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## **Aspen Hill Civic Association—General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at 7:30pm**

**Aspen Hill Library Meeting Room, 4407 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, MD 20853**

**All are welcome, so please attend!**

The meeting agenda includes:

- Election of Board Members
- Treasurer's Report on AHCA's finances over the last year
- Discussion of proposed changes to AHCA's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
- Updates on the activities of the Aspen Hill Civic Association
- A presentation from our District 4 police representative, Officer Hidayyat.

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### **Update from the AHCA Board**

While the AHCA Board took the months of July and August off, a committee of Board Members worked tirelessly to draft recommended updates to AHCA's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. The main goals are to update our procedures to reflect the ability to communicate more quickly through electronic means, streamline our processes accordingly, and to classify the organization as a 501(c)(4) corporation. During our October General Membership Meeting, a member of the Bylaws Committee will present the proposed changes to our membership.

As the cool, crisp fall air begins to descend on Aspen Hill and our neighborhood trees become resplendent with color, AHCA looks forward to your continued engagement as you renew your membership. We hope you have found the information we have shared over the last year to be helpful in keeping you engaged with our community. Feel free to let us know what we can do to serve you.

Melissa Ryan, President  
Jamison Adcock, Vice President  
Steve Cohen, Treasurer

Bob Clarke, Recording Secretary  
Sheila Convery, Corresponding Secretary

**Renew Your AHCA Membership Today!**

AHCA's membership year runs from October 1—September 30. If you have not yet renewed for membership year 2015-2016, please use the attached membership form to renew. Remember that renewing early helps prevent delays during our October 28<sup>th</sup> General Membership Meeting!

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**AHCA Officially Re-Incorporated**

In May 2015, the State of Maryland approved AHCA's application to re-incorporate. This was crucial both for liability purposes, but also to help us ensure AHCA can keep its name. Thank you to our Treasurer, Steve Cohen, for making it all happen!

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**Accidents on Aspen Hill Road Cause Community Concern**

September 2015 saw two major accidents on Aspen Hill Road. A speeding motorcyclist caused the first accident that involved three other cars at Aspen Hill and Parkland. A truck attempting to illegally pass caused the second when it struck a car, lost control, veered across Aspen Hill Road, plowed into a yard and stuck a vehicle parked in the driveway. Following the accidents the police announced some very sobering statistics. In the last two years there have been over 70 accidents and 2 fatalities on Aspen Hill Road. Speeding played a major role in each accident. AHCA encourages the community to tell us what you think about the following remedies that have been mentioned:

- Permanent speed cameras on Aspen Hill Road
  - Red light cameras at Aspen Hill Road and Parkland
  - Caution lights
  - Better upkeep of road striping and signage
  - A comprehensive study of the Aspen Hill and Parkland intersection by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT)
  - Speed bumps
  - Greater safeguards at pedestrian crossings
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**Aspen Hill Community Picnic to Raise Awareness of MCPS Overcrowding and Bus Depot Relocation**

On September 19, 2015, members of AHCA and our friends at SaveBlairEwing.org hosted Aspen Hill Community Picnic to call for the reopening of English Manor School on Bestor Road as a neighborhood elementary school, and increase awareness of the issues faced by all schools in Aspen Hill. Attendees included representatives from both county and state government.

The Aspen Hill community came together with others over the last year to voice our strong opposition to the MCPS plan to relocate the county's Alternative Education Program (AEP) from the Blair Ewing Center on Avery Road to the site of the former English Manor Elementary School on Bestor Road in Aspen Hill to make way for a new MCPS bus depot at the site of the Blair Ewing Center. On July 21, 2015, the County Council voted to appropriate \$27 million for the MCPS Bus Depot and Maintenance

Relocation Project. This funding is to purchase one or more properties that could be used as depots for MCPS buses. However, no details on potential property locations have been released to date.

For more information and updates on the issue, AHCA recommends you visit [www.SaveBlairEwing.org](http://www.SaveBlairEwing.org).

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### **County Council Votes on Vitro/BAE Site Zoning**

On July 28, 2015, the County Council voted to approve The Aspen Hill Minor Master Plan Amendment that rezoned the Vitro/BAE site as CRT. This zoning category is viewed by many to be a compromise between the less restrictive zoning the developer requested and the more restrictive zoning that AHCA advocated. Thank you to all the AHCA members who made their voices heard on this issue both in our survey, and at the County Council meetings.

With this vote, the site plan phase begins. As of the time of this printing, the developer has not submitted any site plans to the county. AHCA will continue to keep you informed as the process continues. The process to revise the entire Aspen Hill Master Plan is currently scheduled to begin in March of 2016.

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### **Did you know?**

**The Mid-County Regional Center**, located on Reddie Drive in Wheaton, is one of five regional centers designed to bring direct services to the public and to enhance communication between citizens and their government. The Center provides information on County Programs and services and assistance with solving government related and community problems. The area served roughly follows Georgia Avenue from the Beltway to its intersection with New Hampshire Avenue/Damascus Road, and includes Aspen Hill.

The 15 member **Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board**, which meets at the Mid-County Regional Center serves as Montgomery County's bridge to the 220,000 residents and businesses spread throughout the 99 square miles of the Mid-County area of Montgomery County. The Board provides advice and recommendations to the County Executive on policy and budget issues, planning and goal setting procedures, and legislative matters; educates the community on governmental structures and services; and acts as a facilitator to foster solutions to community problems, needs and issues.

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### **Upcoming Community Events and Meetings**

- Used Book Sale, Saturday, October 17, 10am-4pm at the Aspen Hill Library
  - Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration Concert, Wednesday, October 21 at 5:30pm in the Aspen Hill Library
  - AHCA General Membership Meeting, Wednesday, October 28 at 7:30pm in the Aspen Hill Library
  - AHCA Board Meeting, Thursday, November 12 at 7pm in the Aspen Hill Library
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