

Glenmont Exchange, Inc.
GlenmontExchange.org
Minutes of the February 23, 2015 meeting

Attendees: Ernie Benjamin, Steve Hines, Josh Goodman, Stu Carlow, Dorinda Danneman, David Shaw, Ian Rothman, Pete Jervey.

The Agenda was approved. The Minutes were approved.

Treasurers report was not available. The previous balance was \$467.50. Some dues have been received (a third business has joined) and there were no expenses.

Report from Planning and Zoning committee:

New traffic lights will be installed at Layhill and Norvale Road. At the entrance to Poplar Run on Layhill Road a new signal and a turn lane will be funded by the developer. The bridge between Tivoli and Poplar Run may be constructed this year.

There will be a meeting soon about the possible improvements to Norbeck Road, (Route 28 and Route 198) to Burtonsville.

There are no further updates on the status of LA Fitness moving to Plaza del Mercado.

Permanent housing for segments of the homeless population – research says small unit housing helps get the segment that needs help to get “back on their feet” back into society more quickly and with less expense. It also houses the “permanent sector” better and provides services more cost effectively. Some cities that have had success are growing more quickly and have less established communities, allowing resident buy-in more easily.

Homeless people were living along 16th Street in Silver Spring in an open field, and were only discovered when the trees were cut back. Ideas for housing them include conversion of an old warehouse or hotel.

It is important to preserve the low cost housing that exists currently in our area.

A group in Aspen Hill, Save English Manor is now named Save Blair Ewing. The school bus lot issue is still open. The school board proposes to move the Blair Ewing school to English Manor in Aspen Hill, and use the spot for a school bus parking lot.

<http://www.saveblairewing.org/>

~~Gum Springs—an old area of Sandy Spring where there are properties without addresses.~~

Glenmont Shopping Center – original section built in the 1950’s. Some of the owners have no interest in redevelopment. Redevelopment would be good for all in the area, including Privacy World, which could be competition.

Potholes are a road maintenance issue, which can be reported to the county by calling 311 or on the Internet at:

<https://www3.montgomerycountymd.gov/311/Services.aspx?SolutionId=-1>

Potholes on State Highways can be reported by calling Maryland State Highway at 301.513.7300, or on the Internet at:

http://marylandsha.force.com/customercare/request_for_service

Dorinda Danneman spoke on sharing information. Funding for public projects should be monitored. The Georgia Avenue BRT Citizens Committee should consider sources of funds and expected revenues, among other things. [The Georgia Avenue BRT has been cancelled.

http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/RTS/Resources/Files/MD97BRT_Study_Status.pdf]

An Information Coordinator was suggested, to sort thru member submissions. David Shaw will serve temporarily as Information Coordinator.

Stu Carlow attended a County Council meeting where testimony was mainly against Wal-Mart type zoning. Zoning should be for grocery store type business. Some local retailers testified. They are happy to have Kohl's. Four council members may be against rezoning that would allow big box redevelopment. Both existing shopping centers in Aspen Hill are doing well. Wal-Mart development would likely result in need for redevelopment of the kmart site.

Belmont in Glenmont has closed. They still have two other stores.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on Monday, March 23, 2015

Minutes submitted by Dorinda Danneman, Secretary.