

Town of Chevy Chase Long Range Planning Committee Monthly Meeting
Monday, October 19, 2009
6:30 to 8:25 p.m.

In attendance: Karen Depew, Co-Chair; Pat Burda, Council Liaison; John Midlen, Charles Duffy, Sharon Light, Jim Roy, Russ Powell, John Murtagh, Steve Seidel, Tina Coplan and Leslie Hill.

Absent was Mary Anne Hoffman.

The meeting started at 6:30pm.

Pat Burda discussed talking with Mike Madden of the Maryland Transportation Department about mitigation should the Purple Line's light rail system be placed on the Capital Crescent Trail. She reported 5-6 people have asked to be on the town's currently being formed mitigation committee. Applications are being accepted through the end of the month. Committee discussed working with a university engineering department to work with the town in preparing for the meeting.

Steve Seidel then discussed Proposed Development Projects in the Surrounding Areas. He shared a matrix of projects: Woodmont East (in Bethesda) has been approved by Count; McDonald's on Pearl Street has been approved for its planned development; Pier One has a longer term tenant and is not likely to be developed; USPS on Arlington may be developed into office, retail, and residential and the Safeway is likely to be rebuilt at Bradley and Arlington.

Pat Burda and Karen Depew then discussed Montgomery County's Growth Plan and Zoning Policies, and the Town's response to it. A letter of concern has been submitted to the County. The Town is co-sponsoring a Forum to educate residents about the proposed changes on Monday, October 26. A postcard was mailed.

John Midlen discussed pedestrian safety. An audit of intersections on Wisconsin Avenue including and between Montgomery Avenue and Leland Street is being conducted. The committee had sought a meeting with Ken Hartman, Director BCC Regional Services Center, which did occur on October 1. Mr. Hartman is to forward our concerns up the chain.

Strategic Plan Update: Mary Anne Hoffman, Pat Burda, Bridget Hartman, and Karen Depew met with the facilitator who worked with the Town on developing the current strategic plan and suggested a process for keeping it updated. A group is being formed to recommend a process to the Town Council.

We then discussed 2009-2010 Priorities. In addition to the above priorities, 2 other topics were discussed:

1. Non-citizen voting rights. After discussing the complexity of the issue, it was decided that Jim Roy would do further research on how many Town residents are affected by the issue. Jim will report findings at next committee meeting.
2. Review of best practices of government. Committee decided not to pursue.

Ad Hoc group members:

Purple Line: Jim Roy, Russ Powell, Leslie, Tina, John Midlen, (Mary Anne Hoffman co-chair contact)

Border Development: Steve Seidel, John Murtagh, (Karen Depew co-chair contact)

Strategic Plan: John Midlen, Sharon Light, Mary Anne Hoffman and Karen Depew

County Growth: Charles Duffy, Leslie Hill, Tina Coplan and Karen Depew

New business: Discussion about the Farm Women's Cooperative market/flee market. Tina Coplan to research ownership of property.

Resident comments: none.

Meeting adjourned at @8:25pm.