

LUXMANOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the General Meeting October 21, 2009 at the Luxmanor Elementary School

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by President, Della Stolsworth. She announced that we would begin the program with presentations from 3 guest speakers, and then conduct the business part of our meeting.

Presentation on H1N1 Flu

Della Stolsworth introduced Rita Smith, Director of Infection Control at Suburban Hospital, who gave an informative presentation about the history of influenza epidemics, the way H1N1 is spread, strategies for limiting its spread and treating it. She stressed frequent hand washing, covering ones mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing, staying home when sick, cleaning common-use surfaces with a disinfectant daily, and keeping our hands away from our faces. She provided handouts titled "Fight the Flu" and "Stay at Home Toolkit for Influenza".

Police Report

John Beamer, LCA Safety Chair, introduced Lt. Michael Price, Deputy Commander of the 2nd District, Montgomery County Police, who noted that our community is not alone in experiencing a rash of car break-ins. The police have been working hard on this, have arrested some people, and believe they are close to further arrests. In response to questions, he recommended locking cars, leaving nothing of value in sight, and reporting any suspicious activity to the police at once. He distributed pens with the police phone numbers and urged us to carry them, and use those numbers.

Bike Lanes on Tilden Lane

Bill King, LCA Traffic Chair, introduced Tracy Rowe from the Montgomery County Department of Public Works and Transportation, who distributed a handout showing how Tilden Lane will be re-striped from Old Georgetown Road to Old Stage Road to have a bike lane on each side, car lanes in the center, and parking only on the north side. Also, the curb in front of Luxmanor School will be extended to take away the parking lane, in the section where parking (and stopping) is already prohibited. DPWT hopes to get the curb done this fall, and perhaps the re-striping as well; it will depend on progress with other jobs, and when winter weather arrives. There was discussion of the traffic problem created by the new traffic flow plan at Luxmanor which does keep the car pool line away from the bus loading area, but means that cars no longer exit where the crossing guard directs traffic, leading to substantial back-ups. Bill King asked those concerned about that problem to get him more information which he would then discuss with DPWT.

Budget Adoption

LCA Treasurer Judy Morenoff presented the budget for 2009-2010 and answered questions about it, with help from LCA Signs Chair Hilary Lavine, who described the signs and the locations for them. The motion to adopt the budget was approved.

Deer Stations

Della Stolsworth noted that a motion had been adopted at the Spring 2009 General Meeting authorizing the LCA Board to spend up to \$3500 between that time and the October General Meeting for deer stations to combat the ticks that cause Lyme Disease. She reported that those funds had not been spent because the process had been even more complicated than envisioned, but that we had submitted a lot of data about the incidence of Lyme Disease in our community and about deer stations to the County Council, and had received an encouraging response from Council Chair Phil Andrews. She asked for a motion to extend that authorization (adding to it the expenditure of funds for insurance) until the next General Meeting. Lynn Waters made that motion, and it was seconded and passed.

White Flint Sector Plan

LCA Planning & Development Chair (and Trustee) Paula Bienenfeld reported on the White Flint Sector Plan, noting that it currently proposes adding 28,000 jobs and 9,800 residential units to the White Flint area. In addition there are proposals to permit denser traffic in the area and more overcrowding in local schools. She thanked everyone who attended the October 20th Council hearing (or called, emailed, or wrote to the Council) and noted that Della Stolsworth was scheduled to testify for the LCA at the Council Hearing on October 22nd. The plan does recognize that an additional elementary school will eventually be needed, but recommends reopening Rocking Horse Elementary (not in the WJ cluster) and shifting some of the children now in the WJ cluster there to make room in the cluster for the new residents. She noted that the Board of Education opposes that recommendation and supports designating a location south of White Flint Mall for a new elementary school building. The White Flint Sector Plan includes a redesign of Rockville Pike to include bus rapid transit lanes, but puts the implementation of this redesign into the 3rd phase of the redevelopment; we (and the developers) are urging that it occur sooner. In response to questions about what the LCA has done about our concerns, Paula noted that we've been an active participant in the White Flint Community Coalition, have met extensively with the planning board staff and with Council members; she urged all with concerns to let the Council know about them, and especially our District 1 Council member, Roger Berliner. Steve Miller stated his belief that we'd be more powerful if we incorporated. Marilyn Greggs (daughter of Donald Lerch, Huntover Lane) suggested an online petition, said she'd be willing to help. Another issue before the Council is the financing for the plan; County Executive Leggett has expressed concerns about that.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.