

MINUTES
Town of Chevy Chase: Long-Range Planning Committee
Monday, November 15, 2010
Town Hall
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

John Midlen, Scribe

Present: Pat Burda (Council Liaison), Tina Coplan (Co-Chair), Karen Depew, Carla Graeff, Mary Anne Hoffman, John Midlen, John Murtagh, Jim Roy, Steve Seidel (Co-Chair)

The meeting was convened at 7:03 pm by Steve Seidel, co-chair.

Candidates Forums

The State Senate Legislative District 18 Debate was held October 20 in the Town of Chevy Chase Town Hall. It was between Democrat Richard Madaleno, incumbent, and Republican Kurt Osuch, challenger. Both candidates acquitted themselves well. The dual purposes of educating residents and establishing the Town as fully engaged in area politics were achieved. The most effective innovation for this the last of three forums was the use of risers to improve visibility of the candidates. The Town Hall was near audience capacity. John Midlen will inquire as to the cost of purchasing risers for use in future forums and other events and will report back next meeting. Future forum issues will be considered in 2011.

Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group (PLMAG)

The PLMAG met recently with Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) and other state officials. Mayor Lublin's letter identifying the town's three top concerns—noise, visual impact, and safety—was read and the response from state transportation officials was discussed. One particularly important issue was that MTA will be submitting a new ridership study to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). In addition, MTA is looking at a grade-separated crossing, i.e., a bridge for the Lynn Drive crossing. MTA will provide further details on this at MAG's meeting on January 4, 2011.

Development Issues

Chevy Chase Lake (CCL) – The Town and others recently requested the Planning Board Staff to expand the current study area for the impact on traffic from the development to include

the area stretching from Kensington to Chevy Chase Circle. The Planning Board agreed to an expansion of just above the Beltway to Bradley Lane. LRP Committee co-chairs recently met with a Planning Board facilitator to discuss the process for developing the CCL sector plan. The committee's position is that any increased densities in the Sector Plan should be contingent on the Purple Line actually being built or should provide for alternatives—built and not-built.

Pearl Street—There is continued discussion with the developer. The outstanding issues are noise, design, trail access and off-site amenities. The proposal will not go to the Planning Board for approval before 12/2/10. Montgomery County Civic Federation

Steve Seidel attended the November 8 meeting at which the Montgomery County Department of Transportation made a presentation on a proposed new method for analyzing the impact of new development on traffic and transit. The committee discussed the pros and cons of the Town's enrollment as a member of the Civic Federation. It was noted that the Federation has an expertise in zoning, environment, planning and other areas that would be beneficial to the Town. No action was taken.

Town Strategic Plan

Karen Depew will continue to monitor implementation. It was also noted that the results from the Town Survey have just been received.

Bethesda Hyatt Regency Hotel

It was noted that the Hyatt goes to auction on December 1. We will follow developments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33.