

Glenmont Exchange, Inc.
GlenmontExchange.org

Minutes of the February 22, 2016 meeting

The January 2016 meeting was cancelled due to snow.

Attendees: Josh Goodman, Ernie Benjamin, Dorinda Danneman, Rich Burnes, Arquilla Ridgell, Larry Maffi, Pete Jervey, David Shaw, Loy Jones, Daniel Wengko, Bob Schoenberg, Stu Carlow, Ian Rothman.

The availability of college scholarships for District 19 High School seniors was announced. One scholarship is available from Senator Manno's office, others are available from District 19 delegates.

The agenda was amended to move the guest speaker, Daniel Wengko, to the top of the agenda. The amended agenda was approved. The minutes were approved.

Daniel Wengko, SHA Project Engineer for the Georgia Avenue/Randolph Road Interchange updated us on the construction. This intersection is one of the most traveled intersections in the state of Maryland.

The project began in April 2014; it is now in Phase 2. The contract value is about \$35M. They have had some delays and setbacks, but are on pace to be done by December 2016.

Single lane closures are approved between 9am and 3 pm. A contractor was fined recently because lanes were closed after 3pm. Other lane closures are for unplanned problems like hitting utilities unexpectedly. Notifications of unplanned lane closures cannot be made outside the work zone. Daniel will look into sending out Alert Montgomery Notices for unplanned lane closures.

The new Firehouse will have flashing yellow and red signaling. There will be an entrance from Randolph Road for firehouse personnel vehicles.

Randolph Road traffic will be separated, with through traffic passing beneath Georgia Avenue. Georgia Avenue will be signaled one quarter of the time for turns to/from Randolph Road.

The next phase of construction will shift southbound Georgia traffic to the new section of bridge. Local access to Judson Road will open in the next phase.

SHA works hard to mark the pavement and install signage to help motorists navigate the area safely and keep workers safe. Today they tested the reflectivity of the pavement markings to be sure they are still working.

The Capital One Bank building is for sale. Daniel would have liked to have had that space available when doing the engineering for the project.

There will still be a light at Randolph Road and Glenmont Circle. All lanes will be stopped at Glenmont Circle. Lights in the area will be re-timed after construction is complete. Speed limits will be determined by traffic flow and pedestrian traffic after construction is completed.

The Exchange thanked Daniel Wengko for his report.

Treasurers Report – No changes. \$435 membership revenue last year, \$25 expenses.

Glenmont Exchange membership is on a calendar year basis. Time for renewal. There have been delays in obtaining a Post Office Box, please pay at a meeting.

New or coming to Wheaton Plaza: Olive Garden, Bar Louie, AMC Movies, Tilted Kilt.

Plaza del Mercado – the old Giant building has been knocked down and hauled away. Framing for the new Aldi's and LA Fitness should be up in the next few months, followed by a renovation of the rest of the center. Completion date should be end of 2016/beginning 2017.

The bridge construction for Tivoli Lake Boulevard between Tivoli and Poplar Run has been completed and the road is open. Poplar Run is seeking a bus route thru the neighborhoods. They met with Montgomery County Transportation. MC will produce a study/plan for bus service thru Poplar Run and Tivoli, which would start out on a test basis to determine ridership levels. DeAnna Archie and Will Kenlaw are the MC Transportation contacts.

Tivoli has issues with speed on Tivoli Lake Boulevard and would like traffic controls similar to the roundabouts in Poplar Run to slow traffic.

The County Council recently adopted a zoning law change: No mixed use stores with pharmacies in excess of 65,000 square feet (excluding membership stores).
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/Resources/Files/agenda/cm/2016/160201/20160201_PHED1.pdf

Walmart has recently begun closing its smaller stores.

Aldi is changing its strategy and increasing Organic foods to compete with Whole Foods.

Glenmont MetroCentre – Utility work has held up Winchester construction by 5 months, construction will probably start summer 2016. Site plan for Phase 2 has been approved. Phase 3 – Waiting to sign an anchor tenant, then planning will begin to create an amenity.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on Monday, March 28, 2016

Minutes submitted by Dorinda Danneman, Secretary.