

Town of Chevy Chase Long Range Committee Monthly Meeting
Monday, September 21, 2009
6:30 to 8:35 p.m.

In attendance: Pat Burda (Council Liaison), Tina Coplan, Karen Depew (Co-chair), Charles Duffy, Leslie Hill, Mary Anne Hoffman (Co-chair), Sharon Light, John Midlen, John Murtagh, Jim Roy, Steve Seidel.

Visitor: John Whitty

Not attending: Russ Powell

Meeting convened at 6:35 and was called to order by Mary Anne Hoffman. Since it was the first meeting of the new committee, each member of LRP introduced themselves by sharing where he or she lived, previous community involvement, interest in volunteering and personal interests.

The committee then reviewed a proposed LRP Mission Statement to be printed in the October issue of the Forecast. Some changes were suggested as was a request for an additional day to review it before voting to accept it. It was agreed that Karen Depew would revise the proposed mission statement to include the suggestions, distribute Tuesday and the committee would then e-mail their comments and acceptance of the proposed mission statement by end of day Tuesday, September 21.

Mary Anne reviewed the structure of the meetings for the year and attendance responsibilities. Members are expected to attend 8 of the 11 monthly meetings or may be asked to step down. Karen provided tips for writing meeting minutes.

Since there were a large number of new members, a brief update was provided on each topic the committee followed last year:

- Purple Line (Pat Burda)
- Development Projects (Steve Seidel)
- 4-H Expansion Plans (Tina Coplan)
- Strategic Plan (Karen Depew)
- Pedestrian Safety: John Midlen gave an update on the Wisconsin Avenue Pedestrian Safety Report, which had just been released in draft form. John suggested the Town approach the Bethesda Pedestrian Safety Group with an alternative plan for increasing safety at the crosswalks at the Wisconsin, Bethesda Ave and Willow Lane intersections. He also informed the group that the State Highway Authority was now willing to also study the crosswalk on East West Highway, which they had originally rejected. It was decided that Pat and John would arrange to meet with BCC Regional Services Director Ken Hartman to discuss the proposed changes.

An overview of the committee's 2009/2010 priorities was started.

Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group: Pat Burda announced that the Council will appoint a Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group to work with the State on measures to lessen the negative impacts on the Town if light rail comes to the Capital Crescent trail. LRP reviewed, edited and approved the

announcement that will go into the October Forecast asking for volunteers. The Mitigation Advisory Group will fall under the purview of Mary Anne Hoffman.

County's Smart Growth Policy: Karen Depew explained the County's Smart Growth policy, which is being monitored by the LRP committee. LRP decided to ask someone from the County to speak to Town residents about this policy and its impact the Town. Pat Burda and Karen Depew will pursue this.

Monitoring Development on Town Borders: Steve Seidel asked for volunteers to help monitor growth on the Town's borders and Smart Growth policy. John Murtagh and Tina Coplan volunteered to work with Steve.

During the public comment period at the meeting's conclusion, John Whitty was asked if he wished to make any comments. He declined, but indicated he was interested in attending future meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.