plans. Mr. Hirsch broadly summarized that he will provide an additional foot of his property around the interior of Vassar Circle to satisfy the Fire Marshall and the Town and that he will ultimately seek an ordinance waiver. Vassar Circle residents raised questions regarding impact of this development. Mayor Beers noted the area is becoming an eyesore and progress must be made on this project in a responsible and timely manner.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion 2015-46** was made by Councilmember Costello to approve the July 2015 Town Council meeting minutes. Councilmember Long seconded. Councilmember Stiglitz abstained because he was absent for the July meeting. Motion passed.

**POLICE ADVISORY BOARD**

Councilmember Stiglitz indicated the next meeting will be held in September. Resident Leah Hertz mentioned a recent assault in the area of 7300 MacArthur Blvd. Matt Stiglitz did not know details but will find out.

**CURB STRIPING**

**Motion 2015-47** was made by Councilmember Stiglitz to accept the DH Construction proposal for the curb striping project. Councilmember Costello seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**TOWN HALL USE**

Councilmember Long reported the Wednesday evening English Country Dances are scheduled as usual and Town resident use August 22 and September 19 was also booked.

**TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE**

Councilmember Long mentioned installation of a Carbon Monoxide alarm system on three levels of the Town Hall would be prudent. Others concurred. It was determined that additional proposals were needed for the Town Hall parking lot paving project. Councilmember Stiglitz will contact the vendor that recently handled the paving project at Mohican Pool and will also find out the ballpark price of standard driveway paving as a means of roughly comparing the price (\$9,620) the Town has received from Stanley Asphalt for parking lot paving.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Malmgren, Clerk-Treasurer

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Deborah Beers, Mayor

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Date