

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY July 2, 2007

ATTENDEES:

Bill Pritchard, Chair
John Barnes
Paul Blutter
Larry Lannom
Arthur Schatzkin
Costis Toregas
Lance Hoffman, Town Council Liaison

Absent: Blaney Harper

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm.

There were no public comments.

The minutes of the June 7, 2007 meeting were approved.

The next meeting will be on July 30, 2007, 7:30-9:00 pm in the Town Hall.

Sidewalk policy:

The Chair congratulated the PSC on its work in preparing the Sidewalk Policy that was adopted by the Council at its June meeting. The sidewalk installations proposed by the previous Traffic Committee and endorsed by the PSC will be on the Council Agenda for the July meeting. At least one resident has formally requested the installation of a sidewalk.

Speed humps:

The PSC recommendation that the Town purchase temporary speed humps will be on the Council Agenda for the July meeting.

Speed hump policy

Joe Cutro, traffic engineer, will meet with the PSC at the next meeting. He will provide templates that we may use for a speed hump policy and inform the PSC on the approaches that we may use to set such a policy.

Speed limits and signage:

The committee agreed that the Town should hire Joe Cutro to evaluate the Town's streets and recommend appropriate speed limits. Development of a clear speed hump policy will depend on the results of the speed limits set in the Town.

Security:

The PSC discussed the subcommittee's recommendations on security issues. Before further consideration of Neighborhood Watch, alteration of the police and private

security coverage or implementation of security cameras, the committee needs to acquire a more comprehensive understanding of the current safety and security issues in the Town as well as the adjacent areas. This information would include Town and adjacent area crime rates, changes over time, Town budget for the services over time. The subcommittee will meet with Todd Hoffman as well as the Montgomery County Police Department/Bethesda for further information and to determine the level of communication between the Town and MCPD.

The PSC recommends that safety and security issues be considered in the study of the Purple Line, approving the following motion:

The Public Services Committee recommends that the proposed Purple Line impact study include a component related to public safety.

The proposed policy to provide guidance on Town notification to residents of potential safety and security issues was discussed. Although generally acceptable, there were additional concerns, e.g., liability, that need to be defined. No action was taken.

Reports/Planning: subcommittees:

Electric: Lance Hoffman reports that Councilmember Kathy Strom discussed the status of the electrical service issues with a representative of PEPCO.

Water: Lance Hoffman reports that construction on Phase I of the drainage system will begin in August 2007 and that Phases II and III are included in the five-year Capital Budget.

Information Technology: There is concern about wi-fi security and residents inadequately protecting their home networks. An article in the Town newsletter may address this.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.