



# Civic Federation News

*Official Publication of the Montgomery County Civic Federation  
Serving the Public Interest Since 1925*

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WWW.MONTGOMERYCIVIC.ORG

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## "Talking Trash" - Our February Program

by Wayne Goldstein, First Vice President

Few changes in county policy have caused as much controversy recently as the decision by the M-NC/PPC to institute a "Carry-In, Carry-Out" policy, removing trash cans from all county parks and asking park users to remove any trash they create. Instead, this seems to have become a "Carry-In, Leave-Behind" policy in a number of instances, as people place trash where the cans used to be or stash it under bushes or along perimeters where it is torn apart by rats, raccoons and crows and blown throughout the park. After many complaints, some cans were returned to parks near streams to help keep the trash from polluting them. You will read elsewhere in this issue about how one dedicated member of Indian Springs CA is bringing together communities to speak with one voice about their concerns about park trash.

MCCF has invited representatives of M-NC/PPC's Parks Department to come to our February Regular

Meeting to explain how and why they came to institute this policy, how it's working out in various parts of the county, and lessons learned so far. We hope to have representatives from other area parks departments talk about their policy on trash to provide further background and perspective. We encourage you to come to listen, to ask questions, and to share your experiences with the new trash policy in your favorite parks and to express your opinions on what, if any, changes need to be made. See you Monday, February 14th at 7:45 pm for this provocative program.

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## Coalition to Return Trash Cans to Our Parks

By Jennifer Chambers, Indian Spring Citizens Association

In December 2003, M-NCPPC implemented the Carry-in, Carry-out policy and removed trash cans from all county parks, the subject of the February Program. The County Council has asked M-NCPPC to review the Carry-in, Carry-out policy by the end of February 2005. M-NCPPC will accept written, public comments on the policy.

A coalition of concerned individuals has organized a campaign to advocate for the return of trash cans to county parks. We have assembled an information packet to assist citizens' associations and individuals to publicize their views on the Carry-in, Carry-out policy. The actions include: signing a citizen association's petition letter, writing e-mails to county officials, disseminating a neighborhood petition, writing letters to the editor, and taking pictures of littered parks. Please contact Jennifer Chambers with the Indian Spring Citizens Association at jpckjkkc1@starpower.net or

### Inside

President's Message .....	2
New Mixed-use Town Center Zone Proposed .....	3
Proposed Bylaws Amendments .....	3
Annual Awards Committee Announced .....	5
2005 Nominating Committee Announced .....	5
Status of Issues .....	6
2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on Mansionization Announced ...	6
Charter Review Commission to Hold Public Forum .....	7
Volunteers Needed .....	8
January 10, 2005 Regular Meeting Minutes .....	8
January 20, 2005 Executive Committee Minutes .....	9
Contacting MCCF Executive Committee .....	11

301-588-1716 to help or to receive a copy of this information packet.

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## **President's Message**

By Dan Wilhelm

Sometimes the County Council and other government organizations take actions which MCCF believes do not serve the best interests of the citizens of Montgomery County. We learned from Ballot Question C and other actions that we need to be larger, better organized and more effective in making our position heard. Several steps toward this goal are to increase the number of member organizations and to improve our communication with all our members and the public in general so that collectively we can better lobby our council.

Elsewhere in this newsletter (see page 3), you will see proposed bylaws amendments concerning our vice presidents (VPs). Currently we have a First VP, five District Vps and four Second Vps. Each District VP's responsibility is to represent the federation within their district by becoming familiar with the groups and their concerns and to provide support in membership drives. The districts are currently defined by councilmanic district boundaries. We have found these districts are too large for one person to effectively know all the groups and to periodically contact them. The bylaws change proposes to apply Question C to ourselves and create eight smaller districts. Since we need some kind of boundary, the proposal is to follow the eight state legislative district boundaries that exist within Montgomery County. Rather than add more VPs, the proposal also is to convert three of the Second VP positions to District VP positions. With this change, we will have a single Second VP position remaining. Because of the importance we are placing on membership, this remaining Second VP will chair the membership committee and coordinate membership campaigns with the eight District VPs.

When I was first VP, I took over the responsibility for maintaining our database of member organizations and their delegates in order to keep it more up-to-date and

improve email communications with our members. I feel this has helped improve the communications with you. I have found that some delegates are named by member organizations without their knowledge. I understand it is hard to get people to volunteer for any job, but I ask the presidents of member organizations to let people know they are being named as a MCCF delegate, let them know that the job is important and make sure they receive the Federation's Newsletter, and encourage them to attend our regular monthly meetings.

Shortly after becoming president, I took over the role of being the MCCF interface with The Sentinel Newspaper and coordinating the weekly MCCF article(s) published in the paper. I write some of the articles and I work with others to write or to use something they have already written. I think this has helped our outreach to members and non-members alike and to get the word out about MCCF views and the views of other organizations. The articles can be on issues on which MCCF has not taken a position. Copies of the Sentinel articles are available on our web site, but have not generally been circulated to members or placed in our newsletter. In order to improve communications, I will start circulating these articles via email. I would encourage delegates to further distribute these articles as well as our newsletter within their organizations. If your organization has an item you would like printed in the "Civic Federation Corner" of the Sentinel, please contact me at 301-384-2698 or [djwilhelm@erols.com](mailto:djwilhelm@erols.com).

In order to help the membership better understand issues important to you, we will start allocating time during each meeting for one or two associations to address the membership about issues affecting them. Please contact me ahead of the meeting so it can be scheduled. If possible, I would like to be contacted before the newsletter deadline (see instructions on the last page) so your issue can be placed on the agenda.

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## New Mixed-use Town Center Zone Proposed

By Jim Humphrey, District 1 Vice President

Last December 14, at the request of the Planning Board, the Council introduced Zoning Text Amendment (ZTA) 04-26, legislation to create a new "Mixed-Use Town Center" (MXTC) Zone category. The new zone will be used initially in the revision of the Olney Master Plan now pending in Council, with a recommendation to rezone ninety-some acres in the center of Olney to the new category. The MXTC Zone will permit mixed retail, commercial, and residential development to a height of 3 to 5 stories, with height limits set by the master plan. MXTC zoning could also be used for infill and redevelopment projects at other shopping center areas in the county on property now zoned in the commercial categories.

The MXTC Zone is the first in the county of a new "form-based" type of zoning which allows planners and developers greater flexibility in designing projects. Up until now, the county has used Euclidian zoning (named after a town in Ohio - not the mathematician), which employs text explanations to specify land use, height and density in each category. Form-based zoning requires design elements that are often explained by drawings. However, this new MXTC Zone proposed for the county zoning ordinance still uses text to describe design elements.

For example, in the new MXTC zone, the front facade of a building is referred to as the building wall, and it must be no further than 10 feet from the front property line in residential projects and must adjoin the sidewalk in retail projects. Residential density would be limited to a maximum 15 dwelling units per acre. Also, the new zone will require connections between commercial or housing areas and required parking, though it will allow fewer parking spaces than previous zoning in order to encourage foot traffic and transit usage.

The Planning Board held its hearing on ZTA 04-26 on January 13. The Council held its public hearing on the legislation on January 18. The next action will be a Council worksession on the ZTA by the Planning,

Housing and Economic Development Committee, now scheduled for February 7 at 9:15 a.m. in the 7th floor Council Hearing Room. To view the text of this ZTA or the MCCF testimony on it, visit the "Current Issues" webpage on the MCCF website, at [www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org).

At the time this newsletter went to press, the Planning Board had just scheduled a January 27 hearing to consider creation of another zone, the Transit-Oriented Mixed Use category.

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## Proposed Bylaws Amendments

by Peggy Dennis, Bylaws Committee Chair

The Bylaws Committee has continued going through the bylaws with a fine-toothed comb. It occurred to us that our own structure of elected officials (five District Vice President who are supposed to both represent their Councilmanic districts to the Civic Federation and work on membership campaigns, and four 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents with no clearly defined responsibilities ) mirrored that of the County Council and reflected the same problems and frustrations we were attempting to ameliorate on the Council with Question C. We are therefore making a somewhat radical proposal: to restructure ourselves in the same way we would want the Council to be restructured - have one 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President whose primary responsibility will be to Chair the Membership Committee and eight District Vice Presidents both representing their State legislative districts and promoting membership in the Civic Federation among the civic groups and homeowners associations within these districts. We believe these changes will help the MCCF grow bigger, better and become a more dynamic and effective group. Towards this end, we proposed the following changes: [new/added text in bold. Deleted text. *[explanations & justifications]*

### ARTICLE IV. OFFICIALS AND ORGANIZATION

1. *Board of Directors.* There shall be a Board of Directors comprised of the President, First Vice President, ~~four~~ Second Vice Presidents, the Recording Secretary, the

Corresponding Secretary, and the Treasurer. It shall have the duties and powers set forth in these bylaws and as may be imposed by state law. The Board of Directors shall meet at least annually. An Affirmative Vote shall be at least five votes, and shall be required for a Board action.

3. *Elected Officers.* Elected officers shall be a President, First Vice President, ~~four~~ Second Vice Presidents, one District Vice President from each of the ~~Councilmanic~~ **eight State Legislative** Districts, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE VII. DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

2. *First Vice President.* ~~It shall be the duty of~~ **The First Vice President shall be responsible for all programs presented at regular meetings and will** assist the President upon request in the discharge of all presidential duties. All duties of the President shall devolve upon the First Vice President if the President is absent or unable to act.

3. *Second Vice Presidents.* The Second Vice Presidents shall **serve as Chair of the Membership Committee.** ~~and perform such occasional or regular services needed by the Federation but are not the responsibility of another Federation officer. Such assignments may include chairing special committees or task associations, coordinating Standing Committees when they are concerned with the same issue, or representing the Federation on initiatives involving other community associations. Such assignments will be made by the Executive Committee or by the President with the advice of the Committee.~~

7. *District Vice Presidents.* The **eight** District Vice Presidents shall represent the Federation within their respective ~~Councilmanic~~ **State legislative** Districts. They shall endeavor to become familiar with all major residential areas, citizens groups, and areas of citizen concern within their Districts. They shall endeavor to ensure that the concerns of their districts are represented in Federation deliberations and positions, that Member associations are advised of issues and potential positions affecting them, and that government officials are

responsive to their Member associations. They shall **serve on the Membership Committee,** ~~provide support~~ participate in Membership Drives, publicize the Federation and its activities and events, and encourage attendance at meetings and events.

#### ARTICLE XVI. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

4. *Special Disbursements.* In emergencies the Executive Committee may authorize an expenditure up to ~~one hundred dollars~~ **5% of the current fiscal year's budget.** [*\$100 was set many years ago, has not been adjusted for inflation, and is too inflexible. 5% of the current budget gives greater scope for needed expenditures but is still a conservative, cautious amount.*] It may also authorize reasonable costs for the September Newsletter. Such expenditures shall be reported at the next Regular Meeting, and the budget adjusted accordingly.

6. *Annual Financial Audits.* The financial records of the Federation shall be audited annually **and whenever a new Treasurer takes over that position.** ~~by an Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall consist of three individuals, one of whom shall be a Second Vice President, The Auditor shall be~~ nominated by the President and confirmed by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer for the year **or period** being audited shall provide all records to the ~~Audit Committee Auditor~~ and provide such assistance as may be required. The ~~Audit Committee Auditor~~ shall submit a written report to the Executive Committee ~~which, upon approval of the report, shall authorize transfer of records and accounts to the new Treasurer.~~ [*It is virtually impossible to get three individuals to serve on an "audit committee". The function will be well, if not better, performed by one qualified person working closely with the Treasurer]*

These proposed amendments to the bylaws will be formally introduced and discussed at the Regular Meeting on February 14 and voted on at the Regular Meeting on March 14, 2005.

## Annual Awards Committee Announced

Following the call for volunteers, President Dan Wilhelm has announced and the Executive Committee has confirmed the following members to serve on the Awards Committee:

Charles Wolff, Committee Chair	301-585-9744	wolff99@starpower.net
Cary Lamari	301-924-2746	carylamari@yahoo.com
James Snee	301-924-6424	jim_snee@sra.com

This committee is already at work. Recipients of the awards will be determined at the March Executive Committee meeting, therefore the committee members would appreciate your suggestions and recommendations for award recipients as soon as possible. The awards are as follows:

- The Star Cup - sponsored by the Federation and to be awarded to a Delegate or Committee of the Federation for outstanding public service on behalf of Montgomery County.
- The Gazette Award - sponsored by the Montgomery Gazette newspaper and to be awarded to an individual or group for outstanding service to the people of Montgomery County.
- The Sentinel Award - sponsored by the Montgomery Sentinel newspaper and to be awarded to an individual or group for a significant contribution to good government at the local level.

Remember to mark your calendars for the 2005 Annual Awards Banquet on Friday, May 6, 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the very popular New Fortune Restaurant (back by popular demand!).

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## 2005 Nominating Committee Announced

Following the call for volunteers, the following members have agreed to serve on the 2005 Nominating Committee. The Committee will be elected at the February 14th Regular Meeting:

Dick Kauffunger, Committee Chair	301-871-1369	frankauffunger@hotmail.com
Chuck Lapinski	301-384-0392	clapinsk@mclean.mcri.com
George Sauer	301-762-7260	musicwilma@earthlink.net
Cary Lamari	301-924-2746	carylamari@yahoo.com
James Snee	301-924-6424	jim_snee@sra.com
Lee Shipman	301-229-2005	plannerlee@earthlink.net
Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	hotyakker@comcast.net

The Nominating Committee would appreciate your suggestions and recommendations for delegates to serve in our elected positions during 2005-2006. Assuming the proposed bylaws amendments are passed, we will be electing: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, 8 District Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.

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## Status of Issues

by Jim Humphrey, District 1 Vice President

### HOUSING COMMITTEE

- ZTA 04-10, to change regulations on accessory apartments. (MCCF opposes) Possible Council vote in February.
- Closing Cost Assistance Program and HOC briefing on decision-making process for specific projects. Council PHED Committee worksession on February 7 at 9:15 a.m.
- Bill 36-04, Discrimination in Housing amendments, Council HHS Committee worksession on February 14 at 2 p.m.
- Workforce Housing, Executive branch planning effort to create subsidized housing program for households above moderate income level. Legislation not yet introduced.

### PLANNING AND LAND USE COMMITTEE

- ZTA 04-26, to create Mixed-Use Town Center Zone. Council PHED Committee worksession on February 7 at 9:15 a.m.
- ZTA 03-27, Building Height Measurement. Possible Council vote in February.
- ZTA 04-16, to permanently eliminate traffic test for of rezoning property in Metro Station areas. (MCCF opposes). pending in Council.
- County Facility at Shady Grove, Executive branch and developers meeting to relocate components to Germantown, Shady Grove and Gaithersburg Vicinity master plan areas.
- Shady Grove Sector Plan revision, Council PHED Committee worksessions on January 31 and February 3, 14 and 28.
- Master Plans under revision, not yet approved, for Olney, Shady Grove, Damascus, Germantown, Gaithersburg Vicinity, Twinbrook, and Bethesda CBD.

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- Bill 32-04, Ambulance Transport Fee. (MCCF opposes) Council vote postponed until February
- Panhandling, public inebriation, Council PS and HHS Committees worksession February 10 at 2 p.m.

### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

- InterCounty Connector Environmental Impact Statement, Council T&E Committee worksession on February 17 at 9:30 a.m. and February 28 at 2 p.m.

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## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference on Mansionization Announced

by Wayne Goldstein, First Vice President

Last April, MCCF helped to sponsor, along with lead organizer Montgomery Preservation, Inc. (MPI) and others, the first ever, citizen-organized conference to inform people about the effects of “mansionization” on existing neighborhoods and to offer ways for them to have a meaningful voice in further impacts. MCCF will again join MPI in sponsoring the 2nd Annual Conference to be held Saturday, April 9th in Washington Grove. We have chosen the close-knit community of Washington Grove as our conference location because we feel that they know more about building and maintaining community than anyone else in Montgomery County. We believe that neighborhoods and their citizen associations can make better progress in resolving how to deal with the great challenge of mansionization if they become more aware of why their community is special and what about it is worth preserving.

Participants will spend the day enjoying the company and hospitality of many Washington Grove residents as they learn more about the accelerating pace of mansionization around the county, its impacts on stormwater runoff and on trees as well as the character of neighborhoods, and what can be done to control these impacts. We will end the conference with a guided tour of this uniquely beautiful historic town and with a reception given by town residents. Please plan on attending because I believe you will come away from this event with a greater awareness of what is at stake and a greater appreciation for what community means and how important it is to all of us. I'm also a delegate from Kensington Heights CA, a conference sponsor as well. For more information, contact me at 301-942-8079 or at [waynengoldstein@hotmail.com](mailto:waynengoldstein@hotmail.com).

## **Charter Review Commission to Hold Public Forum**

Thursday, February 17, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The Montgomery County Charter Review Commission will hold a public forum on Thursday, February 17 from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room at the Council Office Building in Rockville. The Commission is seeking comments from County residents about a variety of issues to determine if the current system of County Government adequately addresses the needs of the County.

Specifically, the Commission would like community input on the following issues: (1) whether the State Constitution should be amended to increase the number of signatures required to petition a County Charter amendment; (2) how the County's current budget process could be improved; and (3) whether residents have any other suggestions for achieving the goals sought by the three unsuccessful initiatives on last November's ballot. While general comments are welcomed, the Commission is seeking specific recommendations on each of these issues.

### **Number of Signatures Required to Petition a County Charter Amendment**

The Maryland Constitution, Article XI-A, Section 5, provides that amendments to county charters can be proposed, "by a petition signed by not less than 20 percent of registered voters of the county, provided, however, that in any case 10,000 signatures shall be sufficient to complete a petition." This provision has been in effect since 1915. At that time, virtually every county in Maryland had fewer than 10,000 registered voters. Today, 10,000 signatures represent two percent of the County's registered voters, and this percentage will continue to decrease as the County's population grows.

Meanwhile, Charter Section 114, Referendum, requires signatures of five percent of registered voters to petition to referendum legislation enacted by the Council. The County has approximately 517,000 registered voters. Therefore, legislative petitions would require 25,850

signatures, while Charter petitions require only 10,000 signatures. As a result, it is significantly easier to petition to change the Charter than to alter Council adopted legislation. The Commission is seeking input on the importance of this issue for County residents.

### **County Budget Process**

Article 3 of the Charter establishes the framework for the County's Capital and Operating Budgets. The Charter provides that the Council must hold public hearings on the proposed budgets and may add to, delete from, increase or decrease any appropriation item in the operating or capital budget. On the state level and in other counties, the legislature only has the power to reduce an executive's budget. The Commission is seeking comments on the effectiveness of the County's current budget process and would like specific recommendations on potential proposals to enhance the process.

### **Ballot Initiatives**

On the November 2 general election ballot, there were three initiatives petitioned by County residents. All were defeated, but a significant number of voters cast their ballots in favor of these proposals. The Commission is seeking input on how these proposals-changing the size and composition of the Council; placing term limits on the Executive and Councilmembers; and preventing the Council from overriding the tax cap-might be changed in the future.

### **Mission of the Charter Review Commission**

The Charter is the constitutional framework for County Government. Charter Section 509 provides for an eleven-member, bi-partisan Charter Review Commission to study the Charter. The Charter Review Commission must report to the Council in May 2006 with recommendations for possible Charter revisions. These recommendations may lead to proposed Charter amendments that are voted on by the electorate in November 2006. The current members of the Charter Review Commission are: Kenneth Muir, Chair, Barbara Smith Hawk, Vice Chair, Julie W. Davis, Mollie N.

Habermeier, Cheryl C. Kagan, Michael W. McKeehan, Javier Miyares, Sylvia Brown Olivetti, Randy Scritchfield, Robert M. Skelton, and Shelton Skolnick.

Those wishing to present their opinions on any of the issues listed above or who are interested in recommending additional issues for the Charter Review Commission to study should sign up to speak by contacting Carol Edwards at 240-777-7929 or via e-mail at [CharterReview.Commission@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:CharterReview.Commission@montgomerycountymd.gov). Written testimony may also be submitted via e-mail at the above address or mailed to the Charter Review Commission c/o Montgomery County Council, Stella Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

The Charter can be accessed on the web at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govtmpl.asp> or by calling 240-777-7900. Directions to the Council Office Building may also be obtained by calling this number. The Charter Review Commission web site is found at: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cshtml.asp?url=/content/council/charterreview.asp>.

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## Volunteers Needed

Colesville Meals on Wheels serves the needs of the homebound in the Woodmoor, Four Corners, Burnt Mills, White Oak, Colesville, Calverton and surrounding areas. We deliver meals 5 days a week from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30p.m. We do not deliver when schools are closed due to snow or on major holidays. Your commitment would only be 2 hours a week. For more information call Sarah Day at 301-384-5735.

Thank you for your help -- Susan Armstrong

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## January 10, 2005 Regular Meeting Minutes

By Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

MCCF President Dan Wilhelm calls the meeting to order at 7:49 pm. Introduces guests, State Delegates Jean Cryor and Anne Kaiser

Agenda is approved.

Minutes. Minutes from the December 13, 2004 meeting are accepted as printed in the January Newsletter.

Program. Overview of State Legislative Session for 2005. Jean Cryor, Delegate from District 15 (R) and President of the Woman's Caucus speaks about crisis with medical insurance premiums and malpractice suits. Bill just passed far from perfect, a "temporary fix". Higher Education bill puts a cap on tuition. Describes unhealthy party politics in Annapolis. Issues of teen-age driving and alcohol: Bill would raise the fine for providing alcohol to minors from \$500 to \$1000. Back-to-School Bill would relieve sales tax for purchases of school clothes up to \$100. Q: School construction funding \$100M from State? A: School Construction bonds would provide funds. Q: Services are fewer now than three years ago. A: Remember there are two budgets: Capital budget and Operating budget. The State is in better shape than it was 2.5 years ago. Q: Can the State stop the County proposals to close schools? A: No. Recommends working with the school board, and filing suit if necessary. Q: The State has to approve the disposal of school sites? A: Not really, as long as a replacement site is "educational". Q: Raise the gasoline tax? A: Not a chance, particularly with current gas prices. Q: Slots? A: Has become more complex. Will not support them unless the money goes toward education.

Delegate Anne Kaiser from District 14 (D) speaks. Three subcommittees in Montgomery County. Anne wants to know what the MCCF wants. A: delegates cite continuing concerns: voluntary public funding of campaigns; public disclosure of campaign financing; identify the employer of individuals who contribute to a campaign. Kaiser responds: supports increased disclosure. Q: The State should support the County's



own election campaign finance reform. Q: Ethics, sunshine, committee chairs; HB-73 Open Meetings Law. Q: Medical malpractice insurance? A: Does not support much tort reform. Caps are arbitrary. Q: What about bad doctors? Review committee afraid to judge doctors? A: Doctors may not turn in fellow doctors. Doctor database is not publicly available. Q: Real price of the ICC? Raise the State cap for funding? A: Will know more next week. Could impact future Garvey bonds. Kaiser believes we need more funding for Metro, small business relief; more time to file tax forms; close loopholes allowing big businesses to avoid deed recordation taxes. Takes a straw poll about slots and finds little support

Bylaws Amendments. Peggy Dennis. Proposed bylaw changes, dealing primarily with the Nominating Committee [printed in the January Newsletter]. Incumbent officers would now be permitted to serve on the Nominating Committee, except for the president and vice-president. Motion to consider changes piecemeal: passes 20-0-0. Reduce the size of the Nominating Committee (3 to 5 instead of 5 to 7). Some felt 5 were needed, and that any shortage was temporary. Some feel 3 to 5 is more responsive. Motion fails 9-12-1. The Nominating Committee to be chosen in February. Passes 20-0-2. Opening the Committee to more people, excluding only the president and vice-president. Allowing committee members to be nominated as officers. Passes 19-2-2. Time liberalization passes unanimously.

#### Announcements:

Public Safety Committee will meet with Phil Andrews later in February.

Treasurer. Luella Mast's report is on the back table. Bill 03-27 Raises building height; Definition of building height.

Mark Adelman asks for comments on his article in the Newsletter.

Ambulance fee of \$350: Vote by the County Council anticipated in February.

Dave Michaels. Greater Colesville Citizens Association. Asks MCCF support ban on soliciting money in public right-of-way (median strips, between lanes, etc).

Panhandlers, flower sellers, charitable groups, Fill-the-Boot, etc. are a public safety problem. Delegate Barkley has filed a bill to add Montgomery County to State law prohibiting such solicitations. Cary moves that this issue be referred to the Public Safety Committee. Seconded. Some feel this issue should be brought before the PSC before the general body votes. Dan reports that the Committee was already asked to look at this issue. An amendment was made to ask the PSC to expedite its work in time for the MCCF and the State legislative process. Amendment fails for lack of a second. Original motion passes, 14-6-4.

ZTA 04-26. Jim Humphrey. ZTA provides for new "mixed-town" use. "MXTC" to replace C-1, C-2, and other zones with mix of residential, office & commercial. "New urbanism." Form-based zoning with no text, but based on pictures. Five story limit, but not to exceed the height limits in master plans. Minimum 10% public use setback. Setbacks are not explicitly required. Developers would have free reign. Jim moves that the MCCF support that a specific height limit be stated. Five seconds. Some feel specific standards are necessary. Motion is made to support specific height limits, setbacks, and one other requirement. Motion passes with one abstention.

Meeting conduct. Arnie Gordon. Expresses dismay about the way MCCF meetings are conducted. Moves that a program on Roberts Rules of order be presented. Five seconds. Passes 15-3-2.

Adjournment. 10:05 PM

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## January 20, 2005 Executive Committee Minutes

by Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:52 pm. with 10 in attendance: Wilhelm, Snee, Humphrey, Mast, Wolff, Zierdt, Schofield, Goldstein, Dennis and guest, Jennifer Chambers from the Indian Springs Civic Association

Minutes from Dec 16, 2004 meeting approved.

Treasurer's Reports distributed. Luella notes a drop in membership. Discusses the Spring Annual Awards Reception. Some suggest it be a fundraiser. Some suggest that Elected Officials be invited as guests, others feeling they should pay for tickets. Luella Mast moves that for the May 5th, 2005 Awards dinner, the MCCF charge everyone to attend except for those receiving an award. Seconded. Motion passes 6-2-0.

Programs: February. County's program to "Carry-in/Carry-out Trash in the parks. Carolyn Wainwright (MC Parks) may attend. (Invasive species might be another topic.) Peggy Dennis, Wayne Goldstein will coordinate. Ms. Chambers will write an article for the Newsletter regarding the current trash policy.

March. Budget in general, perhaps School operating budget in particular. What about rising property values/taxes?

April/May/June: several possibilities: Mansionization and loss of Tree Canopy. Campaign financing and election reforms. Roberts Rule of Order and behavior at meetings.

Bylaw Amendments: Peggy Dennis distributes proposed changes, particularly changing three (out of four) second vice-presidents to District Vice Presidents, thus having eight district vice-president corresponding to the eight State legislative districts. Peggy moves proposed changes be recommended to the delegates. Seconded. Motion passes, 9-0-0. A change in the amount of money the ExComm may appropriate for emergencies (from \$100 to 5% of current operating budget) is proposed along with changes to requirements for Financial Audits. Jim moves approval of these bylaws changes. Seconded. Passes 9-0-0.

Committees. Dan nominates three persons for the Awards Committee: Charles Wolff, Cary Lamari, James Snee. Approved. Dan then nominates Dick Kauffunger, Chuck Lapinski, George Sauer, Cary Lamari, Lee Shipman, and Peggy Dennis to serve on the Nominating Committee. Approved, 7-1-0.

Housing. Shady Grove Master plan has gone to the PHED committee.

Education. Mark Aldeman is testifying before the School Board.

Legislation. County Council may soon vote on the \$350 ambulance fee.

Planning and Land Use. ZTA to form a Mixed-Use Town Center, or MXTC. PHED committee will consider it. Discussion ensues. Complicated and flexible land-use laws make it harder for citizens to understand, and easier but more costly for developers to get approval for commercial projects.

Factoid: 240-777-7999 is the 24-hour County Council comment line. The only thing taken from these calls (by County Council staff) is yea or nea on the issue a caller raises.

Other business. Wayne Goldstein. Historic preservation holding 2nd Annual Mansionization Conference on Saturday, April 9, 9 am - 3 pm with tour and reception. Washington Grove Town Hall. MCCF co-sponsored this event last year. Stormwater run-off often problematic in mansionization projects.

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## Executive Committee

Position	Name	Home Phone	Office Phone	Email
		<b>Elected</b>		
President	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698	703-883-6847	djwilhelm@erols.com
1st Vice-Pres.	Wayne Goldstein	301-942-8079		waynmgoldstein@yahoo.com
2nd Vice-Pres.	Mark Adelman	301-942-6893	301-295-3208	adelman3@erols.com
2nd Vice-Pres.	John Warnock	301-656-9164		xnock@erols.com
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Public Relations	<i>Vacant</i>			
		<b>Standing Committees</b>		
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Transportation	<i>Vacant</i>			
		<b>Special Committees</b>		
Bylaws	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	same	hotyakker@comcast.net
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Historical Preservation	Wayne Goldstein	301-942-8079		waynmgoldstein@yahoo.com

## Regular Meeting

Monday, February 14, 2005  
7:45 3rd Floor Auditorium  
County Council Office Building,  
Rockville, MD

### Agenda

7:45 Call to Order  
7:47 Introduction and Announcements  
7:55 Adoption of Business Meeting Agenda  
7:58 Approval of Minutes and Treasurer's Report  
8:00 Program  
9:00 Committee Reports  
9:10 Member Issues  
9:15 Agenda Items form Program, Newsletter, and  
Executive Committee  
    Approval of Nominating Committee  
    Proposed Bylaws Amendment  
    Endorse CIP testimony to MCPS  
9:35 Old Business  
    MC 502-05 Highway Soliciting  
9:45 New Business  
10:00 Adjourn

The **Montgomery County Civic Federation** is a county-wide nonprofit educational and advocacy organization. It was founded in 1925 to serve the public interest. Its regular monthly meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Monday of each month (except for holidays, July, August and December) at 7:45 p.m. in the First Floor Auditorium, County Office Building, Rockville, MD.

The **Civic Federation News** is published monthly. It is mailed to Delegates; associate members; news media, and local, state, and federal officials. Permission is granted to reprint any article provided proper credit is given to the "**Civic Federation News of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.**"

Submit contributions for the next issue by: **Midnight, Sunday February 27**. Prepare submission as an MS Word, Word Perfect or text-only document, **attach** it to e-mail, and send it to [hotyakker@comcast.net](mailto:hotyakker@comcast.net). Please send all address corrections to Dan Wilhelm, 904 Cannon Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, 301-384-2698, or [djwilhelm@erols.com](mailto:djwilhelm@erols.com).

## NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, February 24, 7:45 p.m.

**RED BRICK COURTHOUSE**

29 Courthouse Square, Rockville

(Note: there is free parking in front of the courthouse.)

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

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