

Minutes  
Long Range Planning Committee  
February 5, 2018

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**Attendees:** Pat Burda, Tina Coplan, Karen Elkins, John Freedman, Dedun Ingram, Martha Johnson, Henry Smith, Deborah Vollmer, and Scott Fosler

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

**1. Approval of minutes:** No minutes were presented for approval due to the cancellation of the January meeting.

**2. Bethesda Downtown Development:** Discussion were held by e-mail regarding the Planning Board actions on 7359 Wisconsin Avenue, which took place between LRP meetings. This project is located at the corner of Wisconsin and Montgomery Avenues, and incorporates the site of the current Bethesda Police Station. The Town and the Coalition of Bethesda Communities (CBAR) opposed the fact that the developer was requesting approval for their Sketch, Preliminary and Site plans all at once. The Town also opposed specific aspects of the project. The objections were circulated to the Town Council and incorporated into the CBAR comments. Mayor Mary Flynn also attended the Planning Board hearing to underscore Town concerns.

**3. Election forums:** CBAR held its first meeting since institution of new by-laws, and voted in favor of co-sponsoring election forum(s) for candidates for Montgomery County Council, including co-sponsoring the Town's March 14 forum for District 1 candidates. As of now, all candidates except the Republican candidate (who is unopposed) have accepted invitations to participate. The LRP's major task will be to formulate candidate questions and format. The number and nature of candidate questions will dictate the overall format. Scott Fosler was prepared to moderate but now has a conflict, and instead Charles Duffy will moderate the forum. Committee members will also handle tasks such as greeting, timing, setup and cleanup, and parking. Tina drafted materials for publicity, which committee members will review and help edit. Different parts of the content will be used for a mailer, an insert in the next Town newsletter, and/or the TOCC web site. Linna is exploring videotaping the forum so that it may be posted on the web for later viewing.

Volunteers were sought to explore a forum for candidates for Maryland State Delegate and Senators for District 18, probably in mid-April but timed to avoid area schools' spring break, Easter holidays, and dates when the state legislature is in session in Annapolis. As of now, 8 candidates have filed formally to run for state delegate and 2 for senate.

**4. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.