

Minutes of Meeting on Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 8:00 p.m.
Somerset Town Hall (4501 Cumberland Ave.)

Attendees

Brookdale: Bob Cope
Chevy Chase Village:
Chevy Chase West: Lloyd Guerci
Drummond:
Friendship Heights: Melanie White
Glen Echo Heights: Harry Pfohl, Damian Whitham
Kenwood (the subdivision): Jenny Sue Dunner
Kenwood Condominium: Sue Schumacher
Kenwood House Coop: Judy Throckmorton
Town of Somerset: Barbara Zeughauser
Somerset House:
Springfield: Phyllis Edelman, Cynthia Green
Sumner Village Condo:
Westmoreland Citizens Assoc: Celia Martin
Westbard Mews: Lynne Battle
Westwood Mews: Frank Anderson
Wood Acres: Myla Williams

Guests:

Joseph Swit, Bethesda
Phil Wilcox, Sumner

Administrative:

- The meeting was called to order by Harry Pfohl at 8:00 p.m.
- The minutes of the February 21, 2018 meeting were approved.
- The agenda for this meeting was approved.
- Treasurer's Report –Sue Schumacher gave her report.
- MCCF Report – Sue Schumacher. May 18, 2018 is the MCCF awards dinner. Sue asked if there was any interest in CCCFH members attending.

Reports/Discussion:

- **Comments received on Regency's Plan** (Harry Pfohl). Chair Harry Pfohl and Past-chair Lloyd Guerci wrote up the comments received regarding Regency's site plan for Westwood I and forwarded them to Sam Stiebel of Regency. Pfohl also asked if the CCCFH could meet with Sam again. That request was turned down due to demands to meet with other groups he has not yet met with.

Question came up as to “What are the next steps?” Bob Cope said the letter should be condensed to concise bullet points. In addition, we should put together conditions for Regency’s development application, such as what time construction will start and end; traffic patterns for trucks etc. With these items in hand we should start meeting with Planning Department staff soon after Regency files its applications.

Other issues discussed included:

- Where is the height measured from to determine how high the buildings can go?
 - For the Westwood I site and the project as a whole, what are the recommendations of the sector plan and the amenities?
 - Where does realignment of Westbard Avenue fall into the site plan and why can’t it be moved up to Phase I?
- **CBAR meeting on Bethesda Plan implementation** (Jenny Sue Dunner and Lloyd Guerci) A meeting was held at the Bethesda Regional Service Center and many people showed up. Several members of the Planning Department described applicable processes and resources on the web. Many of the people who attended are unhappy with the Bethesda downtown plan and overlay zone, but some don’t know who to complain to, and don’t understand a sector plan and zoning. What numerous people do not realize is that many of the buildings being built now are going up under the old sector plan. There is concern about sidewalks being blocked for construction and as always, overcrowding at Bethesda Elementary School.
 - **Save Westbard lawsuit update** (Phil Wilcox) Save Westbard will appeal the judge’s decision on the basis of the carbon emissions analysis not being done by Regency. The appeal will cost \$25,000, which they are fundraising for.
 - **Candidates’ night** (Phyllis Edelman). The Westland Middle School All Purpose Room has been secured for the evening of Thursday, May 10, 2018. Most of the candidates have already indicated they will attend. We will need volunteers to help prepare items for before and during that evening. We will ask for help at the next CCCFH meeting.

New Business

- **Property sold or for sale.**
 - **5149 Butler Road sold for \$1.4 million.** It is the former lawn and power equipment site.
 - **Ridgewells Moving.** Ridgewells is moving to Silver Spring and its property will be sold.
- **Parks Department Budget.** The County Executive has recommended an operating budget for the Parks Dept. for the upcoming fiscal year that is \$5 million less than what they need and over a five-year period, \$26 million less than needed. The Parks Dept. agreed to a \$15 million cut over five years. There are Council public hearings on the budget April 10 and 12. Norman Knopf and Melanie White are authorized to come up with a “plan of action” starting with a letter to the Council opposing these cuts. This plan of action was approved by affirmation by the attending CCCFH members.

There was a motion approved to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyllis Edelman
CCCFH Recording Secretary