

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES  
October 10, 2018

Council & Staff

Barney Rush, Mayor  
Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor  
Kirk Renaud, Secretary

Joel Rubin, Treasurer  
Wicca Davidson, Community Liaison  
Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Residents and Guests

Irene Lane, 4106 Aspen Street  
Susan Ziemann, 4202 East West Highway  
Devin Ellis, 4500 Walsh Street  
Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
Thornton Matheson, 4225 Leland Street  
Murray Horwitz, 3903 Rosemary Street  
Lees Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue  
Bridget Hartman, 7214 Ridgewood Avenue  
Vicky Taplin, 4120 Leland Street

Lou Evangelista, 4402 Walsh Street  
Dedun Ingram, 4312 Willow Lane  
Len Scensny, 4312 Willow Lane  
Jeffrey Bingenheime, 4200 Oakridge Lane  
Matthew Hoffman, 7302 Maple Avenue  
Bren Lizzio, 4218 Oakridge Lane  
Any Kostant, 7317 Maple Avenue  
Edamarie Mattei, Backyard Bounty

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

Mayor Rush called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Baskir moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2018 Council Meeting and September 26, 2018 Zimmerman Park Community Forum. Councilmember Renaud seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Acceptance of September 2018 Financial Report

Councilmember Rubin presented the September 2018 financial report. The Council discussed and accepted the report.

#### E. Town Manager's Report

Town Manager Todd Hoffman reported on the initiatives undertaken by staff over the past month.

#### F. Public Comments

Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street, commented on Bethesda development, specifically the proposed redevelopment of 7121 and 7126 Wisconsin Avenue, the Farm Women's Market, and adjacent parking lots.

Devin Ellis, 4500 Walsh Street, expressed support for a dog exercise area and recognized the need to study the issue further and address residents' concerns.

Matt Hoffman, 7302 Maple Avenue, expressed support for a dog exercise area and recognized the need for further study.

Susan Zieman, 4202 East West Highway, expressed support for a dog exercise area as well as drainage and pedestrian improvements in Zimmerman Park.

## II. PUBLIC HEARINGS

### A. Lee Dennison Sustainable Garden

Irene Lane, Town resident and Climate and Environment Committee chair, and Edamarie Mattei, Backyard Bounty representative, presented a proposal to use a \$100,000 bequest from late Town resident Lee Dennison to develop a sustainable garden in Zimmerman Park.

Mayor Rush opened the public hearing. Two residents commented in support of the proposal: Murray Horwitz, 3903 Rosemary Street, and Deborah Vollmer, 7202 44<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Rush closed the public hearing. The Council discussed the proposal, including costs of installation and ongoing maintenance.

Councilmember Renaud moved to approve use of the Lee Dennison bequest to create a sustainable garden in the south end of Zimmerman Park and to authorize the Town Manager to proceed with final design and competitive bids for the project, with the understanding that the final budget will require approval of the Council. Councilmember Davidson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

## II. COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

### A. Zimmerman Park Dog Exercise Area

The Council discussed the status of considering a proposed dog exercise area in Zimmerman Park; the Land Use Committee's ongoing assessment of possible locations for a dog exercise area other than Zimmerman Park; continued outreach to interested residents; and general improvements to Zimmerman Park to make the open space more usable. The Council agreed to reach out to residents to discuss possible amenities for the park.

Councilmember Renaud moved to authorize the Town Manager to expend up to \$4,000 for a stormwater management expert to perform a preliminary assessment of water drainage problems in Zimmerman Park and to identify possible remedial measures and associated costs. Councilmember Baskir seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### B. Zimmerman Park Pedestrian Pathway and Staircase

The Council discussed the status of considering a proposed pedestrian pathway and staircase in Zimmerman Park. Councilmember Renaud moved to authorize the Town Manager to retain a landscape architect to develop a sketch plan for the pathway and staircase in consultation with the Land Use Committee. Councilmember Rubin seconded the motion. Mayor Rush moved to amend the motion to authorize a maximum of \$4,000 for this effort. Councilmember Baskir seconded the amendment. The amended motion was called and passed unanimously.

### C. Purple Line Mitigation/East West Highway Safety

The Council discussed issues and efforts related to Purple Line mitigation, including stormwater management; noise mitigation; and pedestrian and traffic safety improvements along East West Highway.

### D. Bethesda Downtown Plan Implementation

The Council discussed issues and efforts related to implementation of the Bethesda Downtown Plan, including proposed development at 7121 Wisconsin Avenue and the Farm Women's Market, as well as development of a potential park on the adjacent parking lots. The Council agreed to organize a Town meeting, involving residents near the parking lots in particular, to discuss the proposed park.

## III. NEW BUSINESS

Councilmember Baskir announced a date change for the Council work session on non-U.S. citizen voting eligibility.

#### IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kirk Renaud, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Audio recordings of Council meetings are available on the Town website  
([www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org)) approximately one week following each meeting.