

**Town of Chevy Chase
Long Range Planning Committee
Minutes of Meeting of March 30, 2009**

John Midlen, Scrivener

Attending: Pat Burda (Chair), Tina Coplan, Karen Depew, Charles Duffy, Brenda Lizzio, David Lublin (Council Liaison), John Midlen, John Navratil, Marty Saggese and Steve Seidel

Pat Burda convened the meeting at 6:30 pm. The February minutes were approved.

Elm Street Park Playground. The developer, JBG Companies, was approached to increase its contribution above the committed \$20,000 but declined citing the tight economic conditions. The Town Council has indicated an interest in adding to the fund to redevelop the playground.

Bethesda Bikeway. The committee continues to believe this idea is dangerous and a waste of money. We will continue to urge the Town Council to oppose the project.

Wisconsin Avenue Pedestrian Safety Study. Report expected and John Midlen is to follow up on East West Highway-Montgomery Avenue concern.

4-H Master Plan. National 4-H Council, 7100 Connecticut Avenue, within the Town boundaries, plans to issue a Master Plan governing maximum use of its campus property. It has sought input from the Town. We will form a sub-committee to include abutting neighbors and representatives from the Town's Land Use and Community Relations Committees.

Bethesda Development.

- Pier 1 – property recently changed hands and is expected to continue in long term retail use.
- Exxon (at Leland St.) – on hold due to economic conditions
- Exxon (at Montgomery Ave.) – ground being cleared, plans unknown
- Chevy Chase Lake – on hold pending Purple Line decision
- Friendship Heights Coordinating Committee is hosting meeting with Royce Hanson and Roland Stanley to discuss zoning plans

for County on April 22. A Committee representative will attend and evaluate.

Governance Project. A committee consisting of Karen and Marty is looking into this. Areas include council compensation, municipal code, separate mayoral election. Interviews with, among others, council members and Town staff will be considered. Committee members are asked to think of 5 – 10 areas to address in the Project. Tabled until our September meeting.

Purple Line

- Update. The *Purple Line 10 km Race and Walk* on March 7, dubbed "No Rail on the Trail" protest took place against the Purple Line light rail project on the Capital Crescent Trail. Its resounding success was recounted. Committee members Burda, Lublin and Midlen attended and organizers hope the event has the same result as efforts half a century ago to prevent a highway from being built along the C&O Canal.
- Next Steps. Various options were considered. Burda to gather more information to share in upcoming meetings.

Annual Meeting. Will occur May 5, 2009. Two Council seats are up for election. Balloting is followed by the Town's Annual Meeting. Each Town Committee will have a Table to display its work. Mary Ann and Tina will put together our effort. Input from Committee members duly solicited.

Next LRP Committee Meeting: April 20, 2009.

March Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.