

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

October 28, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Jamison Adcock at 7:33 PM at the Aspen Hill Library.

CALL OF THE ROLL

The following Board of Directors were present: Jamison Adcock, Marna Cary, Robert Clarke, Steven Cohen, Sheila Convery, Gail Cooper, Sharon Dean, Susan Eisendrath, Rusty Embrey, Judy Fink, Patricia King, Sol Levy, Suzy Levy, Jiri Malek, JoAnna Nasios, Sam Nasios, Linda NeCastro-Pastel, Carol Petzold, Walter Petzold, Monica Reyes-Dame, Selene Robinson, Roselia Rodriguez, Michael Salay, Jane Salzano, Carla Steinborn, Judy Tankersley and Kris Vaitkus.

The following Board of Directors were absent: Don Becker, Steve Becker, Pat Clarke, Joan Cohen, Alexandra Minckler, Melissa Ryan and Bill Shelton.

PRESENTATION

The police department presentation was made by Lt. Hartnet, Montgomery County Police 4th District Deputy Commander and Officer Hidayat, 4th District Community Services Officer.

Lt. Hartnet mentioned that the 4th District ranks 2nd of the 6 districts in population with about 225,000 citizens, 2nd in area, and 2nd in calls for service, some 25,000 in 2014. He said that Aspen Hill falls into their King Sector for policing. Since May it has had 1 homicide, 27 robberies, 20 aggravated assaults, 64 burglaries [24 with no sign of forced entry], 27 auto thefts and 97 thefts from autos [59 from unlocked cars]. He said that many of these could have been prevented if

citizens had locked their vehicles and homes. If citizens looked out for their neighbors and themselves by immediately reporting anything at all suspicious it would be a big help to the police. He also spoke to the problem of scams, especially those taking advantage of the elderly, giving examples. He especially pointed out what he called Woodchucks - unlicensed tree trimmers, driveway sealers, roof repairers, etc. All persons doing any type of home repair work must be licensed by the Maryland Home Improvement Commission and anyone going door to door must have a Montgomery County permit to do so with picture ID and the county seal. Check online with the Home Improvement Commission at www.dllr.state.md.us/license/mhic/ to verify the information or the Montgomery County Consumer Affairs Office at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ocp/a.../home.../improvements.html Lt. Hartnet finished his presentation by reminding those present that if they see something, say some thing.

Officer Hidayat encouraged the revival of the Aspen Hill Community Watch organization. It had been a model for such organizations in the past but its leader has moved from the area and it has become defunct. He said that the residents of Aspen Hill know their neighborhood better than the police so when something does not look right they should report it to the police to help keep their community safe. He mentioned that Aspen Hill has become more of a transient community with a large number of renters who do not establish community ties. This makes it even more important for property owners to be vigilant through a Community Watch organization. Citizens should use 911 if they feel it is an emergency or 311 if it is a routine matter. He reminded everyone that the system is complaint driven. If no one calls the police no action will be taken. Officer Hidayat can be emailed at: sharif.hidayat@montgomerycountymd.gov Vice-President Adcock mentioned that efforts are currently under way to revive the organization and a meeting will be held November 11th at the Aspen Hill Library with hopes of doing so.

TREASURERS REPORTS

Treasurer Steve Cohen presented a report for the month of September as well as an annual report. Both appear as addenda at the end of these minutes.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership chair Sheila Convery reported that prior to this evening's meeting there were 221 members for the 2015-2016 membership year running from 1 October through 30 September.

ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2015-2016

Nominations were taken and the election of the Board of Directors was held. The following were nominated and elected to the Board of Directors:

Jamison Adcock, Marna Cary, Robert Clarke, Joan Cohen, Steven Cohen, Sheila Convery, Gail Cooper, Sharon Dean, Susan Eisendrath, Judy Fink, Patricia King, Sol Levy, Suzy Levy, Jiri Malek, JoAnna Nasios, Sam Nasios, Linda NeCastro-Pastel, Carol Petzold, Walter Petzold, Monica Reyes-Dame, Selene Robinson, Roselia Rodriguez, Melissa Ryan, Michael Salay, Rena Samuel, Jane Salzano, Carla Steinborn, Judy Tankersley and Kris Vaitkus.

UPDATES ON AHCA ACTIVITIES

Jamison Adcock reported that because of actions taken by the civic association the school board proposal to move the Blair Ewing Center, a special middle and high school for students who are unsuccessful in their home schools for a variety of reasons to the former English Manor Elementary School site have been put on hold. The move was necessary for the school board sought to turn the Ewing Center's current location at the former Mark Twain School into a school bus depot following its demolition. The civic association also opposed this action which is now also on hold. Jamison finished by saying the association would continue to monitor the situation.

Sol Levy updated the members about the rezoning of the former Vitro/BAE property. As a result of actions taken by the civic association regarding the Aspen Hill Minor Master Plan Amendment the property was rezoned CRT [Commercial, Residential and Town] that put established limits as to the size of retail businesses, the height of buildings and proximity to adjacent housing. The site owner has to this point made no proposals for the use of this property. When they come about the

community will be notified and input solicited. He also mentioned that the 20 year Master Plan Review scheduled for Aspen Hill in late 2015 has been postponed until February 2018. He concluded by saying that the community can be assured that the civic association will stay on top of these issues and keep the community informed and provide in put as appropriate.

Sheila Convery informed the membership of the efforts update both the Articles of Incorporation and the organization's Bylaws. It has been a long time since both matters have been addressed. The organization recently reincorporated and needs to make its Articles of Incorporation conform with its 501 c 4 designation. The Bylaws also need to address this as well. Current plans are to have the new Board of Directors present copies of both documents for membership approval at the May 2016 General Membership meeting. Copies of the documents will be made available to members far in advance of the meeting.

Jamison Adcock notified members that the civic association recently had two members appointed as community representatives to the Mid County Citizens Advisory Board. They are Judy Tankersley and

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carol Petzold announced that the Aspen Hill Library would be closing for "refreshment" [something less than renovation] beginning in the spring. The exact dates should be available by the end of this year. The Friends of the Aspen Hill Library have concerns that the 'children's library' will suffer, and that they will lose storage space for their fund raising used book sales [next one May 21st]. She finished by saying there will be a public meeting soliciting community input.

Sharon Dean informed members that there is a mobile health care vehicle now serving people without medical insurance, as well as those on Medicaid and Medicare. It can be found on Mondays and Fridays at the St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church parking lot, 3820 Aspen Hill Road, across the street from Kohls.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Clarke
Recording Secretary

ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, Inc.		Submitted by
TREASURER'S REPORT		Steven Cohen
September 1 - September 30, 2015		Steven Cohen
		Treasurer
<u>Checking Account - Suntrust xxxx6769</u>		
Balance as of September 1, 2015	\$3,989.76	
Income: September 1 - September 30, 2015		
- Dues (Family) -	\$72.00	
- Dues (Individual)	\$28.00	
Expenses: September 1 - September 30, 2015		
- Montgomery County Civic Federation (Dues)	(\$35.00)	
Balance as of September 30, 2015	\$4,054.76	
<u>Petty Cash</u>		
Balance as of September 1, 2015	\$55.34	
Balance as of September 30, 2015	\$55.34	
Total Available as of September 30, 2015	\$4,110.10	

ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, Inc.	Submitted by	
TREASURER'S REPORT (Annual Summary)	Steven Cohen	
Oct 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015	Steven Cohen	
	Treasurer	
<u>Checking Account - Suntrust xxxx6769</u>		
Balance as of October 1, 2014	\$4,773.22	
Income: October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015		1506.96
Expenses: October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015		(\$2,225.42)
Balance as of September 30, 2015	\$4,054.76	
<u>Petty Cash</u>		
Balance as of September 30, 2015	\$55.34	
<u>TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE</u>	\$4,110.10	