

MINUTES

THE ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

28 September 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Jamison Adcock at 7:04 P.M. at the Aspen Hill Library.

CALL OF THE ROLL:

Present at the meeting were board members: Jamison Adcock, Marna Cary, Robert Clarke, Steve Cohen, Sheila Convery, Gail Cooper, Sharon Dean, Susan Eisendrath, Judy Fink, Sol Levy, Suzy Levy, Jiri Malek, JoAnna Nasios, Sam Nasios, Linda NeCastro-Pastel, Carol Petzold, Walter Petzold, Monica Reyes-Dame, Melissa Ryan, Michael Salay, Jane Salzano, and Judy Tankersley.

Absent from the meeting were board members: KC Chronopoulos, Joan Cohen, Patricia King, Selene Robinson, Roselia Rodriguez, Rena Samuel, Carla Steinborn, and Kris Vaitkus.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the 8 June 2016 meeting were approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Jamison Adcock welcomed everyone back after the summer hiatus. He reported that Patricia King and Selene Robinson both have resigned from the Board. He next reminded board members that their tenure expires at the October meeting with the appointment of the 2016-2017 board. He mentioned that the establishment of a Neighborhood Watch was an unmet goal for the past year but he hoped to continue pursuing it in the future. Suzy Levy commended and thanked the Board Officers for the completion of a successful year.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

For Treasurer Steven Cohen's financial report for 1 June through 31 August 2016 please see the last page. He reminded members that the membership year ends on 30 September and that dues for the next year will be \$12.00 per member. He stated

that the membership approved revision of the Articles of Incorporation have been approved by Attorney Marvin Waldman and are ready for filing with the state and with IRS following the election of the 2016-2017 Board of Directors and its officers. At his request a motion was unanimously passed authorizing the expenditure of up to \$400 for him to complete the required processing at the state and federal levels. He finished his report by requesting date suggestions for the October, November and December meetings. The recommendations were for 26 October at the library and 16 November and 14 December at the Berman Hebrew Academy because the library will be closing for "refreshing" [low cost renovation].

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Sheila Convery reported that membership stands at 159 members. There was a general discussion on the member recruitment process and on ways to get better contact information from members. Also discussed was the use of AHCA cards to recruit membership. The cards are already in existence. Melissa Ryan volunteered to coordinate their distribution at up coming activities along with Suzy Levy.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Environment Issues - No chair, no report

Government Relations - No chair

Sharon Dean reported on two zoning text amendments currently being considered.

- On Sign Prohibition - She and a large number of others testified against the proposal to prohibit any small signs being erected on county owned property. She said that this would restrict us from posting signs notifying the community of our General Membership Meetings. Real Estate agents, other community organizations, schools and others also saw it as limiting their ability to communicate with the public. Because of the strong opposition the County Council indicated it would take no further action on the matter.
- On Small Cell Towers - A proposal to allow 33 foot tall cell towers on the county land between sidewalk and street without permission of the homeowner. There are currently 100 plus applications to do so if approved. Citizen forums are to be held by the county before final approval.

Jamison Adcock mentioned that there is also a term limit proposal that will be on the November ballot proposed by Robin Ficker.

The Library Committee - Marna Cary chair

- Marna Cary reported that the library will be closed for "refreshing" beginning November 9th. The process is expected to take 6 months.

- All Montgomery County Libraries will be closed 10 October for staff development.
- The 25th annual Aspen Hill Community Festival sponsored by the Friends of the Aspen Hill Library will be held on Saturday 15 October from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm.
- On Saturday 8 October from 1:00 to 3:00 pm the library will host a workshop on the new generation of board and card games. Ages 10 plus are welcome.
- Also on 8 October from 3:30 to 4:30 the library will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with Zumba for ages 10 and up.

Media - No chair. Mike Salay reported that our website was down for a short time and that all is fine at present. Jamison Adcock indicated that he will shortly be publishing our newsletter and he requested all committees to send him information they want included by October 5th.

Membership - No chair. Sheila Convery reported that events are coming up at which membership will be plugged.

Neighborhood Relations - Judy Fink chair.

Judy Fink informed the Board that there is currently an attempt being made in the community to form a volunteer group that would undertake projects helping the needy or aged.

Public Safety - No chair

- Jamison Adcock reported that the county has indicated it will be installing a new crosswalk at Arctic Avenue and Oriental Street that has had the support of our organization.
- Sharon Dean and Jamison Adcock brought up the need for county attention to the bike path crossing Veirs Mill Road near Turkey Branch. In December 2015 and July 2016 cyclists were killed there despite the current yellow flashing lights. Jamison mentioned that biking groups are pushing for the installation of HAWK lights, button triggered red lights, to insure vehicles stop. The SHA has said that they are illegal. Jamison has contacted State Senator Manno to push for legislation to make it possible.
- A discussion followed with no resolution.

- Lastly Judy Tankersley reported she had attended a meeting on county Bus Rapid Transit proposals for Route 29, for Rockville Pike and for Veirs Mill Road. The county is discussing alternate ways and costs to institute BRT. During the meeting she learned that Park & Planning will be rezoning the Veirs Mill corridor and that the county plans building a Montrose East Parkway that will terminate on Veirs Mill Road opposite Parkland Drive. For information on this see: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brt

Schools - No chair

- President Adcock reported that the former English Manor Elementary School site is currently being renovated to be turned into administrative offices for the Infant and Toddlers Program.
- He also mentioned that County Executive Leggett favors the bus depot relocation at the Avery Road site. Our association and others are strongly opposed and are working to prevent it.
- Lastly he mentioned that our recently co-sponsored School Board Candidates Forum was a success and he thanked Carol Petzold for helping to organize it.

Utilities - Joan Cohen chair. No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Green Streets Program:

Jane Salzano reported that she had met with Ms. Fong of the county Department of Environmental Protection about the proposed installments planned for Manor Woods and Wheaton Woods. There will be a meeting for community input on Wednesday 5 October at 7:00 pm in the Aspen Hill Library. A discussion took place about merits and pitfalls for the program. No resolution was reached.

NEW BUSINESS:

Community Commendations:

Judy Fink proposed that the Board present Wheaton Woods Pool with a certificate of commendation for their sponsorship of a neighborhood cleanup campaign. The motion was seconded and passed with the stipulation that up to \$50 may be spent on the certificate's generation.

Fall General Membership Meeting:

President Adcock requested suggestions for whom to invite to speak.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Judy Tankersley announced that the fire station located at Bel Pre and Connecticut, Station 25, will shortly be doubled in size. It is currently the second busiest in the county.

Glenmont fire station 18's new home replacing the structure formerly located at Randolph Road and Georgia Avenue will be operational soon.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert Clarke
Recording Secretary

ASPEN HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION, Inc.
TREASURER'S REPORT
June 1 - August 31, 2016

Submitted by
Steven Cohen
 Steven Cohen
 Treasurer

<u>Checking Account - Suntrust xxxx6769</u>	
Balance as of June 1, 2016	\$4,703.22
Income: June 1 - August 31, 2016	\$0.00
Expenses: June 1 - August 31, 2016	
- Repay Treasurer for AH Library room rental - 9/28 and 10/19/2016	(\$80.00)
- Nationwide General Liability Insurance (July 17, 2016 - July 16, 2017)	(\$500.00)
Balance as of August 31, 2016	<u>\$4,123.22</u>
<u>Petty Cash</u>	
Balance as of June 1, 2016	\$47.34
Income: June 1 - August 31, 2016	\$0.00
Expenses: June 1 - August 31, 2016	\$0.00
Balance as of August 31, 2016	<u>\$47.34</u>
<u>Total Available as of August 31, 2016</u>	<u>\$4,170.56</u>