



Civic Federation News

November 2009

Serving the Public Interest since 1925

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November Program: Maryland's Public Service Commission: By Chuck Lapinski, Public Utilities Chair

Our program on Monday, November 9 will be on Maryland's Public Service Commission (PSC). Our guest speaker will be Mr. Gregory Carmean, Executive Director for the PSC. In this capacity Mr. Carmean establishes operating policies, allocates PSC's limited resources, and ensures that the processes, products and services run smoothly in support of the PSC commissioners. We will learn what the PSC does; how it does it; what its legal and political limitations are; and what our role as citizens and ratepayers is or should be in its deliberations and processes? We should ask if the PSC is a buffer between the gas and electric utilities, politicians and the rates we pay.

Our program will begin with a brief discussion of the primary purposes of the commission and its proceedings; its history, focusing particularly on major events of the last 10-15 years that have forced changes in the way it does our business; and the types of constraints, issues and problems that it confronts in accomplishing its proceedings. Its regulatory powers cover virtually all public utilities operating in and through our state: gas, electric, rail transportation, taxis, telecommunications etc. Some utilities such as WSSC are not covered under the PSC powers, but are governed and regulated by bi-county state legislation.

The commission and its staff are severely buffeted and constrained by federal law and regulations and by state laws and political demands. It is often condemned by irate ratepayers who have little understanding of the constraints the PSC operates under. Its regulatory proceedings ensure that all utilities operating in and through Maryland follow strict guidelines in providing

safe, reliable, timely and effective delivery of their services to Maryland customers and users. Some very complex issues confront the PSC:

- We will briefly look at the rate-making/approval process, and the constraints that have led to the big spikes in our rates.
- Why competition has not worked and may never work well.
- What businesses our utilities are really in: production, transmission and distribution.
- How these businesses and the companies have changed over the last 10-15 years and their impacts on us.
- What constrains our current and future needs: capacity; environmental impacts; interrupted and diminished services; safety; and costs?
- And, some real global effects from foreign investment and competition that may not be in our best interests. For instance: What are the effects of a French nuclear power plant utility designer and manufacturer proposal to buy Constellation Energy - a big power producer/supplier in Maryland?
- What will be the impacts of a proposed power transmission line that originates in Virginia, crosses under the Chesapeake Bay, and ends up on the eastern shore?

As customers and rate payers, we have a role and stake in the PSC's proceedings. But our role is limited by the legislative proceedings and the willingness of our political leaders in understanding the businesses of the utilities, and the impacts of their legislative judgments. Yes, there is a lot to learn; a lot to be concerned with; and, perhaps even some to be thankful for. In reality, the PSC is much more than a buffer, and we will identify and explore its other roles and impacts on us.

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**You Are Invited
To the Official Dedication
Of the
Kensington Heights
Neighborhood Park Playground
To Wayne M. Goldstein
Saturday, November 14
10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
(see page 4 for details)**

Public Input on ICC Tolling Plan By Peggy Dennis

If you missed the brief notice in the Sunday Washington Post Metro section, the “window of opportunity” is fast closing for the public to have its say on the proposed “tolling plan” for the ICC. Full information on this plan is available at www.iccproject.com.

If you or your neighborhood association wants to weigh in on the plan, you may preregister to testify by calling 866-847-7310 and appear at one of two public hearings: Wednesday, October 28, 6-9 p.m. at High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville or Thursday, October 29, 6-9 p.m. at Shady Grove Middle School, 8100 Midcounty Hwy, Gaithersburg.

Public comments may also be submitted in writing by email to tolls@iccproject.com or by snail mail: ICC Project Management Office, ATTN: ICC Tolls, 11710 Beltsville, Md. 20705. Written comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. November 23. That’s it, folks!

Membership Renewal By Dan Wilhelm, Database Manager

The following associations and individual members from have **not yet renewed** their membership for 2009-2010. Time is running out. We urge you to renew today. The membership form is on page 11 of this newsletter. For associations, please complete and send the membership completed form to your treasurer and request that it be mailed with the check to Bill Schrader. If you have questions about who your current delegates are, please contact me by email: djwilhelm@verizon.net or by phone at 301-384-2698

Action Committee for Transit
Burnt Mills Hill Civic Association
Clarksburg Civic Association
Deerfield Weathered Oak C. A.
Edgemoor Citizens Association
Hillandale Citizens Association
Hillmead Citizens Association
Huntington Terrace Citizens' Assn.
Kensington Heights Citizens Assn.
Kensington View Civic Association
Manor Lake Civic Association
Potomac Towne Homeowners Assn.
Riverhill HOA
Derick Berlage
Jennifer Fajman
Norman Knopf
Caren & Eric Madsen
SJ Weiss

Each year new groups and individuals join MCCF. The list below is those who have joined who were not members the previous year. A hearty welcome to these new members!

East Silver Spring Citizens Assn
Garrett Park Estates-White Flint Park Citizens Assn
North White Oak Civic Association
Parkwood Residents Association
Tilden Woods Citizens Association
Julie Davis
Dale Tibbitts
Luella Mast
Robert Monsheimen
Drew Powell

MCCF to Consider Revision to Housing Element of County’s General Plan by Jim Humphrey, Chair, Planning and Land Use Committee

At the November 9 Federation meeting, delegates will consider and vote on adoption of a position on the proposed revision of the Housing Element (chapter) of the General Plan (the county's master plan). The Planning and Land Use Committee presented a draft position to the MCCF Executive Committee at their October 21 meeting, which they approved for transmittal to the full delegate assembly with amendments. We seek the adoption of a formal position in anticipation of the County Council hearing on the issue, which is scheduled for December 1 at 1:30 p.m. The text of the revised position follows.

Draft Position on Revision of Housing Element of the County General Plan

The Federation members believe that an important objective of the Housing Element should be the preservation of existing affordably priced housing, both government-controlled and free market available sale and rental units, while insuring units are maintained in good condition. This is a specific goal in the current Housing Element (Objective 4 - Strategy F, 1993 General Plan Refinement). Instead, a half-hearted recommendation to "make affordable and workforce housing a priority" is buried as the 7th of 34 policy strategies in the document, with no specifics as to how this should be done. The most affordable housing units are those that already exist, since housing on redeveloped sites is almost always priced higher than that which currently exists. In addition, in environmental terms, existing housing has a smaller carbon footprint than

redeveloped housing, regardless of how energy efficient that new housing may be.

A second and equally important objective of the new Housing Element should be the preservation of the character and quality of life of existing neighborhoods. One of the six objectives in the Housing chapter of 1993 General Plan Refinement is to protect existing residential neighborhoods, with 6 specific strategies identified to achieve that objective; but, all of these references have been removed in the proposed revision. We believe the objective of protecting single-family home neighborhoods, which occupy 72% of the developed land in the county, should be retained in any revision of the Housing Element. And we believe a new strategy should be added to the revision, recommending the creation and application of standards necessary to preserve the character of residential neighborhoods and insure the compatibility of infill projects with that character.

MCCF delegates believe the proposed strategy to "allow accessory apartments in residential zones by-right under appropriate design standards and conditions" [proposed Strategy 2.1] is an attempt to circumvent a county policy debate that has yet to take place. The Federation strongly supports retention of the current Special Exception process for approval of accessory apartments.

Resolution on Historic Preservation Nominations by Mary Reardon, 2nd VP, Montgomery Preservation Inc.

A 1930s-era neighborhood is among a group of three historic sites that the County Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Board have recommended for historic designation. The decision moves next to the County Council for approval.

The Greenwich Forest neighborhood near Bethesda is an outstanding example of suburban residential development in the 1920s and 1930s, featuring retention of natural topography while orienting to the automobile. Its architecture forms a cohesive sense of place yet individually distinctive styles, notably Tudor Revival and Colonial Revival. Moreover, the developer, Morris Cafritz, helped shape the growth of the DC metropolitan area and was known for offering quality housing affordable to a range of income levels.

The Greenwich Forest Citizens Association submitted the nomination for a Greenwich Forest Historic District, to be added to the County's Master Plan for Historic Preservation, which would protect it from demolitions and major changes.

A second historic property in the package sent to the Council is the Bureau of Animal Industry Building in Norwood Local Park. The County Parks Department has used it as a recreation center since 1937, but this 1909 brick Renaissance Revival building is an early example of Federal facilities located in Montgomery County. It is the only surviving structure from the foremost U.S. agricultural experiment farm in the late 19th and early 20th century, and the surrounding parkland retains the site's bucolic character.

The Higgins Family Cemetery in Rockville is the third property. The cemetery includes the graves of Revolutionary War soldier James Higgins. The Higgins-Knowles family figures prominently in the origins of the Town of Kensington, which was first called Knowles Station.

The County Council has not yet scheduled a public hearing on designation of the sites. At their October 21 meeting, the MCCF Executive Committee approved a draft resolution of support for designation of all three historic resources, with minor amendments, be transmitted to the delegates for consideration and vote at the November 9 Federation meeting. The text of the resolution follows.

Draft Resolution Supporting Inclusion of Greenwich Forest, the Animal Industry Building, and Higgins Cemetery in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation

Whereas the Greenwich Forest neighborhood near Bethesda has a noteworthy development history, homes that exhibit a unique and high-quality style of architecture, and an overall layout that displays a respect for the natural environment, which factors together make it emblematic of the best of suburban residential subdivision design of the 1920s and 1930s in the county and the state and worthy of preservation through the imposition of historic district status; and,

Whereas the 1909 Bureau of Animal Industry Building in Norwood Park near Chevy Chase is the sole surviving structure from the Federal Government's foremost agricultural experiment farm begun in the late 19th century, and the Renaissance Revival building remains relatively unaltered and located on parkland that preserves the character of its historical bucolic setting; and,

Whereas Higgins Family Cemetery in Rockville is associated with a prominent local family, and includes the graves of Revolutionary War soldier James Higgins and two members of the family who founded Knowles Station which became the Town of Kensington;

Therefore, the Montgomery County Civic Federation supports the recommendation of the Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Board that all three sites, which have been grouped together in a single nomination package, be included in the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, and urges the County Council to approve the designation.

Official Dedication of Playground to Wayne M. Goldstein

By Donna R. Savage, Land Use Chair & Immediate Past President, Kensington Heights Citizens Association

On Saturday, November 14, 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the playground at the Kensington Heights Neighborhood Park will be officially dedicated to Wayne, past president of the MCCF, president of Montgomery Preservation Inc., and civic activist extraordinaire.

The Dedication Program will begin at 10:30 with morning refreshments courtesy of the Kensington Heights Citizens Association. Mary R. Bradford, Director of Parks, is slated to provide the Welcome & Acknowledgements at 11:00, followed by remarks from County Executive Isiah Leggett (invited); Marc Elrich, At-Large Councilmember; Martin Klauber, People's Counsel; Peggy Dennis, Montgomery County Civic Federation; Lorraine Pearsall, Montgomery Preservation, Inc. and Donna R. Savage, Kensington Heights Citizens Association .

The new playground sign will be unveiled officially at noon, followed by a tree planting in Wayne's memory at 12:15 and a presentation to Wayne's family and closing remarks by Ms. Bradford.

The park is located at 10811 St. Paul Street in Kensington, at the corner of St. Paul Street and

McComas Avenue.

The Kensington Heights Citizens Association hopes that everyone who knew, respected, and loved Wayne will come to take part in this very special occasion. For more information, please visit the KHCA website: <http://bit.ly/3VFEExk> or contact Donna Savage at Donna@IntelligentFingers.com or 301-942-2447.

President's Message – Well Run Meetings

By Peggy Dennis

I have a few thoughts on the conduct of our regular monthly meetings. Some seem to be to be elementary, in a league with “all I ever needed to know, I learned in Kindergarten”. But they bear repeating.

Civic activists are busy people. Some come directly from work (paying jobs even) and need to get home to sleep and recharge the batteries for the next day. So, please, remember to sign in on the way in and start on time so we can finish on time. If you come in late, please do so quietly and unobtrusively.

Please do your homework (read the newsletter) before coming to class. Bring it with you, especially if we have positions or resolutions to discuss and vote on. You will feel more “in the know” if you can refer to the written material that others have painstakingly prepared.



I know we're (most of us) sociable creatures, but many of us have trouble concentrating on the speaker or discussion when one or several “side” conversations are going on simultaneously. If you must converse with the person beside you, please limit yourself to short, whispered observations.

I aim to have informative and lively programs covering as much as possible in the 75 minutes allotted. Short questions aimed at clarifying a point a speaker has just made are welcome during the presentation. Other questions should be held until after the guest or panel has made their presentation. We are all bright, seasoned people, and we usually have many questions to

Production Editor's Note on Web Addresses

Long Web addresses in this newsletter are shortened to save space and save your typing. The URL is www.bit.ly with some alphanumeric characters. Bit.ly translates those addresses to the full address, which may be very long, and redirects you. This redirection is widely used and safe.

pose, but we do not have the time for verbal grandstanding, pontificating and bloviating. So please, raise hands, and wait until you're called on. Make your questions brief and to the point. And limit yourself to one question or one question with related follow-up, then cede the floor graciously and let others have a chance to participate.

Enough of that.

Following up on our program in October with Montgomery County Chief of Police, Thomas Manger, we have been asked to invite those who live in Police District 3 to contact Captain Donald Johnson, Commander of the 3rd District (Silver Spring station) to air their concerns about communications and transparency directly with him. Captain Johnson can be reached at 301-565-7740, or

Donald.Johnson@montgomerycountymd.gov .

What You Can Do to Reduce Crime By Dan Wilhelm

Did you know that you can check the Montgomery County Police website for crime statistics?

<http://bit.ly/GWgLX> .

This site shows crime grouped into Part I and Part II. Part I crimes includes murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny (breaking into/damaging vehicles), and auto theft. Part II crimes includes destruction (vandalism, hate/violence, and graffiti), sex offenses, drugs, littering/dumping, 2nd degree assaults and warrants served. The number of Part II crimes is almost double that of Part I (8864 vs. 5587 in 2009). The 2009 numbers are actually lower than 2008.

Part I crime has more of an effect on most citizens than Part II crime and since there are actions we can take as individuals to reduce it, I will focus on it. 92% of the Part I crimes in 2009 were for burglary, breaking into vehicles, and auto theft (see table).

The amount of crime varies by district but everyone in the county is affected. The amount of Part I crime for the six police districts from high to low is as follows: Silver Spring (24%), Wheaton (20%), Montgomery Village (17%), Bethesda (17%), Rockville (12%) and Germantown (10%).

Approximately 90% of the Part I crimes are ones we can help reduce by taking action. For instance, we can make our homes more difficult to break into. We can add dead bolts to doors, making sure the bar is fully extended so it cannot be easily pushed open. Screws are needed above sliding glass doors so the door can't be lifted out of the track and a jam stick or other device added so the door can't be easily pushed open. For double hung windows, a stick in the corner or rod though both sections helps. While these measures help, they will not deter a determined or experienced burglar. A security system may be an additional deterrent. Also, we should all be on the lookout for suspicious activity and report it promptly to the police. I urge everyone to be more vigilant and diligent in this area. I live on Cannon Road, a busy street, but no one reported a large screen TV being taken from my house during the afternoon. It is hard to believe that with all the traffic and school directly across the street, no one saw anything. Reporting suspicious activity at your neighbor's home is important.

The most important and effective action you can take to prevent auto theft is to simply lock your car doors! In addition, do not start your vehicle to warm it in the

winter and make sure nothing of value is visible. Thieves who break into vehicles are looking for GPS systems, I-pods and cash.

Take a few minutes to assess

and improve your security. It will be well worth your time.

Committee for Montgomery By Dan Wilhelm, Legislation & CfM Delegate

MCCF is one of five civic groups represented on the Committee for Montgomery (CfM). CfM is a coalition of forty leaders representing a broad cross-section of Montgomery County business, labor, education, civic, and other community-based organizations. One of CfM's missions is to advocate in Annapolis on issues of importance to Montgomery County and the State, including the state budget.

While its membership is diverse and reflects a broad spectrum of political views, CfM members unite in support of its priorities, which include: education, health

Crime	2009 (Part I total: 5587)	2008 (Part I total: 6154)
Residential Burglary	545 (9.8%)	572 (9.3%)
Commercial Burglary	152 (2.8%)	200 (3.2%)
School Burglary	9 (0.2 %)	19 (0.3%)
Larceny	4064 (72.8%)	4240 (68.9%)
Auto Theft	366 (6.6%)	632 (10.3%)

and human services, economic and workforce development, fiscal responsibility, transportation and the environment. CfM shapes its state legislative and budget priorities based on its goal of preserving and strengthening Montgomery County and Maryland as a place to live, work and learn.

MCCF participates in CFM for two primary reasons:

- *To be more effective.* If CFM supports positions of interest to MCCF, it carries more weight because CFM represents a wide cross section of groups in Montgomery County. A number of the CFM members from other organizations are paid to publically represent their group and in some cases are registered lobbyists.
- *To share information and the workload.* There are well over a thousand bills introduced in Annapolis each session. It is a huge effort to scan that many bills and identify those of interest to MCCF. It is also hard to have enough background to understand what they are attempting to achieve. Working with the Issues Committee and Executive Committee allows me to share information that others have learned and also share MCCF's views with them..

The Committee for Montgomery kicks off the start of the January-April legislative session with a breakfast attended by 500-600 people, including most county, state and some federal politicians. This year the breakfast will held on Monday December 14, 2009 at 7:00 AM at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center. The keynote speaker will be Maryland House of Delegates Speaker, Michael Busch; the County Executive and Council President will also speak. The cost for individuals is \$60. I urge as many as possible to attend. Information and the registration form are at <http://bit.ly/1LkxgF>

If you have any questions about the Committee for Montgomery, log onto their website at committeeformontgomery.org., or contact me, Dan Wilhelm, at 301-384-2698 or by email at djwilhelm@verizon.net.

Minutes of the October 12 Meeting by Dan Wilhelm, Acting Recording Secretary

Call to Order: President Peggy Dennis called the meeting to order at 7:47 P.M.

Program: Montgomery County Chief of Police, Thomas Manger, was introduced as the program

speaker. Chief Manger has led the MCPD for the past six years.

Manger indicated that the County's crime rate is lower than in past years but there are troublesome hot spots including Silver Spring, Gaithersburg, Wheaton, and along US29. He talked about the more serious crimes of robbery, sex offenses, and homicide. He indicated sentences imposed in Maryland are the most lenient within the entire country and that he had testified last year to make sentences longer. For example, person serving a 20 year sentence can be set free after 10 years for good behavior. That period could be further reduced by judicial "reconsideration" actions. He would prefer that a longer amount of the original sentence—something higher, like 75% to 85% - be served.

A number of people expressed frustration with the lack of feedback about crimes such as burglary and vandalizing/stealing vehicles. Manger indicated there is a listserv that contains crime reports. However, police do not provide feedback to the victim when arrests are made. Requests for police reports can be filed on-line by citizens, which are sent to the records room for review. In some cases the reports are forwarded to an officer for follow-up. Citizens, however, cannot easily get a copy of those reports. Manger indicated that he heard from the group that the department needs to improve in the areas of communication and feedback.

In response to a question about staffing, Manger explained that nationally police departments have 2.5 officers per 1000 population, but Montgomery County has half that number. The total number of officers in the County is now 1200, and we need many more. However, funds are not currently available to increase that number. He favors obtaining the free helicopters now because they are a "force multiplier". One helicopter can often do the job of many officers on the ground and do it much faster.

Meeting Agenda as printed in the newsletter was approved with the addition of two emergency resolutions.

Minutes of September 14th Regular Meeting as printed in the newsletter were approved.

Treasurer's Report was available on the table thanks to Bill Schrader. We're not in the red and membership renewals are still coming in.

Resolution on the White Flint Master Plan: Jim Humphrey discussed the proposed position on the White Flint Sector Plan that was printed in the newsletter. After discussion, the proposed resolution was approved unanimously.

Resolution on the Proposed New Mixed-Use

“CR” Zones: Jim Humphrey next spoke to the proposed resolution printed in the newsletter about the new mixed use set of Commercial Residential (CR) zones contained in ZTA 09-08. This is the first of four zones expected from the rewrite of the zoning ordinance; the others are agricultural, residential and industrial. After discussion, the resolution was passed – with none opposing and one abstaining.

Emergency Resolution on Clarksburg Master Plan - Stage 4. Jim Humphrey introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption. There were more than the required five seconds to the motion

“Whereas the memorandum from Planning Department staff, which was presented to the Planning Board during their July 9, 2009 session, contains sufficiently detailed findings of the negative environmental impacts of development on the sensitive Ten Mile Creek watershed and the issues which should be addressed as part of a new master plan amendment for Clarksburg Stage 4; and,

Whereas both the Planning Department staff in their July 9 memo (page 6), and Planning Board Chairman Royce Hanson in the Fall 2009 Semi-Annual Report (page 3), recommend the engaging of outside consultant services by the Department to advise on state-of-the-art environmental protection techniques, and on zoning and other land use issues, to be incorporated into a Clarksburg Master Plan amendment; and,

Whereas the members of a Water Quality Working Group would not be professionals knowledgeable in best practices concerning development in an environmentally sensitive watershed area, and all members could instead provide their input as stakeholders involved in the community outreach process for a Clarksburg master plan amendment;

Therefore the MCCF opposes the creation by the County Council of a Water Quality Working Group, and recommends instead that Council members, when determining the Planning Department work program in the context of reviewing the Fall 2009 Semi-Annual Report, take all necessary action to accelerate completion of a master plan amendment for Clarksburg Stage 4 and the associated Ten Mile Creek watershed.”

Many more than five people seconded the above motion. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

Emergency Resolution on Orphan Roads Policy:

Peggy Dennis reported on the “Dedicated but Unmaintained (aka “Orphaned”) Roads Policy” which is about to go before the council. Based on its good points

and deficiencies, Peggy made a motion to accept the following resolution:

“The Montgomery County Civic Federation commends the Dedicated But Unmaintained Roads (DBU) Working Group for their efforts and for the “Dedicated But Unmaintained Roads Policy” which is now before the County Council. This policy statement represents an improvement over past standards, practices and dealings between Affected Property Owners (APO) living on unimproved and privately maintained roads and the county government.

Whereas the three methods - the status quo - outlined in the “Dedicated But Unmaintained Roads Policy” have, by and large, not resulted in DBU roads being improved to County standards, and

Whereas both the County and the APOs should have an interest in seeing that such roads, if improved, are improved in accordance with the county’s requirements and procedures,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Montgomery County Civic Federation urges the Working Group to develop and incorporate into the “Dedicated But Unmaintained Roads Policy” a new, 4th method whereby a majority of APOs could petition the County to enter into a “Private/Public Partnership” for the express and limited purpose of improving their roads to County standards and having the County ultimately accept the road for future maintenance.”

There were more than the required five seconds to the motion. In response to a question, Peggy indicated that there were about 10 miles of DBU roads in the County, but most are very short. After more discussion, the motion was approved with only two abstaining.

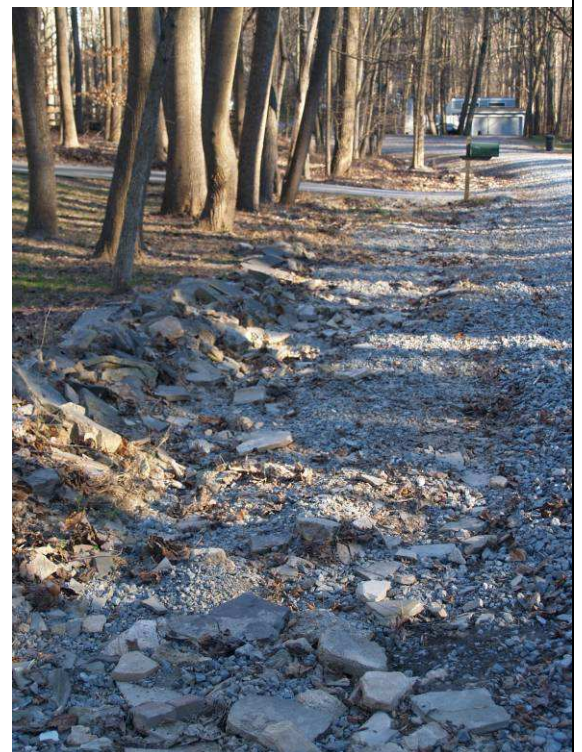
ICC Tolls. Arnie Gordon, Transportation Committee Chair, spoke about a proposed resolution dealing with the excessively high tolls proposed for the ICC. It was decided to refer this topic to the ExComm and possibly provide a resolution in the next newsletter.

Committee Reports:

- Carole Ann Barth, Parks and Recreation Chair, indicated the Council has decided to keep Sligo Golf Course open for another year.
- Jim Humphrey, Planning & Land Use Chair, indicated three properties were coming before Council to be considered for historical designation.

There was no old business or new business and the meeting **adjourned** at 9:50 PM.

Some of the County's orphaned roads



Minutes, October 21 Executive Committee Meeting

By Sandy Vogelgesang , Acting Secretary

Call to Order. President Peggy Dennis called the meeting to order in the home of Sandy Vogelgesang and Geoffrey Wolfe in Bethesda at 7:55p.m. Present: Peggy Dennis, William Schrader, Arnold Gordon, Jim Humphrey, Carole Ann Barth, Ginny Barnes, Chuck Lapinski, Virginia Sheard, and Sandy Vogelgesang. Peggy introduced the new co-chair of the Environment Committee, Ginny Barnes, of West Montgomery County Citizens Assn.

Agenda and Minutes. Peggy called for and received approval of the proposed agenda. Minutes of the September 23 ExComm meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Bill Schrader provided an update on finances and membership renewal. The MCCF account balance is \$11,017.80. Forty-two local associations, one umbrella association, and three county-wide associations, in addition to 17 individuals, have joined for the 2009-2010 year.

Resolutions. Planning and Land Use (PLU) Chair Jim Humphrey presented two resolutions for ExComm consideration. The first concerned the rewrite of the Housing Element (chapter) of the General Plan (the County's master plan) which will come up soon for County Council consideration. ExComm unanimously approved the motion to print the PLU's position in the newsletter and present it for discussion and vote at the November meeting. The second resolution concerned the latest round of nominations for inclusion in the County's Master Plan for Historic Preservation. The three sites nominated are the Greenwich Forest Historic District near Bethesda, the Bureau of Animal Industry Building in Norwood Local Park near Chevy Chase, and the Higgins Family Cemetery in Rockville. ExComm unanimously approved the motion to print the PLU's position in the newsletter and present it for discussion and vote at the November meeting.

Discussion of Proposed Tolls for the InterCounty Connector (ICC) Tolls. Transportation Committee Chair Arnold Gordon briefed ExComm on the proposed toll structure for the ICC and the Maryland Transportation Authority hearing scheduled for October 29. ExComm agreed that Arnie should provide a short article for the Newsletter, alerting local citizens to the high rates under consideration.

Committee Reports.

- Environment Committee Co-chair Ginny Barnes provided an update on violations of the Forest Conservation Law and amendments to that law.
- Parks and Recreation Chair Carole Ann Barth reported on the County's decision to extend funding for the Sligo Creek Golf Course.
- Orphan Roads. Peggy Dennis reported progress on this longstanding issue. For ExComm background, she provided a draft proposal for a modified CIP process for dedicated but unmaintained roads.
- Planning and Land Use Chair Jim Humphrey updated ExComm on the status of Master Plans and the Growth Policy undergoing County review. He noted, inter alia, concerns about the need for development to address transportation needs. The Council must approve a growth policy by Nov. 15.

Programs: Chuck Lapinski confirmed that the program for the November meeting will focus on the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC). Gregory Carman, PSC Executive Director, will be the featured speaker. ExComm agreed on the following topics for future meetings:

- December - public libraries and the media
- January – programs & services to help seniors age in place
- February - budget

Newsletter assignments were made.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Please Spread the Word

We encourage our members to forward the e-version of this newsletter to others in their association, friends and neighbors. Information is like manure – it's better if you spread it far and wide!

Keep well and thank you for your activism and interest.

MCCF Executive Committee

October 2009

Position	Name	Home Phone	Office Phone	Email
Elected				
President	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	same	hotyakker@comcast.net
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2nd Vice President				
Treasurer	Bill Schrader	301-946-6545	same	schraderw@erols.com
Recording Secretary:				
Appointed and Past President				
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Member at Large	Drew Powell	301-520-2642		drewpowell@verizon.net
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Member at Large	<i>vacant</i>			
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Immediate Past President	Arnold Gordon	301-570-0481	Same	nmcaprexy@aol.com
Committees				
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	Caren Madsen	240-793-4603	same	carenmadsen@msn.com
Legislation/Committee for Montgomery	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698	703-983-6847	djwilhelm@verizon.net
Planning, Land Use & Housing	Jim Humphrey	301-652-6359	same	theelms518@earthlink.net
Utilities	Chuck Lapinski	301-384-0392	703-874-8430	charles.lapinski@yahoo.com
Public Finance	<i>vacant</i>			
Public Safety	<i>vacant</i>			
Transportation	Arnold Gordon	301-570-0481	Same	nmcaprexy@aol.com
Parks and Recreation	Carole Ann Barth	301-593-7863		cbarth@mindspring.com

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010
Make checks payable to **Montgomery County Civic Federation**

Mail To: William H. Schrader (Treasurer)
12824 Middlevale Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-946-6545; schraderw@erols.com

Inquiries Dan Wilhelm (1st VP and Database)
904 Cannon Road, Colesville, MD 20904
301-384-2698 djwilhelm@verizon.net

Name of Organization/Individual _____ Date _____

Number of Households (Approx) _____ Annual Dues (see below) \$ _____

Membership Type	Number of Households	PLEASE CHECK	DUES	Max Number of Members	Voting Privileges
Local Association (civic, community, homeowner or municipality. Must represent at least 30 households - not paid members. Can not be a single local issue group.)	10 to 50		\$25*	1	Yes
	51 to 300		\$45*	2	
	301 to 600		\$65*	3	
	601+		\$85*	4	
Umbrella Association (Two or more local associations. Cannot be single local issue group.)	60 to 500		\$45*	2	Yes
	501 to 1000		\$65*	3	
	1001+		\$85*	4	
Regional or County-Wide Organization (environmental, transportation, or other civic/community).	50+ memberships, not households		\$45*	2	Yes
Individual Associate	(not applicable)		\$20*	1	No
Associate Group (Gov't agency, business, or other organization)	(not applicable)		\$85*	2	No

***A \$5 discount may be taken for each person who elects to receive the newsletter via email – please check email box below.** You can also select less than the allowed number of members and pay according to that number. Please provide all the information below no matter the newsletter delivery method. We are planning to produce a membership directory. Please identify whether you want your email address included.

1.	Name**	Phone (H/W)	
	Street	E-mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
	City, State, Zip	Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
2.	Name	Phone (H/W)	
	Street	E-mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
	City, State, Zip	Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.	Name	Phone (H/W)	
	Street	E-mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
	City, State, Zip	Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
4.	Name	Phone (H/W)	
	Street	E-mail	<input type="checkbox"/>
	City, State, Zip	Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

**President of applying organization or permanent substitute designated by the president.

Federation Meeting

Monday, November 9, 2009
7:45 1st Floor Auditorium
County Council Office Building.
100 Maryland Avenue
Rockville, MD

Agenda:

7:45 Call to Order
7:46 Introductions & Announcements
7:56 Approval of Meeting Agenda
7:57 Approval of Minutes from Oct. 12 meeting
7:58 Treasurer's Report
8:00 Program on Md. Public Service Commission
9:15 Vote Resolution: Housing Element of the
County's General Plan
9:30 Vote: Resolution on Historic Designations
9:32 Committee Reports
9:45 Old Business
9:55 New Business
10:00 Adjournment

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 monthly Federation meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Monday of each month September through June 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, Saturday, November 21.** Prepare submission as an MS Word, Word Perfect or text-only document, **attach** it to an e-mail, and send it to:
hotyakker@comcast.net

Please send all **address corrections** to Dan Wilhelm, 904 Cannon Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, 301-384-2698, or djwilhelm@verizon.net.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 18, 2009, 7:45 p.m.

At the home of Dan Wilhelm

904 Cannon Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904



Official Publication of the
Montgomery County Civic Federation

Dan Wilhelm, Database Manager
904 Cannon Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904
DJWILHELM@VERIZON.NET

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Address service requested