

MINUTES
Aspen Hill Civic Association Board Meeting
14 December 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Jamison Adcock at 7:10pm.

Present at the meeting were board members: Jamison Adcock, Joan Beerweiler, Marna Cary, Steven Cohen, Sheila Convery, Sharon Dean, Linda NeCastro-Pastel, Carol Petzold, Melissa Ryan, Michael Salay, Jane Salzano, Carla Steinborn, Judy Tankersley.

Absent from the meeting were board members: Judy Fink, Sol Levy, Suzy Levy, Jiri Malek, JoAnna Nasios, Sam Nasios, Walter Petzold, Monica Reyes-Dame, Rena Samuel.

Mary Reeves was listed as a Board member but is not currently on the Board.

The minutes of the November 2016 Meeting were approved.

President's Statement: The folks at Melvin J. Berman have asked for volunteers for a planning session for the Melvin J. Berman Academy playground. There is funding for this and the planning session will be January 10 from 6-8:30pm. They need two or three people. The contact person is Jennifer Zuckerman. Jamison and Shiela volunteered.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Cohen presented the Treasurer's Report (see attachment). There was discussion about funding shortages. We do not have enough projected revenue to cover our expected expenses. We would be meeting at Berman through April, possibly May and June. It is \$50 each time.

Carol Petzold suggested having our next meeting at her house. This assumes attendance will be similar to our December meeting. This was moved and passed. Carol said there is plenty of parking. Her address is 14113 Chadwick Lane. You can park on Oakvale or Chadwick. This is about a block from Parkland (west onto Oakvale) or a block and a half from Bauer (turn north onto Chadwick).

Membership Report: As of December 1, 53 members are paid.

Committee Reports:

Environmental Issues [environment, & refuse]: There was a lengthy discussion of the Green Streets project. The number of installations proposed by DEP has been reduced from about 400 to 141 at the present time. DEP is open to discussions with individual homeowners about possible changes. Some people believe it should all be done with underground installations but the cost of this is prohibitive. Also discussed was the possibility of using the median strip on Parkland Drive.

Government Relations: Judy Tankersley reported that the Midcounty Citizens' Advisory Committee meets next week (i.e. the week of December 19). The County Executive will be

having budget discussions with the community January 18th at the Mid-County Recreation Center on Queensguard off Layhill Rd.

The Veirs Mill BRT will come up again in the Spring. Options will be considered.

Jane Salzano reported that the County plans to "energize" parks. What this means is unclear. Evidently the focus will be low income areas or low income access. There does not seem to be any focus on access for the handicapped. Jane will ask Judy Fink to look into it.

Library: No report.

Media [newsletter, website & social media]: There was brief discussion of the membership form.

Membership Relations [membership & social events]: As noted above, there are currently 53 paid memberships.

Neighborhood Relations [community outreach & senior services]: No report

Public Safety [code enforcement, police, fire, EMS & traffic]: No report

Schools: Katz and Navarro are still saying they will not support tearing down any existing schools.

Utilities: There is a WSSC project on Georgia Ave. To replace the big water main ending on Harmony Hills. This would be a few years from now.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Melvin J. Berman Academy playground: See above.

Speaker: David Helms spoke regarding the Veirs Mill Rd./Henson Trail Crossing Action Plan. This concerns the site on Veirs Mill where two cyclists have been killed in the past year. Mr. Helms is on the executive committee of Potomac Pedalers Maryland and Virginia. He has studied the site over time.

Mr. Helms said there are two Roger Manno bills related to this. First, the code does not currently support red lights on state highways so one bill would give authority to do so. Second, under current law there is no penalty for a motorist striking a cyclist who is lawfully using the crosswalk on a bicycle. There is a penalty only if a pedestrian (e.g. a cyclist walking the bicycle) is struck. The bill would change this.

It was thought that a red light at that point on Veirs Mill is not likely. This is only done near work sites and schools. A hawk light (flashing yellow) might have a chance to be approved.

There followed a lengthy discussion of options.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:59pm.