

Minutes of the May 22, 2017 meeting

Attendees: Josh Goodman, Stu Carlow, Ernie Benjamin, John Bogasky, Dorinda Danneman, David Shaw, Roger Manno, Ian Rothman, Katie Mullin, Ira Unger, Rich Burnes, Ken Nelson, Debra Liverpool, Bettie & Sam Sharper, Cheryl Santiago, Tony Fracasso, Sandra Benjamin.

The Agenda was approved. The Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Membership revenue is above projections due to new members. The fee for the PO Box was paid. It's taken 5 years to go thru the starter checks; there is only one left. Budget amendments to spend \$39 for checks and \$18 for room rental at Glenallan Elementary school were approved.

Discussion of local issues:

Noise and other complaints at a local AirBnB, the county has issued a cease and desist order.

Intersection of Norbeck Road and Wintergate – right turn lane configuration was changed when bike lane was created. Now when slowing to enter right turn lane, traffic will cross bike lane and pass you on the right.

Layhill Road between Georgia Avenue and Glenallan Avenue – pedestrians are crossing between the intersections.

The Strathmore-Bel Pre sign, on SHA land was smashed by a tree. A claim was filed with SHA, the letter received in response stated that if they did not get back to you in 6 months they don't owe any money.

Public Hearing on MD 28/198study on June 19th at Blake High School.

<http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/WebProjectLifeCycle/ProjectInformation.aspx?projectno=AW0681115>

Roger Manno spoke about the recent legislative session. One-third of his job is in Annapolis, working with other legislators to accomplish their goals, and two-thirds of his job is community outreach, case work and problem solving. He is on the Budget and Taxation Committee, and the subcommittee on Health and Human Services. He is the Chair of the Spending Affordability Committee and of the Spending Affordability Committee.

Legislation passed this year was brought by community groups, etc. There is a grant program to deal with hate crime and vandalism. If you are the victim of a crime, after notifying the police please let Roger know, for assistance with the process.

This year they addressed over-testing in the schools; there were over 200 tests over 12 years. Standardized testing sets back ESOL and disadvantaged kids. Vocational classes have been crowded out of the curriculum.

Interfaced with SHA, etc. to repave roads, cut trees, restripe roads, and fix sight lines.

Involved in land use issues – Smart Growth. Assisted in getting redevelopment of Privacy World. Goal is to build population around infrastructure, i.e. Metro. Privacy World/Glenmont MetroCentre – 12% of units built will be affordable housing. What happens for the people between the MPDU price point and the full price point?

Future goal is redevelopment of Glenmont Shopping Center. It took 9 years to get the Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road Interchange to the construction phase. A 260 acre area around the Metro station was designated as a Blighted Enterprise zone. Businesses in the Enterprise zone get preferential tax treatment for 10 years. One issue with Glenmont Shopping Center is the number of owners. Another issue is the loitering and panhandlers, who are very aggressive. There used to be a police unit that addressed that. Glenmont is next in the queue after Wheaton for

attention from County redevelopment. Staples is closing 3 locations in Montgomery County, the one in Montgomery Hills has already closed.

Senator Manno has worked to resolve some residents' problems with E-Z Pass bills. Check your statements; there could be a \$50 fine on an unpaid \$0.50 toll. Tolls are collected at each Toll Plaza; you can accrue fines for each individual Toll Plaza you pass. An E-Z Pass must be replaced every so often because the batteries expire. If the vehicle is leased, the bills may be sent to the lease owner, not the lease holder. If using prepay by credit card, problems can arise if expiration date is not updated, or if there is a Fraud Alert. He went to Baltimore to a Toll Authority meeting to plead the case for reduced fines. Some people have received over \$10K in fines and have had to declare bankruptcy. There are 340K people in collections because of tolls and fines. The Central Collections unit gets a commission on every fine they collect. Legislation to correct the problem was not passed. The Department of Transportation sells bond to pay for roads and bridges. Fines help to pay the bonds. Traffic on ICC is reported to be at forecasted levels. Traffic is higher than last year.

Ira Unger spoke on behalf of Delegate Bonnie Cullison's office. Bonnie is the chair of the Insurance subcommittee, and member of the Health subcommittee. Studying problems with Affordable Care Act users, Attorney General to look out for State residents. If the Federal Government pulls the money, the state cannot replace all of it. Planned Parenthood will be guaranteed funding of \$3M. Heroin/opioid epidemic - \$3M funding for schools program, public education, crisis hotline, treatment, overdose protocols.

Responsibility for school health centers moved to the health department. School breakfast program expanded.

Pharmacies are now legally able to substitute generics without a specific doctor's order.

Potential for congressional redistricting.

Public Integrity Act.

Farm based breweries are allowed on-site consumption of beer.

Complete fracking ban in Maryland.

Oyster sanctuaries established.

25% increase in renewable energy in 2020. Reduce carbon emission to ½ million cars worth.

Governor vetoed earned sick leave act, 5 days for companies of over 15 employees. Planned to over-ride.

Next year's priorities:

Bills that did not pass this year.

Dental Care for low income residents.

Discrimination in public accommodation.

Montgomery County Delegation has several forums before each legislative session.

Nominations are solicited for Officers of the Glenmont Exchange. Elections for President, First and Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will take place at the June meeting.

Tony Fracasso is the Nominations chair. Please forward your nominations to Tony.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on Monday, June 26, 2017

Minutes submitted by Dorinda Danneman, Secretary.