

# **MINUTES**

**THE ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**18 May 2016**

## **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by President Jamison Adcock at 7:35 P.M. at the Aspen Hill Library.

## **CALL OF THE ROLL:**

**Present** at the meeting were board members: Jamison Adcock, Marna Cary, KC Chronopoulos, Robert Clarke, Joan Cohen, Steve Cohen, Sheila Convery, Gail Cooper, Sharon Dean, Judy Fink, Sol Levy, Suzy Levy, Jiri Malek, Linda NeCastro-Pastel, Carol Petzold, Walter Petzold, Monica Reyes-Dame, Selene Robinson, Roselia Rodriguez, Michael Salay, Jane Salzano, Carla Steinborn, and Judy Tankersley.

**Absent** from the meeting were board members: Susan Eisendrath, Patricia King, JoAnna Nasios, Sam Nasios, Melissa Ryan, Rena Samuel, and Kris Vaitkus.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The minutes of the 13 April 2016 meeting were approved.

## **PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT:**

President Jamison Adcock recounted the year's Civic Association activities including revisions to the Articles of Incorporation and to the Bylaws, representations on the school bus depot change, and the use of the former English Manor Elementary School for troubled high school students. He concluded by calling for civility in the discussion about the Green Streets program to be discussed later.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

For Treasurer Steven Cohen's financial report for 1 April through 30 April 2016 please see page 4.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:**

Sheila Convery reported that membership stands at 142 members as of 17 May 2016.

## **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS:**

Sheila Convery moved the adoption of the proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws. Both passed unanimously with the exception of one abstention in both cases.

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Lt. Hartnet of the 4th District suggested that the most up to date information on all things Montgomery County can be found at:

<https://data.montgomerycountymd.gov/> including annual reports, use of force reports and pursuit reports. He said crime statistics have gone up mostly because of the adoption of new federal guidelines and outreach efforts encouraging the reporting of crime. He mentioned with the coming of warmer weather people should lock their first floor windows when leaving the house. Also that there have been 85 thefts from autos since the start of the year, 94% from unlocked cars. Persons with concerns about the parking of commercial vehicles should check the website for particulars on which vehicles qualify. He finished by reminding people to be wary of scams. On a question about the Do Not Call List he said the only police agency soliciting in Maryland is the State Police. On a question about gangs he said that there was a central gang unit dealing with a significant county gang problem. A member commented on speeding on Aspen Hill Road and he said he would refer that information to the traffic officer. One of the members commended the police on the rapid capture at North Gate Mall of the shooter. He recommended people sign up for Alert Montgomery for notice about police activities or weather emergencies. Things were wrapped up with the "If you see something, say something" encouragement to call the police.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

### **PRESENTATION:**

Ho-Ching Fong and Christy Ciaramentaro of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection made a presentation on the Green Streets Program that will be taking place in the Manor Woods and Wheaton Woods subdivisions. Ms. Fong said the purpose of this effort is to improve water quality entering the Rock Creek Watershed and to slow down runoff during rain. The program calls for the installation of County maintained

small Rain Gardens, Bioswales, Tree Boxes and Bio-retention areas in the county owned rights of way between the sidewalk and curb. Each one is individually designed to avoid utilities, trees, driveways, sewer lines etc. For more information go to:

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/green-streets.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/green-streets.html) Ms. Ciaramentaro said that 3 mailings have been made over the past 2.5 years to the affected residents. More outreach will take place with meetings and walks to each individual site that will be marked. She speculated that there would be some 200 total for both areas. She said that each County installed site would be visited and maintained monthly [10 months a year] to water, replace dead plants, mulch, weed and remove sediment and trash. When questioned about mosquito breeding she said each site is tested to drain fully within 2 days and that the Aedes aegypti mosquito takes 7 to 10 days to mature so there should be no problem. Persons seeking more information should go to: [montgomerycountymd.gov/mosquito](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/mosquito) She finished by also recommending the county program that plants trees at no cost on residential properties. For more information see: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/Tree/Tree-request.html>

**GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE:**

Maryland State Senator Roger Manno of District 19 said that he and Delegates Ben Kramer, Bonnie Cullison and Marice Morales have worked closely together on state issues affecting Aspen Hill residents. Because he is the chairman of the Spending Affordability Committee most of his comments dealt with financial affairs. He noted that the new budget of \$43 billion is balanced. That Maryland has the highest bond rating -AAA. That the pension debt is being paid down, currently at 69% funded on the road to the 85% necessary. He was commended by several members for actions his office has taken in their behalf.

**NEW BUSINESS: - DUES**

Robert Clarke moved that dues be increased to \$15 per individual member. Following discussion Steve Cohen moved to amend the amount to \$12 and this secondary amended motion passed. Judy Tankersley moved the amount be further reduced to \$10 but it lacked a second. The primary motion to raise dues to \$12 passed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Judy Tankersley announced that the Aspen Hill Library "refresh" is scheduled to begin with its closing on 2 July. The process is expected to take from 4 to 6 months.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Clarke  
Recording Secretary

**ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION,  
Inc.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT  
April 1 - April 30, 2016**

Submitted by  
**Steven  
Cohen**

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Steven Cohen  
Treasurer

**Checking Account - Suntrust xxxx6769**

<b>Balance as of April 1, 2016</b>	\$4,620.20
<b>Income: April 1 - April 30 2016</b> (1 Family + \$3.00 Donation)	\$15.00
<b>Expenses: April 1 - April 30, 2016</b>	\$0.00
<b>Balance as of April 30, 2016</b>	<b><u>\$4,635.20</u></b>

**Petty Cash**

<b>Balance as of April 1, 2016</b>	\$47.34
<b>Income: April 1 - April 30, 2016</b>	\$0.00
<b>Expenses: April 1 - April 30, 2016</b>	\$0.00
<b>Balance as of April 30, 2016</b>	<b><u>\$47.34</u></b>

**Total Available as of April 30, 2016** **\$4,682.54**