

Glenmont Exchange, Inc.
GlenmontExchange.org

Minutes of the May19, 2014 meeting

Attendees: David Shaw, John Bogaski, Rich Burnes, Ian Rothman, Larry Campbell, Ajima Olaghery, M J Jardaneh, Dorinda Danneman, Kim Persaud, Steve Hines, Adam Fogel, Ken Silverman.

The Minutes and Agenda were approved. No treasurer's Report was presented. Amendment to Treasurer's Report – additional income of \$10.00. Treasury Balance is \$516.50.

Current officers have agreed to serve another term. Nominations remain open.

David Shaw presented a vision for the future of a community organization for our area for discussion. Budget expenses could include communications, committee expenses, attorney fees, director's insurance, newsletters, meetings with area associations, brochures.

Civic associations are a logical place for citizens to present proposals for improving their communities.

Models our association could draw upon: Greater Olney Civic Association, Mid County Citizen's Advisory Board. Both organizations have effective ways of representing citizen views to the Council. Associations correspond with council members, council representatives attend some meetings. What should we expect from our Council members over the next four years?

The original purpose of the Glenmont Exchange was to encourage meetings between area groups/residents. The Exchange could sponsor an open house at the new fire station to increase community awareness.

The Georgia Avenue/Randolph Road improvement project is beginning and will extend over the next three years. The seven phases are listed on the website: <http://glenmontexchange.org/News/GaRandolphPhases.htm>. Brett Deane, SHA, will be having a public meeting soon. John Bogasky has plans on his group's website.

Vitro site rezoning is proceeding. The first Aspen Hill Community meeting was unanimous in supporting zoning change to Retail. Councilwoman Navarro voted to proceed with Master Plan Amendment. May be Mixed use or Wal-Mart. Rezoning request goes from Planning Department to Planning Board, Council approves zoning, then Planning Board approves site plan.

Adam Fogel, Nancy Navarro's aide, reported:

Council had straw vote on \$5B FY 15 operating budget and 2015-2020 Capital Improvements Plan. <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OMB/FY15/psprec/index.html>

Schools are fully funded, \$2.3B.

District 4 projects include: Learning Afterschool program, Transportation - Resurfacing, crosswalks, sidewalks; Safety Net - energy and food assistance.

\$144M for Wheaton Core redevelopment including a Town Center and 12 story buildings for the Park and Planning Commission and Residences.

\$68M for Wheaton Library and Recreation Center, the first combination Library and Rec Center in the county.

\$3.5M for Colesville Road Façade Improvement: 5 strip malls on Colesville Road to get new lighting, sidewalks and other improvements.

The former KFC on Georgia Avenue was damaged by a Ride-On bus running into the front of it. The building has been condemned and will be demolished. It will be put out for potential development. Per Charlie Scott, at WMATA, the trash will be removed from the area.

Federal Realty is planning to renovate Plaza del Mercado, improving landscaping and adding a new gym and grocery store. A zoning text amendment is required for the size of the gym. Councilwoman Navarro has introduced the ZTA, which is hoped to pass this summer. Engineering is moving ahead, they have a 5 year old site plan for expanding the former Giant. After amending the old site plan, renovations may begin this fall. The furniture company is on a month to month lease until the old Giant building is demolished.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on Monday, July 28, 2014.