

Glenmont Exchange, Inc.
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Minutes of the January 27, 2014 meeting

Attendees: Dorinda Danneman, Peg Beck, David Shaw, Michael Gregory, Cynthia Borys, Celeste Wisner, Mike Burrows, Oriole Saah, Larry Campbell, Ajima Olaghère, MJ Jardenah, Tony Fracasso, Steve Hines, Ed Dodson, John Bogasky, Sam & Betty Sharper, Pete Jervey.

The minutes were approved.

The Treasury balance is \$365.00, reflecting dues from 5 individual members, 3 association members and 1 business member.

An announcement is expected soon from Nancy Navarro's office about Plaza del Mercado. The owner plans to redevelop the entire center. A fitness group and a new grocery store, possibly Aldi's is expected.

Dorinda Danneman reported on Lyme Disease and Deer.

Lyme disease is now considered endemic in Maryland. The CDC believes it is under-reported. It is often misdiagnosed. Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, and is transmitted by black-legged ticks, formerly called deer ticks. The black-legged tick is a tiny tick, and in its nymph stage is no larger than the head of a pin. Tick avoidance includes excluding deer, avoiding woody and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter, wearing light colors and tucking pants into socks. Inspect for ticks when coming indoors. If a tick has attached to a person or animal, remove with fine tipped tweezers, grabbing as close to skin as possible, clean site with soap and water. There is considerable debate about the correct diagnosis and treatment for Lyme disease. Some believe the disease can become chronic if treatment is delayed or not sufficiently aggressive.

Deer Management in Montgomery County is mostly conducted Up-County in the rural areas. In the lower county, it is conducted by Park Police sharpshooters in various park units between October and February. Sharpshooting operations take place at night, 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Signs are posted in each park when operations are taking place. Deer overpopulation is probably the number one threat to farming in the county. It is now accepted that reducing deer numbers will not control the spread of Lyme disease. Lyme disease has spread from the upper Eastern Shore in the late 1990's, along the Piedmont, until now it is well established in the entire state.

SHA is still planning to begin work at Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road in the beginning of March. It is still dependent on the relocation of the Fire Station to the former Wheaton Rescue Squad building in Wheaton. The fire station was to move January 1st, the move has been delayed to February 11th. SHA has let the contract to tear down the two empty gas stations.

The Zoning Code Rewrite has progressed to a straw vote in the County Council. The final vote is planned for February. The intent was to simplify and reduce the number of exceptions and special rules.

The Vitro site zoning process is continuing. At a recent community meeting the consensus was to question why it was taking so long to make the change. Aspen Hill seems supportive of Wal-Mart on this site, an improvement over an empty site.

Ajima Olaghère suggests inviting candidates in the next election to our meeting, to describe what they want to see happen in Wheaton, Aspen Hill, Glenmont and Colesville areas. David Shaw will contact other local leaders with this idea.

The construction of the connection of Tivoli Lake Boulevard between the section in Tivoli and the section in Poplar Run was discussed. Timing of construction will be based on the build out of Poplar Run and construction of a traffic signal at Layhill Road and Indian Springs Drive.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on February 24, 2014.