

Town of Chevy Chase  
Environment Committee Minutes  
May 27, 2010  
7:00 p.m.  
Town Hall

Present: Sally Kelly, Chair, Coralee Hoffman, Keith Blizzard, Patty Larson, Sarah Smith

I. April Meeting minutes approved.

II. Announcements: Recent hearing on residential lighting was very sparsely attended.

III. No members of the public were present.

IV. Liaison Report: David Lublin was not present. Sally Kelly updated the committee on the recent public hearing on the proposed Meadow Lane subdivision. The Town voted no on the variance as proposed, but the developer will now go to the County, which could approve the plan, but only with a supermajority vote (4 out of 5).

V. Status Report on Noise Education meeting/landscapers. Vicky, Todd and Sally met with 12 landscapers to discuss the ordinance. Three businesses signed up immediately to take the pledge. Several others took the pledge back to their office with them. We will be posting the names of the attendees in the Forecast, as well as those who sign the pledge.

VI. Status Report and discussion of Conservation Easement Program. Vicky and Patty contacted an attorney in Newton, MA who is reputed to be an expert in conservation easements. He has offered to work for us as a consultant. They also met with the Maryland Environmental Trust and reviewed potential locations around the Town. The MET director noted that most easement programs are run by land trusts and not towns. There is no prohibition against it, but we would have to make sure that we qualify, including satisfying the "in perpetuity" requirement. Patty stated that after some additional research the easement task force would be ready to bring some proposals and ideas to the committee

VII. Discuss Tree Programs. Sally reported that in the last round of tree planting a number of residents objected to having a tree planted in the town right-of-way abutting their property. The committee suggested that sending a letter to areas that are especially in need of canopy replacement might be a good way to publicize the program and get trees added where they are needed.

Sally has met with the staff, arborist and tree board chair regarding the operation of the ordinance. They reported only minor glitches over the past two years.

The committee then discussed a survey that could be conducted in order to gather data to assess the operation of the ordinance from residents' perspectives.

VIII: Discuss Pesticide issue. We have commented on pesticide use in Shades of Green, but the committee noted that the Town has no authority to regulate pesticide use.

Meeting adjourned 8:55 p.m.