

DRAFT PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY December 4, 2006

ATTENDEES:

Bill Pritchard, Chairman

John Barnes

Paul Blutter

Tracey Denning

Absent: Costas Toregas

Guests: none

Lance Hoffman, Town Council Liaison

Terry Gnezda

Blaney Harper

Arthur Schatzkin

The meeting was called to order. The corrected minutes of the November 13, 2006 meeting were approved.

Meeting minutes:

No steps have been taken yet regarding recruitment of a Town Teen to record the minutes.

Scope of PSC interest and responsibilities/Mission statement:

The committee opted for a streamlined Mission Statement that states its charge from the Town; that public services provided to residents by non-Town entities would be a part of its charge; and broadly groups those services under public safety, water, utilities and Town maintenance. The detailed listing of what is included, as discussed in November, will appear separately, but publicly (e.g., on the PSC webpage) so that residents are aware. Operational review was not explicitly included as this is primarily a role of the Council, although we noted that the listing of areas of interest is not fixed and that the Council may ask us to address this or any other issue.

A revised version of the Mission Statement will be circulated for editing.

Committee organization

After discussion as to whether there was sufficient business before the PSC to justify establishment of subcommittees, it was agreed that five would be established. The subcommittees and initial comments on their activities are:

Electric: monitor developments with Pepco in evaluation of electrical service reliability; analysis of data and information provided by Pepco

Water: monitor developments in storm water management including on-going activity with the State and County

Traffic: monitor implementation of previous Traffic Committee recommendations that were submitted to the Council; consider appropriate allocation of contract police resources

Sidewalks: review previous Traffic Committee recommendations and engineering survey of sidewalk needs and potential implementation; consider the policy that should guide the Town's decision to install sidewalks

Security: consider appropriate allocation of contract police and private security resources; potential re-establishment of Neighborhood Watch; other methods, e.g., security cameras.

The Chair will solicit the interests and preferences of each committee member for participation in one or more subcommittees.

Individual liaisons to other committees were not discussed.

Reports

Pepco

Mayor Barnes, Lance Hoffman, Todd Hoffman and Bill Pritchard met with representatives of PEPCO to discuss the frequency of power outages in the Town. PEPCO provided information on outages and agreed to investigate means of improving service on the worst performing feeder line and establishing service redundancy on 1 of the lines; work with the Town to identify tree-trimming needs; and provide the Town with information on its method of ranking the performance of feeder lines. A response was requested by January.

Department of Public Works and Transportation: Lance Hoffman reported that he met with representatives of DPWT. In the wake of the public meeting on water run-off, the Department and the Town have surveyed the Town's run-off including observations of run-off during storms. The Department identified potential short-term and longer-term solutions and will work to implement those solutions as quickly as possible.

Miscellaneous notes:

The meeting agendas and minutes will be posted on the PSC webpage along with the Mission Statement and listing of public services.

The meeting was adjourned.