

Park Hills Civic Association General Meeting Minutes

11 December 2013 7:30pm

The Park Hills Civic Association (PHCA) held a General Meeting on **Wednesday, 11 December, 2013** in the Media Center of the Silver Spring International Middle School.

Attendees: Adele Biancarelli, Alan Bowser, Chris Hanlein, Chris Richardson, David Ehrenstein, Deanna Anderson, D'Juan Hopewell, Don Slater Elsie Klumpner, Gary Klauber, Janice Chilka, Jim Chilka, Jim Riley, Leslie Downey, Lorin Obler, Maddy Wells, Paul Guinnessy, Stephanie Subramanian.

Agenda

Secretary's Report. The report by the Secretary, Paul Guinnessy, was accepted.

Treasurer's Report. The report by the Treasurer, Leslie Downey, was accepted. She reported an Association balance of \$103, and encouraged members to timely pay their dues.

Announcements

Dale Drive Sidewalk Construction Project. Alan Bowser reported on a communication for the County's Department of Transportation from Girum Awoke, Division of Transportation Engineering, Montgomery County. "The current status of the Dale Drive sidewalk project includes the completion of more than 95% of the retaining wall, curb and sidewalk work and a significant amount of full depth pavement reconstruction. The remaining activities include building missing sidewalk connections, adjusting utility structures, completing about 200 feet of full depth pavement reconstruction and final surface paving. Depending on weather conditions, we plan to complete the project by the end of the year. We will keep you and your neighbors informed of any updates or changes to this schedule."

Fleetwood/Mansfield Right of Way. The right of way between Fleetwood Road and Mansfield Road has been cleaned and seeded. Consideration will be given to improving the area with a rain garden or bench.

Dale Drive Neighborhood Park. The Dale Drive neighborhood park playground is suffering from flooding, so the county has asked for community input to design the new playground. The problem is drainage said a member of the audience, Bowser asked for volunteers to deal with it.

Old Business

Purple Line – Environmental Impact Statement. Chris Richardson talked about the Environmental Impact Study and the joint response from the associations submitted to it (see Park Hill's group list for the response). It was a real scramble to get a response

together he said. Funding of the project is the only outstanding variable; all other factors have more or less been decided. Members from the audience agreed that it was valuable for the community to comment and critique the MTA plan.

Bowser said there is a coalition of all the associations along the Purple Line to try and make it the best light rail project in the US. Richardson said that he had met with staff of the County's Planning Department, along with Jean Cavanagh of the adjoining Seven Oaks/Evanswood Citizens Association, to get assurance that the area would not be re-zoned. Richardson in particular, and the other Park Hills officers, were thanked by the audience for their work on the report, particularly considering the shortness of time given for a response and the vast quantity of materials that had to be analyzed.

New Business

Alan Bowser proposed a neighborhood Happy Hour event – Neighbors that Wine—to take place at Mrs. K's at the corner of Colesville Road and Dale Drive. Additional information would be forthcoming.

A member expressed concern about safety at the intersection of Mansfield Road and Dale Drive. Don Slater gave a brief history about the four-way stop at Mansfield and Dale, noting that the County's Transportation Department was not supportive. Bowser suggested that we invite representatives of the Department of Transportation to discuss the issue at an upcoming association meeting.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Addendum