



## GREATER SEVERNA PARK COUNCIL

General Meeting Minutes

[www.gspc.org](http://www.gspc.org)

December 13, 2016



*General Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month.*

President Maureen Carr York called the Greater Severna Park Council General Meeting to order at 7:33pm.

### **Secretary's Report** (Holly Slack)

*Motion to approve the minutes made by Mary Voglesteen. Motion unanimously adopted.*

### **Treasurer's Report** (Steve Poland)

Gain of \$9.64 in interest from money market account.

### **President's Report** (Maureen Carr York)

No new members since last month. Dues notices are going out at the end of this month. Hard copies are available tonight. Keep an eye out in case they go to the wrong email address.

### **Guest Speaker**

Lieutenant Jim Fredericks, Commander of Organized and Economic Crimes, Anne Arundel County Police. Lt. Fredericks is responsible for Homeland Security, Criminal Intelligence, Gang Investigations, and Corruption Investigations., Commercial Robbery Investigations, Financial Crime Investigations, and Digital Forensics. He has also recently announced his campaign for Sheriff.

Many problems stem from lack of vigilance and complacency by citizens. If you suspect something, call 911. Everything starts locally, happens locally, and investigations do not start until a citizen dials 911. There is legally available technology to protect citizens, such as social media monitoring in a non-aggressive way. If they get a tip, there are commercially available packages available using key words searches to collect data on Facebook, Instagram, etc. For instance, if there is a large event in Annapolis or Army v. Navy game, they can put in the key words and search "army navy bombing M&T" to aid in security efforts. His office consists of 10 detectives and 2 civilians. The Maryland Coordination Analysis Center is the largest fusion center where they gather and share data using the FBI model. There was a person who heard a low grade explosive in Glen Burnie. His neighbor had tried to make a small explosive device and used unstable elements that literally blew his pants off. This highlights the importance of calling and building the database. They are looking at his profile now that he's been entered because of that report.

Regular looking normal citizens can become radicalized, "violent extremists." There was an Australian acting student who became enamored with ISIS because they can be convincing, especially to the vulnerable being enticed into violence. Many things could have been prevented with community vigilance. If you see something, say something.

There is a Colorado case with a woman who worked in a beauty supply store as retirement job, but beauty stores are terrorist centers for mass amounts of hydrogen peroxide that can be used to make bombs. The woman noticed a gentleman who purchased 12 gallons of hydrogen peroxide and reported it to her local sheriff. The deputy contacted federal agency and stopped 2 men getting ready to target soft spots and detonate explosive devices. This woman was the difference.

Most gangs are looking for some type of notoriety, using national and international violence. Google allows the search phrase "how to get notoriety". There are 400 gang members in Anne Arundel County tracked through jail system.

Anne Arundel County has antiterrorism and counter-terrorism task forces. They aid the Annapolis FBI office with 20 members, using FBI models in threat analysis and vulnerability efforts. Shopping malls are soft targets. Soft targets is an intelligence term identifying places that have the least amount of security, most vulnerability, and most capability for news coverage like shopping centers or public events. Antiterrorism has its budgetary limitations. Examples of antiterrorism include partitions that are blast detectors, identifying businesses with frequent turnover, and recommending stronger plastic glass. Counterterrorism is active with the FBI. The local FBI was tipped off that someone in the Arundel Mills area was becoming a homegrown radicalized extremist, so an FBI undercover agent friended the person on Facebook and linked up with him. The FBI is able to guide someone from insanely crazy to just crazy so they can be led to an easily controlled environment. They can also sell an unusable weapon. If a Facebook profile isn't private, the FBI can "friend" and go after them that way.

Lt. Fredericks has a seat on the Terrorism council, which includes the lead prosecutor for States Attorney Office, Chief of State Police, EMS, and NSA. The area also part of the Regional Intelligence Group where they can share information immediately, such as license plate readers that can be sent to the joint fusion center and see if locally tripped. Then they can identify if someone has been under threat analysis and what their interests would be in our county. If there is a threat that could be coming you can sign up for a Nixle alert. They have also signed on with the SHIELD model out of New York which is a terrorism sharing network and works for the commercial business side and commercial security network. The business community is connected on the intelligence side as well, and work with local, state, and federal partners through information sharing, homeland security model, and threat assessments. Aversion to calling 911. The non-emergency line person sits right next to the 911 person.

## **Q&A**

1. Are gangs increasing or decreasing in number? (John Norville, GSPC Director)

*Gangs have not increased largely due to the violence prevention initiative program. They have revamped work with parole and probation which has keyed in on notable gang members. DMI was interested in reconnecting with Anne Arundel County but the County Police worked with Baltimore authorities to have arrest warrants for parole violations to stop them from coming back here. There is a large number that goes in and out of jail.*

2. How do you coordinate with all your partners? (Glen Oban Delegate)

*Coordination happens both jurisdictionally and resource-wise. Most start through join-terrorism task force to local activities. Robberies tend to run in sprees. There is a group that has hit PG County, Baltimore County, and Baltimore City. Since it is all the same group, they have called in the FBI.*

3. Considering first responders are going to be main player in terrorism incident, how current is their training? (Anonymous)

*The National Institute Emergency Management System provides ALERT training for active shooter incidents where officers do a lot of work shooting under stress and learn decision-making under stress, such as mall shootings or bomb threats. It is a great national model that a lot of other agencies should follow. They also train tactical EMTs. There was a department shooting where a neighbor was struck by police fire. Brought in tactical medics and neighbor could be extracted while still in a hostile situation.*

4. What is NIXLE program? (Carol Boudman)

*Go to AAcounty.org/police and you will find the NIXLE notification system where you can sign up for alerts. . You can also go to NIXLE.com or text zip code to 888777 on mobile phone.*

5. Is Guardian Shield related to you? (Lisa Bender, GSPC Environmental Co-Chair)

*This is the New York program mentioned earlier. They have a Facebook site (it is not the one with the guy in the red suit).*

6. If you see something, say something. What if you suspect neighbors are not criminals but something may be going on, what do you do? (Amy Leahy, GSPC Director)

*Not everyone looks like a terrorist. Never base it on what they look like; base it on what they're doing. People on Facebook saying the wildest things. There is now a crisis intervention model program, which acknowledges that mental health issues are widespread and can offer mental health services. Sometimes people seem crazy and some poetic, but it turned out to be a person was off their meds. If say they're Muslims they are going to ignore, but if say they are dragging weird things in like maneuver and diesel truck, they will investigate. The criminal tip line is to his office.*

Lt. James Fredericks, A.A. County Police Dept.,  
On behalf of GSPC President Maureen Carr-York and our Delegates,  
Many Thanks for speaking to us this Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016. Your discussion of Homeland Security was informative, relevant, and very interesting. We appreciated your discussions of your impressive background, compliance & prevention issues -- including when to dial 911 and "See Something - Say Something", the Mission -- including use of Technology, the staff & its duties, examples of incidents, status of gangs in our area, some measurers -- including cooperation with the FBI, the questions & answers discussions, etc.  
Please visit us anytime on 2nd. Tuesdays at the Severna Park Library.  
And HAPPY HOLIDAYS to the County Police Department!

*John Norville*, Director, GSPC

Maureen acknowledged guests: President of the Broadneck Council of Communities Elizabeth Rothsburg, Pat Lynch. County Councilman Michael Peroutka, Maggie Harris from the Severna Park Chamber of Commerce, and Boy Scouts from Troup 993.

**Chamber of Commerce Report** (Maggie Harris)

This month was Christmas tree lighting took place this month. There is a luncheon tomorrow at Chartwell Country Club at 11:30. Call 410-647-3400 for more information. Look for a legislative update joint luncheon coming early 2017.

## Planning / Zoning / Legislative Committee (Art Timmons)

- Cattail Commons: The parties from all sides agreed to a six-month postponement at the Board of Appeals Hearing on Wednesday, November 30, 2016 from 3:30 to 5:30. This cancelled the December hearings.
- Sabrina Park, Phase 3: This project has 6 Board of Appeals Hearings down and 8 more to go, beginning Wednesday, December 14, 2016 from 3:30 to 5:30 at the Council Chambers. Stuck on in January 25. August meeting had a great turnout, last meeting is March 25, but not sure which meeting is the best to represent. Don't even know when open to public for input.
- One Eighty Holdings LLC. The Administrative Hearing Officer approved this Special Exception on November 29, 2016. Any appeal must be made within 30 days of that date. None is anticipated.
- Marsh Landing at 412 Asbury Drive: See Items 1, 2, and 3 above. There will be a post submission Community Meeting on January 10, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Severna Park Library. That is 1 and ½ hours before the January GSPC General Meeting. Subdivision application was 11/30/16. Community Meeting is 01/10/17. That is 41 days (they will be studying) after submittal. Submit any comments quickly. The county has been reviewing this for 41 days, which is pushing it almost to the limit. The property has one house and is planning to add 3 more houses. The plan they present is not the new plan anymore, as stated in the notification letter. They are saying it is only 4 lots even though it shows 5 lots.
- There are rumors of another 10 home subdivision being planned near Marsh Landing but it is not on website yet. The "Hall" property. GSPC is keeping in touch with the neighbor who is within 175 feet.
- The Severn Acres 6 lots becoming 16 lots: One of the two modifications was approved. The other is still pending.
- Robinson's Reserve: Modifications are still pending.
- The Cluster Development Bill is still in discussions before it will be introduced. The meeting covered it this morning.
- Bill 73-16 Zoning – Comprehensive Zoning – Notice. This will require property owners that apply for a change in zoning during the General Development Plan (GDP) to notify neighboring residents and HOAs by mail and post signs for a minimum of 14 days prior to the public hearing. GSPC voted to support the proposed purpose of this bill and each County Councilman was notified of that decision. The bill still had technical problems as written and is still being considered.
- Bill 82-16: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – General Development Plan for Anne Arundel County - Rural Conservation Line revise GDP; define Rural Conservation Area & Line; Adopt Rural Conservation Line as part of the GDP; amend administrative rezoning requirements, etc. This will set aside not less than 50% of all land in the county as rural areas as part of the GDP in order to preserve them. ONE TO WATCH. GSPC is in Growth Tiers 1 and 2, Managed Growth Areas, accentually developed areas with sewer or planned sewer. It draws lines between rural areas and growth areas. Growth tiers are pre-determined by state and Anne Arundel County or water sewer. This area is considered growth 1 tier. If don't have sewer but sewer is planned, then considered tier 2. The line goes right down the Magothy River and does not look like it has been well thought out. When the State of MD passed sustainable growth bill, our area was already designated high density in 2013. The protected areas are in western county and non-protected are in waterway. The desirability is the water access which are not protected now. There will be amendments on Dec 19. Public hearing was continued so amendments cannot be made. Still open public hearing. Vote will not be until 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January. Anyone who wants to testify can do so on Monday night if have not testified.

**Nominating Committee** (John Norville)

Nominating Committee Chair John Norville thanked Committee members Jack Mason and Charlie Miller for serving on the Committee again this year. At this Delegates Meeting, Chairman Norville advised Delegates that the Committee had met and the following is the slate that is unanimously proposed, per the GSPC By-Laws. Most are Incumbents, and we thank all for serving again:

- President: \*Maureen Carr-York
- Vice-President: \*Brad Myers
- V. P. Public Affairs \*Art Timmons
- Secretary: Holly Slack (was Associate Sec.)
- Treasurer: \*Steve Poland
- Director Emeritus: \*Dan Nataf {Appointed by the Board}
- Director: \*John Norville [Nominated by Board of Directors]
- Director: \*Amy Leahy
- Director: \*Bill Lippincott
- Director: Erin O’Neill (was Sec.)

\*Incumbents

Chairman Norville noted that this is the third and final call for candidates per the By-Laws and asked if anyone present was interested in nominating themselves or another willing individual as a candidate?

*Being none, Chairman Norville moved to adopt the slate as read.*

*Without objection the slate of candidates noted above was unanimously adopted.*

Copies of this Report were given to the Secretary & to the President.

Electronic Voting by Delegates, “Yes or No”, will be conducted Dec. – Jan. by the Treasurer, with results announced at the Jan. 2017 meeting.

Nominating Committee Approvals:

- John Norville, Chairman, Director, Delegate*
- Jack Mason, Member
- Charlie Miller, Member

Steve will send out the information and reply with yes or no. Deadline for electronic voting is Jan 6 at midnight. Anyone who has not voted electronically can vote at the Jan. 10 meeting, which will conclude the election. Delegate and president are the only 2 that can officially vote. Maureen acknowledged those not on the Board but also those who serve as committee chairs.

**Education Committee** (Brad Myers)

The Board is still taking public feedback on change from Valedictorian system to cum laude system. As the high school prepares for transition, Thursday at 6:30 will be open for tours of old building. Bricks from the old building will be available for \$50 to benefit SPSHS PTO. New school will be open Jan 7 and 9 to SPSHS. Website has chart that lays out schedule for when to see. The new sections of Benfield Elementary is now open.

**Environmental Committee** (Paul Spadaro and Lisa Bender)

There is a family of beavers lodge at the Cattail Creek pond that has caused the creek to rise. The dam can be seen from Route 2 where the sewer line borders the pond. Senator Ed Reilly is aiding the effort to assist the yellow perch by proposing closing the Magothy from February to April during yellow perch spawning season. They have created Google maps of what they are testing, where they are measuring wetlands for suspended solids. Cattail Creek has the worst water quality in the entire Magothy watershed. They are isolating the data of what it currently is for future use, as well as measuring

McBride Avenue. This lesson was learned from trying to measure the impact of the Kohl's shopping center on the wetlands—there should have been pre-data so they could compare. The State of Magothy presentation will be the last Friday of February at Community College. On January 17 at 7pm there is a presentation on Severn River Cliffs: Eyesores and treasures. Lisa will send the flyer. Anne Arundel County has 2 power plants in the Dundalk area. Asthma is 3x the national average and air quality in AA County is worse than in Los Angeles because of the power plants.

#### **Police / Community Relations** (Cindi Mitchell)

Lock your cars. Auto thefts are up again. New Captain Ken Arball is back. There is no business meeting this month, but they will be honoring officers of the year for Eastern District at 7pm next Wednesday. To sign up for NIXLE go to NIXLE.com or text zip code to 888777 on mobile phone.

#### **Cattail Caucus** (Cindi Mitchell)

DNR sent MRA letter requesting MRA work with them to protect wetlands above route 2. Cattail commons goes to those wetlands. Deputy Director Kevin Smith met this week to formalize request of partnership. Restoration partner AACC is doing testing.

#### **Public Works Committee** (Dan Nataf and Erin O'Neill)

Dan Nataf and Erin O'Neill met with Nester Flores (traffic engineer who took Ed Corkey's job as Jim Schroll's assistant) from AAC Dept of Public Works on Monday, December 12, to discuss Severna Park concerns.

#### **Ongoing projects discussed:**

- Jumpers Hole Road study is opening again. Looking at the study from years ago as well as possibly a new study.
- Lynwood Road Sidewalk – a traffic pedestrian study is being conducted to determine if a crossing guard is warranted at the intersection of St. Bees Road and Lynwood Road.
- Governor Stone Blvd in Shipley's Choice is being considered for 2017 Capital Budget funding for a Feasibility Study of a possible Hiker/Biker trail.
- Evergreen Road change is dormant for now. In order for additional crosswalks, sidewalks need to be on both sides of the street. If additional crosswalks are put in, they lose meaning as to their importance.
- Two crossing guards will be assigned to Holland Lane once the new school opens.

#### **Issues and Action Items:**

- Evergreen at B&A Boulevard needs to be smoother. Public Works will take a look.
- Earleigh Heights Connector and Ritchie Hwy. Bellemeade --is blocked with the traffic. Too short of a light for the through traffic.
- Erin will contact SHA to get the Traffic study from Tim Smith on Earleigh Heights and Ritchie Hwy.
- Ritchie Hwy before Robinson Road signs says straight and right but it should be right turn only, so which one is it. Erin will contact Hilary Gonzalez at SHA.
- Whites Road about to be open now will be open to south Jennings. South Jennings will be closed at the trail. Sidewalk will be in new community. Will be safer on B&A trail.
- Email Nester to get contact info: re Ben Oaks and West Benfield.

The GSPC Public Works Committee will communicate monthly with Mr. Nester Flores regarding these issues. If any community residents have any Public Works concerns, please email the GSPC and we will add these concerns to this list.

They are hiring 4 new engineers. If Evergreen/Cedar is still an issue, Councilman Peroutka offered to help.

**ASPIRE Report** (Maureen Carr York)

Still looking for leadership award nominees. There is some effort with ASPIRE to begin to propose/build museum Severna Park. There will be more information to come in 2017.

**SPHS Demolition Committee** (George Foote and Carol Boudman)

Saving all 3 historical trees at the High School is looking dim. It appears that one will be saved but not the other 2. Elected officials had been helping in the effort to save the 3 trees. The fence is in, but you can see through the fence. They were supposed to get notices about having inspections on homes but it has not happened yet.

**Airport Noise Committee** (Linda Curry)

There is a meeting with Greater Elkridge community later this week and are still waiting on roundtable schedule from Ellen Sample.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

Paul Spadaro, Co-chair of GSPC Environmental Committee, made the following motion:

*The Greater Severna Park Council is opposed to Bill 82-16 because it is very clear Severna Park is in the targeted bull's eye area for high density growth.*

GSPC Director Amy Leahy seconded the motion.

Friendly amendment by Cindi Mitchell: opposition to bill "as it is currently presented."

**Motion adopted.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:50pm

Next Meeting Dates:

General Meeting: January 10, 2016 at the Severna Park Library, 7:30pm

Board of Directors: December 27, 2016 at the Severna Park Library, 7:30pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Holly Slack.