

**Town of Chevy Chase  
Long-Range Planning Committee  
Minutes of January 26, 2009**

Tina Coplan, note taker

Attending: Pat Burda (Chair), David Lublin (Council Liaison), Tina Coplan, Karen Depew, Mary Anne Hoffman, Brenda Lizzio, Marty Saggese, and Steve Seidel

Pat Burda convened the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The December committee meeting minutes were approved. Burda announced that a new staff employee, Warren Rizzi, has joined the Town office and that she will meet with other committee heads in early February.

Purple Line

Burda reported recent County decisions regarding the Purple Line. DEIS comments made by the Town were highlighted and discussion was held about involving other partners in possible next steps once the state decides on its preferred transit. Marty and Tina will write an article for the Forecast updating Purple Line news.

Bethesda Development

Steve Seidel, Brenda Lizzio and Karen Depew presented updates.

- Adjusted plans for Woodmont East, at the intersection of Bethesda and Woodmont Avenues, have been submitted to the Planning Board. Where to place a crosswalk is still under discussion.
- Lot 31 project has not yet been reviewed by the Planning Board and appears way out.
- The post office rezoning on Arlington Rd. was approved for redevelopment by the County Council. The developer has not yet filed for subdivision.
- A public meeting will be held about the Safeway's remodeling.
- The county has not decided on a proposal for developing the Bethesda police station on Montgomery Avenue.
- The McDonald's site is moving ahead with development expected to begin in 2011.
- Pier 1 is still inactive with no further development expected in the near future.
- Metro 4 development above the Metro was rejected by County planning staff.

Potential New Projects

Burda noted that the County's "Smart Growth" policy raises questions about increased density in areas around transit development.

Another developing issue is the impact of budget cuts on schools, aging infrastructure such as water pipes, and quality of life. Burda will raise monitoring issue with other Committee chairs.

The National Register issue was discussed. Listing is an honorary distinction without any regulatory implications. Its value lies in adding cachet to the Town and providing residents with the option to pursue tax deductions for qualifying properties. Lizzio will look into whether NR impacts property values and property taxes. Mary Anne Hoffman and Tina Coplan will look into costs of applying, deadlines for obtaining application grants, and strategies.

Returning to the topic of Town governance, Burda suggested the Committee should complete the work it started a year ago. Saggese and Karen Depew will work on this with Burda.

Questions of how to foster citizen involvement and keep Town residents informed were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.