



GREATER SEVERNA PARK COUNCIL
General Meeting Minutes
www.gspc.org
November 15, 2016



General Meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the Month, except in November of election years when they are held on the 3rd Tuesday.

President Maureen Carr York called the Greater Severna Park Council General Meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Secretary's Report (Holly Slack)

Motion to approve the minutes made by Art Timmons. Motion unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report (Steve Poland)

Checks cleared for \$300

Interest in \$39.43

President's Report (Maureen Carr York)

Solomon's Ridge rejoined organization totaling 54 paid member communities.

Bellevue Estates, Hollywood, North Severna Park, Sullivan's retreat paid last year but not this year.

Guest Speakers

Gwen Kenealy, Executive Director of Severna Park Community Center

Larry Sells, Board of Directors, Severna Park Community Center

Gwen Kenealy is currently a member of Round Bay and has been in the Executive Director of Severna Park Community Center for 3 months. She is excited about the new things coming, and how the center can be hosting up to 30 groups at once. Larry Sells said Holy Grounds has been refurbished to hold weddings. Therapy pools are available in addition to the long-running SPY swimming. There is a brand new fitness center where people can work out for about \$18 a month.

Questions and Answers

1. *Were there issues about funding? (Brad Myers, GSPC Vice-President)*

This is a non-profit community center and there would need to be \$650,000 on hand if the pool breaks. They already got a bond and grant for \$100k and are looking to get a match from the county. They self-fund and have never asked state for money. The Annual Friends campaign and Gala is also approaching.

2. *Do you need to have a large outlay to use facilities? (Maureen Carr York, GSPC President)*

Everything is a la carte and very competitively priced.

Linda Curry question:

3. *What does the \$18/month while your kids are here advertisement mean? (Linda Curry, Severna Forest)*

While kids are at the center, you can drop them off to go to dance class, then go work out yourself for just \$18/month.

Chamber of Commerce Report (Dylan Roche)

The Annual Taste and Sip of Severna Park at Homestead Gardens is tomorrow from 6-9pm. Tickets are still available: \$35 for chamber member, \$40 for non-members, or \$50 at door. The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting is on Friday December 2. It starts at 5pm and then moves to Park Plaza at 6pm.

Planning and Zoning (Art Timmons)

- Art put together instructions on how to get Watch List because these bills are being passed within a week. If you can get this information, then you can read the bill yourself. Councilman Peroutka noted the Peroutka Town Hall website can also be used to access the same information. Click on “Citizens Tool Kit” and it links to county site. It would give you the quickest agenda in terms of how you have to act. If you have any questions, call Councilman Peroutka’s aide Phil at his office.
- Bill 82-16: AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – General Development Plan for Anne Arundel County - Rural Conservation Line County Executive Steven Schuh introduced this bill that intends to define parts of county as rural in nature so that no less than 50% of Anne Arundel County stays rural. By designating where there will not be developments, it opens up even more intense development for areas targeted as high density growth, particularly Severna Park. Environmental Committee Co-Chair Paul Spadaro noted that this will affect every community on the Greater Severna Park Council. Michael Peroutka will keep us informed and said not all the county councilman are on board with this. Everyone likes the idea of keeping Anne Arundel County rural in principle, but Severna Park should not get more than its fair share. People did not move here for high density growth. The policy is etched in stone and will be very difficult to turn around. A Councilman has to do it. Cattail Creek Caucus will work with the Board on developing a written opposition.
- 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 within 175 feet and HOAs by mail and post signs for a minimum of 14 days prior to the public hearing. This is similar to Community Meeting notices without holding the meeting. Public reaction may cause a meeting. This is Councilman Trumbauer’s bill. His position was based on last minute amendments made from colleagues. Amy Leahy noticed that the 175 ft requirement is far too small and thinks it would be premature to make a motion since they do not look at comprehensive rezoning until 2020. Lisa Bender said requiring anyone to notify is a good part of the bill. Changes are occurring at the last minute and they are tacking stuff on that nobody knows about. Magothy River Association would have fought Harris teeter, but it slipped by them because the notification range is way too small. Amy asked Councilman Peroutka if he would amend the Bill. A neighboring community association should be flagged. Could we put in that GSPC and Arnold Preservation be notified in addition to 175 feet. Amy Leahy noted that this puts onus on property owner; right now it’s on developer.
- The Preservation Oriented Bill
- Planning and Zoning hoped to introduce new Cluster Development Bill to the County Council on November 7, 2016, but it never got introduced. The new Bill has been renamed Preservation Oriented Development. This will be the result of 20 months work by OPZ, GAN, and MBIA. At least 6 people from GSPC were present for the introduction, but it did not occur on November 7. They will watch for it on November 21. The Cattail Commons site meets every criteria for this program. A similar use was even suggested, and turned down because the County Executive has designated the Severna Park Area for high growth. Sabrina Park, Phase 3 meets all but one. It would preserve 7 acres of existing forest, not 10, and would contain one or two homes on the 8-acre property. This could have ended 2 current Board of Appeals Hearings, if Severna Park was not targeted for high density growth by the County Executive.

- Cattail Commons: The first Board of Appeals Hearing for this project is scheduled for Wed. Nov 30, 2016 3:30pm - 5:30pm Council Chambers - Arundel Center 1st hearing
These are appeals of decisions granting sketch plan approval and modification approval for specimen tree removal, steep slopes and buffer disturbance, wetland and buffer disturbance, stream buffer disturbance, road design and Landscape Manual, for property known as 430 Ritchie Hwy./11.38 acres known as Cattail Commons, Severna Park. (continued to 12/6/16, 12/7/16). Additional dates for Cattail Commons Board of Appeals Hearings are Tuesday, December 6, 2016 6:30pm - 8:30pm Council Chambers - Arundel Center 2nd hearing and Wednesday, December 7, 2016 3:30pm - 5:30pm Council Chambers - Arundel Center 3rd hearing
- Sabrina Park, Phase 3: This project has 5 Board of Appeals Hearings down and 6 more to go, beginning with December 14, 2016 from 3:30 to 5:30 at the Council Chambers. It then jumps to February 21, 2017 and then 4 hearings in March of 2017. Wed. Dec 14, 2016 3:30pm - 5:30pm Council Chambers at the Arundel Center is the 7th hearing. These are appeals of decisions granting sketch plan approval and modification approvals for road section/frontage improvements and forest conservation, on property known as 400 Idlepark Rd./7.89 acres known as Sabrina Park, Phase 3, Severna Park. (continued from 9/20/16)
- One Eighty Holdings LLC. The Administrative Hearing concerning a new Assisted Living Facility at 134 Ritchie Hwy was attended by about 15 or so residents and interested parties along with about 8 or 10 presenters. The applicant presented evidence to show that the planned facility met the requirements of the code for a special exception use of this R-2 property. Some concerns were expressed about the size and height of the building, the lack of a buffer between the site and several neighboring homes, and concerns about some flooding in the area when the new Hospice was built. The Administrative Officer will review the evidence presented and announce his decision within 30 days.
- The Severn Acres 6 lots becoming 16 lots: One of the two modifications was approved. The other is still pending.
- Marsh Landing at 412 Asbury Drive: No application yet. Berrywood plans to oppose.
- Robinson's Reserve: Modifications are still pending.
- 30 Wishing Rock Road. This is a Koch Homes project that wants to rezone a 12.84-acre wooded R-1 site to R-15. The site is surrounded by commercial and R-10 properties. Planning and Zoning wants to wait for the GDP Comprehensive Rezoning in a couple of years. GSPC Board supports that position.

Nominating Committee (John Norville)

*John Norville moved that previous Members Jack Mason and Charlie Miller be approved by the Greater Severna Park Council delegates for the GSPC 2016 Nominating committee. **Motion passed unanimously.** He issued the 2nd Call for Candidates for the 2017 Slate for the Dec. 13 Annual Election. There were no volunteers.*

Airport Noise Committee (Linda Curry)

FAA had a meeting October 21 for neighboring communities. Handed out ear plugs that said "Is this BWI's Noise Abatement Plan???" which had more information on the back about how to get involved—especially by signing the petition <http://www.tinyurl.com/AQuieterBWI/> or <http://www.change.org/p/faa-reduce-bwi-noise>
email: gspcairportnoisecomm@gmail.com

Maureen requested “Call to Action” with 3 points. The committee will send a draft letter to Maureen to send to everyone so they can also sign petition. Elected officials did not realize this was such a citizen issue.

Education Committee (Brad Myers)

Nothing to report.

Environmental Committee (Paul Spadaro and Lisa Bender)

They are still working with yellow perch. There is an opportunity to work with aquacultural group who are giving them yellow perch to put back into the river. Volunteers have pulled out oyster spat and will be looking to see if oysters reproduced. They have also attached living history videos to existing water trail videos. The State of the Magothy event will be held in February at AACC on a Friday, and are currently finishing up the research. This month they are also working with AACC to change some requirements for students to get scholarships: there is a \$1,000 scholarship and \$500 scholarship. There is a meeting this Thursday from 7-9pm at Annapolis Friends Meeting House on Fracking.

Police/Community Relations (Cindi Mitchell)

Although crime is going down in the area, remember to lock your cars. There are 78 new officers in the district. Police have now set up “transaction safe places” where people can meet out in the front parking lot of any district or headquarters station if they are concerned they may be purchasing something that is stolen. They will dispatch an officer to check out whatever buying. The next meeting is tomorrow night at 7:30, where they will be presenting a mini “Not my Child” at Eastern District.

Cattail Creek Caucus (Cindi Mitchell)

Bill 82-16 is particularly alarming. This legislation will solidify Severna Park as a high density growth area. They were under the impression they use open space money to purchase the Cattail Commons, but since the area is already designated as high development growth area, they will not allow the purchase even though it is a protected habitat. The highest priority for preservation and now it seems the County Executive is willing to sell away to state for high growth. On the flip side of the bill, if a South County farmer has a 20 acre farm and wants to develop into 10 one acre lots, they could lose development rights with this bill and watch their property value will tank. They asked if an amendment could be made, but a Councilman has to put in an amendment to the Bill. Councilman Peroutka said that if they develop the language, he will take a look at it. Cattail Caucus will work on the amendment, send it to the GSPC Board, and copy Councilman Peroutka.

Public Works Committee (Erin O’Neill)

Dan Nataf and Erin O’Neill are meeting with the Senior Engineer and the Acting Director to evaluate public works concerns in the Severna Park area.

ASPIRE Report (Maureen Carr York)

The Annual dinner is in February. They try to honor 8 community leaders who step up and organize or encourage others. If there is someone you would like to honor, write 3-4 short paragraphs about person and why their leadership efforts are important. The Heritage awards will be given at the same event, which are akin to a lifetime achievement award.

SPHS Demolition Committee (George Foote and Carol Boudman)

Senator Reilly and Councilman Peroutka are now helping with the effort to save the 3 trees scheduled to be destroyed at the High School to make way for the stadium. The plans indicate destroying them is

unnecessary and would not affect the stadium. There is no official announcement yet regarding seismic monitor replacement. Phase 2 has not officially begun yet. Linda Curry mentioned the High School will now have backup generators to use for emergency services, such as orders to evacuate have to be willing to cloth and feed.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Motion: The Greater Severna Park Council supports the published purpose of Bill 73-16 which would require written mail and signage notification similar to that of a Community Meeting Notices to neighboring property owners and community associations for any property planning a change in zoning as part of the General Development Plan, but request the notification requirement be extended past 175 feet. We further suggest that if issues are raised to Planning and Zoning by those notified, a Community Meeting or hearing should be required to discuss and resolve the issues raised.

One opposed, all others approved. **Motion passed.**

Next meeting dates:

12/13/16 7:30 General Meeting

11/22/16 7:15 Board of Directors

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Holly Slack.