

Town of Chevy Chase Land Use Committee

Minutes

November 20, 2006

The Land Use Committee met at 7:30 p.m. on November 20, 2006. The meeting was attended by Mayor Linna Barnes, Council Liaison, Committee Chair, Julia Miller, and Committee Members, Lees Hartman, John Hiatt, Sue Hill, Dedun Ingram, Donna Kirk, Steve McConnell, and Joseph Rubin. Lee Dennison was absent. Handouts included a list of committee members, a copy of the Town's Strategic Plan, a copy of Article 28, § 8.115.1 of the Maryland Code, and background information on retaining walls.

Following brief introductions, Julia Miller explained the function of the various town committees, including the Land Use Committee. She also distributed copies of the Town's Strategic Plan, which is to serve as a guide for committee recommendations to the Town Council, and reviewed the rules to be followed by committee members. The Committee agreed to hold its next meeting on December 18, 2006 at 7 p.m.

The Committee then turned its attention to the new state enabling authority, adopted by the state last May and made effective as of October 1, 2006. Julia explained that the Town Council had hired a land use and planning consulting firm, Jakubiak & Associates, to review the Town's setback ordinance and make recommendations on how the Town could use the new authority. She also noted that the firm would be meeting with the Committee on three occasions to explain its work and obtain its views.

The Committee next focused on other projects in the pipeline including review of the Town's procedures relating to front-yard retaining walls, second-story additions on existing houses, and front-yard driveways. Following Mayor Barnes presentation of background information on the issues relating to front-yard walls, the Committee discussed current practices and agreed to address the issue further at its next meeting. Julia said she would speak to Todd about obtaining information relating to retaining wall permits. The Committee agreed to work on language for its mission statement by e-mail.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9 P.M.

Prepared by Julia Miller and approved by the Committee on December 18, 2006.