



**GREATER SEVERNA PARK COUNCIL**  
**Meeting**  
**Severna Park Library**  
**August 14, 2012**  
**Minutes**



Go to: [www.GSPCouncil.Org](http://www.GSPCouncil.Org)

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Steve Poland and welcomed attendees.

**Adoption of Secretary’s Report:** Mr. Poland motioned for approval of the July 10, 2012 Minutes distributed to the full membership by email since no comments or corrections were received. Motion to approve the Secretary’s Report was unanimously approved as submitted and filed for the record.

**Adoption of Treasurer’s Report:** President Poland submitted the following Treasurer’s Report dated July 10, 2012.

**Account balances (as of July 31, 2012)**

BB&T checking	= \$ 7,125.16
SmithBarney money market	= \$ 841.76
SmithBarney CDs (4)	= \$25,000.00

**Beautification Trust Fund**

(closed 10/2011)

**Account activity in July 2012**

**BB&T**

Dues deposited	= \$ 0.00
Checks cleared--2193	= \$ (25.77)
Service Charge	= \$ (2.00)

**Smith Barney**

Money Market	= \$ 0.00
Interest	= \$ 0.00

**CDs**

--matured	= \$
--purchased	= \$ (5,000.00)

**Bank Annapolis (Beautification Trust Fund)**

(closed 10/11)

**Member Update (as of August 14, 2012)**

- 52 Communities are in “Good Standing” – paid 2012 dues
- 6 Communities are no longer eligible to vote in 2012 since dues are unpaid to date: Chartwood, Evergreen, Fair Oaks, Jennings Road, Sheffield Park, and Williams Woods
- Former member Communities: Arundel Plaza, Berrywood Ridge, East Earleigh Heights, Jones CA, McKinsey Park, McKinsey Woods, Severn Heights

President Poland will contact the unpaid communities to encourage them to pay their dues for 2012. Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as submitted was unanimously approved and filed for the record for audit purposes.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** President Poland introduced Tom Lerario, Executive Director of the Greater Severna Park Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Lerario provided the following overview of the Chamber of Commerce mission, benefits of Chamber membership, and upcoming events:

**Greater Severna Park Chamber of Commerce Mission:** To Support and Promote Greater Severna Park Business in Harmony with the Community. Begun in 1957, the Chamber acts as an active advocate for business in the Greater Severna Park area, and is a voice for business and a resource center to the Greater Severna Park business owners. As a proactive business organization, the Chamber seeks to build a healthy business climate, increase the quality of life for all residents and provide community members. There are 600 members in the Chamber including entrepreneurial, home-based and non-profits; and just about every church in Severna Park is a member.

Members of the Greater Severna Park Chamber of Commerce are committed to:

- Being fair in our business practices,
- Being neighborly;
- Supporting the community to the best of our ability;
- Being here for you.

**Activities and Events Sponsored and Hosted by the Chamber:** Ribbon-cuttings, luncheons, golf tournaments, awards and networking opportunities are among the activities offered to members who provide services to residents.

The Chamber hosts many events throughout the year for the community, including the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony held each December, along with the Independence Day parade celebrating the Fourth of July, and sponsors beautification programs for the community and seasonal clean-ups. At the annual meeting gives rewards for beautification of Severna Park neighborhoods.

**Cooperation with Anne Arundel County Police:** The Chamber has a community relations program which operates in cooperation with AA County police which is set up to alert businesses to suspicious activities, vandalism, criminal activities. The Chamber has representatives in all the commercial areas of the Severna Park area.

**Professional Recognition:** The Chamber is involved with the Small Business Administration (SBA). The Severna Park businesses have been recognized by the State quite a bit. SBA awarded 8 Severna Park businesses in 2012.

**Shop Local** is a new - and exciting – initiative of the Greater Severna Park Chamber of Commerce with 44 businesses participating. The Mission Statement is "to encourage local people to support local businesses and strengthen our community."

There will be quarterly drawings where residents can register at the participating businesses for a great prize. The drawing will be for a prize package totalling \$1,000.00 (\$500 in cash and \$500 in gift cards). The winner also gets to select a charity from the Chamber's list of charities to benefit with a great donation from the participating Shop Local businesses. Saturday, August 25th will be our next 5% Giveback Day!

For a **Registration Form** with details on the program contact the Chamber - 410-647-3900 or go to the Shop Local website [http://www.severnaparkchamber.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=63](http://www.severnaparkchamber.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=63) for details and a list of "Shop Local Businesses.

### **Benefits of Chamber Membership:**

- Member-to-Member discounts
- Incredible networking opportunities: Members can advertise items in the Chamber newsletter for something they may be doing for a sale or something special, and can also write an article about their business or something that they think may interest the business community.
- Community visibility through the Chamber's 15,000 copy Business & Community Guide
- Free seminars and information opportunities for business owners and their employees
- Legislative voice on the local and state level: When the general assembly is in session the Chamber's Legislative Committee has delegates and senators come into the Chamber on a weekly basis and talk about the Bills and what they do like or not like, and what the Chamber likes or doesn't like. From time to time the Chamber's Committee will vote on whether to support or not support the Bills if they feel the Bills are not in the best interests of Severna Park businesses and residents. The Chamber sends letters, communicates, and conducts a lot of meeting greets with representatives in the Severna Park Area or in Annapolis. It is a great opportunity for business members to meet and see the legislators in their place of business.
- Ribbon cuttings and visibility for new businesses: The ribbon cutting events are published in the Voice and the Chamber just sponsored the newly opened A.C. Moore on Ritchie Highway. The Chamber sponsors about two or three of these events a month.
- Sponsorship opportunities: Brings business recognition to bring people into the Severna Park Area businesses.
- Active involvement in the Community: Responsible for making and keeping the "Welcome to the Community Signs" updated and renovated. The signs have all been redone and all the medallions for the service organizations have been redone and look fantastic.

**Business and Community Guide:** The Guide is published every year and all Chamber members are listed. It is delivered to every residence and business in the Greater Severna Park Area. You can also browse the Guide online at <http://www.severnaparkguide.com/blog/>.

**Chamber Upcoming Events and Activities:** Upcoming August-September events include:

- September 24: Golf Tournament – Chartwell Golf and Country Club
- Monthly Calendars and full details for all upcoming events, including meetings, luncheons, ribbon cutting events to welcome new members, and event registration information is available on the Chamber’s website at <http://www.severnaparkchamber.com/>.

**Chamber Contact Information:**

Linda Zahn, CEO

1 Holly Avenue, Severna Park, MD 21146

Email: [info@severnaparkchamber.com](mailto:info@severnaparkchamber.com)

Phone: 410-647-3900

Fax: 410-647-3999

To register for Severna Park Chamber email updates go to: [info@severnaparkchamber.com](mailto:info@severnaparkchamber.com)

**Public Works Committee – Dan Nataf, Director Emeritus:** Mr. Nataf was absent and provided the following information to President Poland to present to delegates:

1. Jumpers' Hole has finished being paved, and the yellow stripes have been painted but the white stripes and edge markers have not. Will confirm with the County Office of Traffic Engineering on the status.
2. There is a plan to prevent left-turns out of Chick-Fil-A near the intersection of Jumpers' Hole and Ritchie Hwy by the placement of cones. This has apparently been a big problem with numerous requests for changes.
3. Speed humps will be installed on Riggs Avenue in the coming months.
4. A cross walk at Truck House Rd. and Benfield Blvd. has been repainted.
5. Repainting of the lanes and arrows at Whites Rd/Ritchie Hwy intersection; at last look nothing had been done, and the County Office of Traffic Engineering said they will look into it again. A status update will be reported at next meeting.

**Traffic Light and Crosswalk at Shipley’s Choice intersection on Benfield Blvd. and Governor Stone Parkway:** Ann DeMajistre, Ben Oaks delegate, advised that the traffic light at this intersection does not work properly for the crosswalk. The traffic light button does not work, and there is not sufficient time for bikers and walkers to cross the intersection onto Governor Stone Parkway. Also, there is no painted crosswalk at the intersection which needs to be painted. President Poland noted that he would ensure this issue is discussed with the County’s Traffic Engineering Office and update delegates at the September 11<sup>th</sup> GSPC General Meeting on the action to be taken.

**Education Committee – Brad Myers, Director:** Mr. Myers noted that school starts August 27<sup>th</sup>, and advised that sports teams are underway. Try-outs at the Severna Park High School started last Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, and the soccer teams made cuts tonight.

In response to a delegate’s question regarding the new kindergarten wing being installed at Severna Park Elementary that has taken over the play ground, Mr. Myers noted that although he didn’t see the exact plans for the project, it is his understanding there will be a relocation since they had to use the space, and are also going to redo the front access entrance to fix the problem that have always been there with in/out traffic flow problems. It is possible that they may not have included it as part of the project, but that is unlikely. When they do the renovations what isn’t well known is that they do a lot of other upgrades, such as technology upgrades. For example, when Oakfield Elementary got its walls installed, it wasn’t just the installation of the walls, they also got a lot of technology upgrades just like a new school.

**Environmental Committee Report: Submitted by Ann Jackson & Ed Krause, Watershed Stewards.** Ann Jackson was absent and submitted the following report for the record. Copies of the report were available for delegates at the entry table:

**Severn River Association - [www.severnriver.org](http://www.severnriver.org)**

**SRA Monthly Meeting 7 PM Tues 21 August 2012**, featuring a presentation by Mary Owens entitled “Making the Connection – From Backyard to Bay”. The talk will highlight things that residents in the Severn River Watershed can do to help the river and the bay.

Mary Owens is DNR’s Education and Conservation Coordinator for Maryland’s Critical Area Commission.

Free and open to all interested in Severn River Watershed issues. Meeting will be held at [Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center, 975 Indian Landing Rd, Millersville, MD 21108](#).

**CELEBRATE THE SEVERN**

The Baldwin Family and the Severn Riverkeeper invite you to join them aboard the Catherine Marie to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Severn Riverkeeper Program on a “Cruise down the Severn” at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 30. Tickets are \$125/person (\$105 tax deductible), \$200/couple (\$160 tax deductible). For more info call the office at 410-849-8540.

**Watershed Stewards Academy**

It is not too late to apply to the Watershed Steward Academy! WSA trains and supports community leaders called Master Watershed Stewards to help their communities reduce pollution and restore their waterways. If you are interested in being certified as a Master Watershed Steward, please attend one of several informational meetings this summer (August 21, 27 or September 5th) to learn more about the program. All informational sessions will be held at Arlington Echo Outdoor Education Center from 6:30-7:30 pm. Applications will be accepted through early September 12, 2012. The Certification Course is composed of approximately 13 sessions from October 2012-March 2013. Additional information including course dates and downloadable application is available on the WSA website: [www.aawsa.org](http://www.aawsa.org).

**Police-Community Relations Report:** Julie Krause – Chair, advised that things are quiet since no reports or meetings are held during the summer by the County Police Department.

**GSPC Zoning/Legislation Agenda and Actions:** Al Johnston, Vice President for Public Affairs, was absent, and submitted the following report which was presented by John Norville. Mr. Norville noted that Roy Higgs who has been working closely with Mr. Johnston on zoning was unable to attend since he was at a meeting. Copies of the report were available for delegates at the entry table.

**Fifteen Charter Amendments-November Ballot Item:** Mr. Norville advised there actually may be 20 or more Charter Amendments on the November Ballot instead of the fifteen. Currently waiting for more details pending explanation document in preparation which is to be issued within 30 days of the hearing held on August 9<sup>th</sup>, and recommended that residents study up and be prepared to vote. Three Amendment issues everyone has heard about and will hear more about are: (1) rezoning of the districts, (2) Dream Act-tuition for illegal immigrants, and (3) same sex marriage. All three are referendum controversial, and at the GSPC General Meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>, Susan O’Brien will give a brief overview of State Wide Ballot and Voting Issues, and Patric Enright, Charter Review Commission Member, will give a briefing on the Commission Amendments.

Mr. Norville also noted that a lot of the Amendments are routine, and some are by the Commission and others by the Council. One that he thinks is important is changing the Executive Line Item Veto. At present the model is similar to the U.S. government in which Congress can pass and the President can veto, and then go back and the super majority can then override the veto and pass the legislation. On that model, our Charter states right now the Council can pass a bill, and the Executive can Veto that Bill, and if it goes back to the Council, originally could pass 4 to 3, but if it goes back to the Council requires a 5-2 vote and could still pass, so the Amendment is on that model and you saw that in action considerably in the Comprehensive Rezoning on individual zoning which was controversial. As he understands it, the Charter Amendment would eliminate the ability of the County Executive to have any Line Item veto except during the 10-year Comprehensive Rezoning so presumably, as he understands it a 4 to 3 vote would make law.

**Hamilton Marina Properties, Inc:** Mr. Johnston and Mr. Higgs have spent a great amount of time on this related to Lower Magothy Beach, and are currently waiting for the Decision by the Administrative Hearing Officer in reference to the Hamilton Marina Properties, Inc, noted below, which is to be issued within 30 days of the hearing held on August 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Pre-submission-Watson’s Glen Phase II-Veteran’s Highway:** Involves a 58 townhome subdivision on Brightview Drive, Millersville, approximately 1,000 feet from intersection on Veterans Highway at Shipley’s Retreat. According to Mr. Johnston this has been in the works for some time and is in the General Development Plan.

Pre-submission–Watson’s Glen Phase II-Veteran’s Highway – Continued: President Poland noted that The Shipley’s Retreat community is meeting tonight in advance of the presubmission meeting on August 28 at the Shipley’s Elementary School. Shipley’s Retreat is also trying to get rezoned for Shipley’s Elementary School and Severna Park Schools.

**GSPC Speaker Confirmation in September and October:** Mr. Poland noted the following speakers are confirmed:

**September 11:** (1) County Fire Department Deputy Chief John Scholz, (2) Environment and Watershed Stewards Briefing, Ann Jackson, GSPC Director

**October 9:** (1) State Wide Ballot and Voting Issues – Susan O’Brien, GSPC, and (2) Charter Review Commission, Patric S. Enright, Commission Member

**GSPC Zoning/Legislation Agenda 8-14-12, Boldface=Your Attention, Regular Typeface= Information/follow.**

**Legislation, Planning, Zoning and Capital Projects:**

**Homestead Tax Credit,** recent re-assessment requires re-application by the end of this calendar year. Inquires at Maryland Department of Assessments & Taxation, 410 974-5709 or go to the State database at [http://sdatcert3.resiusa.org/rp\\_rewrite/](http://sdatcert3.resiusa.org/rp_rewrite/) and type in your address. At the bottom of the page, look at the field that says Homestead Application Status to see if you are approved.

**Fifteen Charter Amendments--November Ballot.** Understand a pending explanation document in preparation.

**Bill 15-12 Zoning-Open Space,** Signed by County Executive. Planning & Zoning Director, Larry Tom, presented his concept to GAN Leaders 5-16-12. 354 Parcels, 7 undeveloped. Proposed overlay technique. Reviewed at GAN meeting 5-17-12. **Bill 69-12, Zoning-Other Zoning Districts, introduced 8-6-12(Larry Tom Bill)** Hearing 8-20-12.

**Administrative Hearing Officer, Board of Appeals, MDE, Corps of Engineers, Complaints:**

**Webpage for AHO:** <http://www.aacounty.org/AdminHear/Calendar.cfm>, **Webpage for Board of Appeals:**

<http://www.aacounty.org/BdofAppeals/Calendar.cfm>

**2012-0139-R Hamilton Marina Properties, Inc., 8-9-12 11:00AM,** 368 North Drive, Rezoning from R5 to MA2 (Lower Magothy Beach) Board Resolution approved to appear. Roy Higgs, Ted Connell-Lower Magothy Beach President & Al Johnston testified. Administrative Hearing Officer has 30 days to render a Decision. Ted and Roy introduced documents that seriously raised questions as to the validity of the Application

**2012-0149-V J. Burns,** 8-21-12 10:00AM, 14 Cedar Point Rd, Critical Area impervious surface, addition setback, (Linstead)

**Board of Appeals Deliberations,** 7-26-12, 5:30PM (BA29 & 30-V) **M. Horn & R. Hubbard) Decision pending.**

**BA 32-12V R. Powell,** 8-14-12 6:30PM (2011-0303-V) 149 Boone Trail, pier & moorings setback (Linstead)

**BA 35-12V G. Elder,** 8-16-12 5:30PM, 208 Birch Ct, additions porch, garage, setbacks, steep slopes (W. Severna Park)

**Circuit Court Cases (Clerk of Court 222-1431) Court of Special Appeals Cases,** Clerk 410 260-1450, **Court of Appeals,** Clerk 410-260-1500

**Case 02C11162546 (BA 3-07V & 4-07V) D. Clickner,** Board granted variances. Appealed by Magothy River Association & Chesapeake Bay Foundation. 3-7-12 Decision in favor of Clicker, Appealed to Court of Special Appeals by MRA & CBF.

**Case 02C11164569 Harwood Civic Assn. et al v. Anne Arundel County,** Declaratory Judgment (Requirement that zoning changes conform to the GDP, Spot Zoning) 9-18-12 Hearing

**Case 02C11165665 Pamela Buckenmaier, et al v. Key School, et al,** Declaratory Judgment (Violation of Covenants) 7-24-12 Dismissed, with permission to amend. CAPITAL 7-28-12, permission to amend not mentioned.

**Pre-submission Meetings, Subdivisions, (www.aacounty.org/LandUse/CalendarCommMtg.cfm)**

**Watson's Glen, Phase II** Posted: 8/8/2012, Shipley's Choice Elementary School, Media Center 8-28-12, 6:00PM, Proposed subdivision of approximately 58 townhomes. Sketch Plan, 621 Brightview Dr, Millersville, MD 21108, Approximately 1,000 feet from intersection of Veterans Highway (Shipley’s Retreat)

**Late update:**

1. Shipley’s Retreat is meeting tonight Aug. 14).
2. A printed notice of the Pre-Submission Meeting has been issued.  
Al Johnston 410 647-1380, [j202gspc@verizon.net](mailto:j202gspc@verizon.net)

**Dick Ladd, Councilman – Update of Legislation and Activities:** Councilman Ladd provided the following overview and update:

1. **Stormwater Run-off Fee:** He had dinner with Jerry Pesterfield, and they are working on a group of people to figure out how they are going to implement the stormwater run-off fee which has to be in place July 1<sup>st</sup> of the coming year to provide the funding structure for the mandate of the State. Ron Bowen's discussion on stormwater run-off which is the County's largest project.

2. **Meeting with new County Police Chief:** Yesterday he met with the new Police Chief, and was very encouraged by the steps the Police Chief is taking to listen to the rank and file officers and to address some of the personnel issues they have had including:

- Select Sergeants from within
- Redo entire selection process
- Fill all Lieutenant and Sergeant positions from within
- Open classes into Police Academy – starting two classes in September-October to include 32 students in each class
- Determine why losing people and what it takes to be a police officer
- 60 vacancies in Police Department
- Burning people out of the 911 operators, and are 14 people short in all and people are working overtime. The article in The Capital tonight on the Chief is very good and he will be a good leader.

3. **Allocation of Extra Teachers – Got /8 new teachers:** Folger McKinsey in Severna Park and Windsor Farm in Broadneck got new Teachers.

4. **Sports Season Implemented:** Implemented new guidelines for exercising in heat and how much exercise you give to athletes in the heat.

5. **Charter Revisions:** Very important and will put out an explanation of all the Charter Resolutions that are on the Ballot, and the pros and cons on the Internet. Will be released on the Internet as we get closer to the election.

There are five that are particularly important:

- Ability to remove from office the County Executive before all legal appeals to his conviction have been completed
- Inserted similar provision for County Council which gives us a much clearer basis for removal of people
- How to go about filling the vacancy for the County Council. It mirrors the process for the County Executive
- Line Item Veto – a lot of issues need to be worked on because it is very important
- Provision for funding retiree health benefits – Absent a few administrative changes the liability for health benefits that have been promised to our employees are something on the order of \$1.2 billion. There is a similar \$1.2 billion bill for the school board.

What this provision will allow the County to do is open an account into which we put funds in a “lock box.” Ultimately when we get the funding stream cleaner and dedicated it would be a trust fund of the same sort and function for retiree pensions, and are in the process of making the health benefits program more efficient. All the savings that can be accrued will go to fund the current retirement health obligations. One of the things that is happening today is that when County employees retire and have reached the age of 65, they go into Medicare. We have been providing them a Medicare wrap policy that goes around it, and the cost for that is about \$6,000 for the employee and \$6,000 for the spouse. Because of the things in movement today we have found that there are commercial products that will do the same thing for half the cost. We are finding several other kinds of things of that size and are hopeful in negotiations with the Unions that will start in December and go forward that we will be able to negotiate changes in cost shares. We have been working on this for some time and the Unions have been involved with the Committee working on this issue and are not necessarily opposed but want it resolved as part of the negotiation process. There is a fairly wide consensus that we need to do something about this even in the Unions.

6. **Stormwater Run-off Funding:** Working very hard on this issue as mandated by State law.

7. **Changes to County's Process for County Being Sued:** Councilman Jamie Benoit and Jerry Walker talked about changing the County's process for paying court settlements for County employees or County risk when sued. The County is being sued for some of the things County Executive Leopold has been accused. The bills for this are non-trivial and it gets paid out of a particular fund. Their argument is, and he agrees with their argument, that the Council has the final fiscal authority and should have some say on approval and whether we are aware of it and thinks it is fair. He noted that the Council should have some say since it puts the County in a difficult position by making a decision without being part of the trial is a problem and needs to be worked out.

## Councilman Ladd's Overview and Update – Continued:

### Questions from delegates:

August Break: John Norville asked Mr. Ladd if the August break of Council should be allowed. Mr. Ladd noted that he thinks it is one of the things that we may. If there is very little going on, he sees no reason not to do that. The Council has to be the judge of it, and from his point of view there are some staff that put in a lot of hours and if they know it is a good time and things are going slowly, it is an enabling thing and he is in favor of the change.

How well is the County Retirement Program Funded: Mr. Ladd noted in response to a delegate's question, that the County retirement pension coverage is at 80% funded and funded very well. The State investment fund returned less than 1% last year. The source is John Hammond who is on the Board of Trustee's and we are returning 6-7%. There is a lot of discussion occurring should we be going for defined benefits and defined contributions and when do we do that. The consensus is the biggest exposure right now is on the retiree health care and we need to work to get that resolved and put in place. Hopefully that will get done within the next 4-5 months. The process will be started during the contract negotiations and, if they get approval on the ballot, will put in place. They have established an expanded Committee this week amongst the County to work on the long term issue of employee and retiree health care. They have 4 entities participating in this process including the County, the Library, Board of Education, and Community College, and they have to get each into this process to get closure on policy. They have 13 Unions to negotiate with, and he thinks they have good agreement in the direction to go in.

Teacher's Pension Fund Responsibilities: In response to a question whether we have responsibility to run the program or just make a payment into the fund, Mr. Ladd noted that the County has a responsibility to make payments into the State fund. The Bill for this year is \$11.5 million, and pay an additional \$5 million in fiscal year 2014, and 3<sup>rd</sup> year our contribution will be \$22.5 million. In fiscal year 2016 is another \$22 million and thereafter that pension payment becomes a matter of maintenance of effort funding. What that means is that amount will be increased each year by inflation plus as the head count of schools goes up, and creates some concern in the fiscal community.

Slots, Income Tax and Sales Tax Funds: Mr. Ladd noted that going into next year's budget the County will have a little more slots funding. This year the County got \$15 million on slots and a little more money on income tax and sales tax, and the turnover on real estate was down and looks like it is leveling. It looks like the County will see another increase in revenues in the County, maybe another \$40-\$50 million, and an additional \$5 million will go to senior pensions.

Pay Compression: Mr. Ladd noted that the other thing that has to be worked on is pay compression. People in the mid-ranks at the Fire and Police Departments will not take promotions because they actually take a pay cut if they get a promotion. They are working to resolve it and find out how much the Bill will be for that.

Stormwater Run-Off Funding: Mr. Ladd noted that he doesn't know how this will be funded except for some residents of the County it will be a painful occurrence, but for most residents of Severna Park it will be marginal.

Gambling Parlors and Tax Rates: In response to a question, Mr. Ladd noted that he hasn't heard any final decisions about the gambling parlors. It was noted that the tax rates for the slot parlor owner's in Arundel Mills and other slot parlors is decreasing.

Open Space: Mr. Ladd noted that many residents in the Severna Park and Arnold areas are interested in how we are dealing with open space. He noted that they went through a Bill to allow certain aspects of open space for active recreation and they are continuing to work on it.

**Old/Unfinished Business:** No report.

### **New Business: Wooden Nickel Park Comes to Kinder Farm Park – Saturday, September 8, 2012**

Wooden Nickel Park will hold its first fundraising event on Saturday, September 8, 2012 at Kinder Farm Park. Events will kick-off with a 1K Fun Run followed by a Kid Fest. The 1K will start at 9:00 AM and registration at 8:00 AM, the Fest will run till Noon. The funds will be used to construct the first Wooden Nickel Park at Kinder Farm Park.

Every child under the age of 12 who crosses the finish line will receive a wooden nickel. The first male and female grandparents that cross the finish line will also receive awards. Immediately following the 1K Fun Run, the Kid Fest will begin. There will be games, face painting, limbo log, frog toss, other fun games of chance and skill, and a hayride. The goal is to have fun.

***Join in the fun! Register on line for the 1K Fun Run and Kid Fest at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com). Adults are \$10.00 and children under 12 are \$5.00. Entrance Fees can also be paid at the Kid Fest gateway.*** 7

**Next GSPC Meeting Dates:**

- Board of Directors Meeting: **Wednesday, August 22, 2012 – 7:30 pm – Severna Park Library**
- General Meeting: **Tuesday, September 11, 2012 – 7:30 pm – Severna Park Library**  
**Speakers:** (1) County Fire Department Deputy Chief John Scholz  
(2) Environment and Watershed Stewards Briefing – Director Ann Jackson, GSPC, and Environmental Watershed Stewards

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Very respectfully submitted:



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Kathleen J. Michels, GSPC Secretary – August 20, 2012