

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2010
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

Attendance

Vernon S. Archer	Mayor
CM Alice Ewen	Ward 1
CM Alan Thompson	Ward 2
CM David Lingua	Ward 3
CM Christopher Henry	Ward 4
CM Raymond Rivas	Ward 5
CM Keelah Allen-Smith	Ward 6

Town Administrator- Ms. Sara Imhulse (**not present**)

Police Department – Chief Teresa Chambers

Director of Public Works – Leonard Addison

Fire Department – President Lamphier

The Legislative Meeting for the Town of Riverdale Park began at 8:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, followed by a moment of reflection directed by Mayor Archer..

Approval of Agenda

MNCPPC presentation

Chuck Montrey presents on trail.

30% design completed, working with town to identify title issues.

Near going to bid 100% design Tuckerman to Hyattsville portion (Phase one).

He also reviewed items related to the trail south of Riverdales Boarder.

Tuckerman to Town Center has substantial ownership questions that are not likely to be completely settled and will have to be addressed.

Resident Brenda Hayes expressed concern about getting lighting along the trail so that the security of the area will be increased.

In initial funding there are no provisions for lighting the trail.

Sean Dixon attorney for commission spoke on issues regarding ownership. Primary goal/concern is to make certain that no surrounding property owners assert control over the right of way—ideally a quit claim deed from all identifiable persons of possible interest.

Mayors' Report

Mayor Archer reported that he and Councilmember Thompson met with M-Square officials to explore a new pedestrian connector to the proposed Purple line station near Haig Drive and River Road. He said that it appears that this station location would provide better access to the several thousand new workers expected in the M Square, and will also provide the same basic access to Ward 2 residents that the other possible station location at Rivertech Court would provide.

Mayor said that the second annual teachers for Ipala Guatemala are leaving to begin their English teaching program over the next 3 weeks of July. He is confident the program will be every bit as successful this year as last. He also reminded all present that the program is paid for entirely by the participating teachers and Ipala.

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2010

REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

Mayor informed council that he represented the town at the Developers' Tour sponsored by County councilman Eric Olson on June 25th. The event was very successful and the town is already in contact with a developer interested in doing replacement multifamily projects. Also, the town is planning to have a complementary event on October 13 that will put developers, landowners, businesses and service providers together for an evening of networking and exploring opportunities along Route One.

Public Works Report

The Department of Public Works provided its report in work Session. However, we have a few reminders to make to the public.

- Reminded residents about the schedule change for Saturday drop off of bulk trash from weekly to the third Saturday of each month. The actual dates for the first six (6) months are posted on the front gates of the DPW facility, at Town Hall, in the Crier and on the website. Next day for drop off will be July 17, 2010.
- We informed residents that the new Town banners have been installed in Town Center. Please share your comments with us.
- New flower pot holders with hanging plants will be installed after the heat wave.
- Updates on the loss of power that affected the Town Hall air conditioner were provided. PEPCO was notified and assured us that service would be restored by 7:00 AM Wednesday.
- We have stepped up our efforts to locate decaying animal carcasses around the railroad tracks. We are removing them as soon as we discover them. However, due to the rise in temperature, unpleasant odors may be noticed before we locate them. Please let us know if you find or detect any odors that may be associated with decaying carcasses.

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward 1, CM Ewen, Economic Development Committee

- CM Ewen asked residents to be vigilant about calling code enforcement about nuisance issues. More serious criminal behavior can accompany locations where there are constant code issues. We need residents' eyes and ears to assist our code and policing work. Please call code enforcement at (240) 898-2500 with items of concern.
- She reported that she participated in M-NCPPC's recent meeting with residents regarding the bike trail construction. CM Ewen noted that she requested that M-NCPPC in particular make a plan for improving security for homes adjacent to the trail and E-W Hwy, where we already have some loitering and other issues. The trail will be a great amenity that improves usability and encourages more legitimate activity along the trail. M-NCPPC expects that Phase I of the trail, between Tuckerman and Town Center will break ground in 12 months.

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2010

REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

- CM Ewen thanked Public Works for the increased litter pickup and patrolling of dumping on the train tracks. As residents, we are being spared some very unsightly waste, because it is being picked up daily by Public Works.
- Residents in the historic district contemplating major upgrades may want to tap into the State Historic Tax Credit program. This program can subsidize up to 20% of your repair costs, but you must receive plan approval from the state before commencing with the work. Due to furloughs and staff constraints, the State has a minimum 120 wait on applications -- so, you may want to draw up your plan of action early, and submit paperwork to the state with several months to spare. Project budgets of \$5,000 and higher may qualify for assistance.
- I was not able to participate in all of MML this year, but was pleased to take part in the first day. A workshop on economic development was useful. Town officials may want to learn more about Takoma Park's recent efforts to revitalize its older business district, which was spurred by new restaurant investment.
- Finance Committee
- Budget reconciliation: For first time since I have been paying attention, departments were *all* within budget at end of year, despite difficulties. Many thanks to Department Heads, Administrator Imhulse, Mayor Archer, and all town staff for staying within budget in a very tight year. I also want to thank the council for budgeting conservatively last year knowing that state monies might be cut during the year.
- MML Learned about many things, met with many people. Three particular topics that I hope to apply this year:
 - Improving communication with residents
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - making budgeting process more transparent to residents

This concludes Ward 1, CM Ewen's Report

Ward 2, CM Thompson, Finance Chairman Committee

- Crime has been a problem
- Assaults on/near hiker-biker trail in park
- Burglaries / Thefts from Vehicles
- Mayor Archer, CM Lingua and I have been in close communication with Police Department; They are working to deny opportunity, but need everyone's eyes and ears, please call in anything strange.
- Neighborhood watch restarting - contact me or police department if want to get involved
- National Night Out August 3, Riverside Park.
- Traffic Calming on Lafayette Avenue
- Purple Line meeting -- short (two-minute) walk between two proposed locations. Working to see if can make walkway through park to Haig Drive location, should that location be chosen.

This concludes Ward 2, CM Thompson's Report

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
MONDAY, JULY 6, 2010
REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

Ward 4, CM Henry, Public Works Committee

- I would like to thank the Public works department for the continuous work to beautify the Town
- Thank the following officers – Larry, Powell for their diligent efforts
- Received an email concern regarding criminal activity in the vicinity of 54th place
- Pay attention to the heat advisory

- Next Public Works meeting 23 July 2010 0830am- We are focused on two issues

Restrictions of commercial signs posting

Christmas in April 2011

Recognize the effort from CM Thompson DPW Director

DPW Administrator, Town Administrator, Code Department,

This concludes Ward 4, CM Henry's Report

Public Comments

1. Melissa Avery—thanks for town and council for allowing the 4th of July Celebration. We want an ok to start planning for next year.

Mayor Archer suggested looking into a more green/wooded area for shade and breeze.

2. Danielle Glaros—Tour of redevelopment in Ward 3. Went great. Got many new people from outside the county. Highlighted the purple line.

Hiker biker trail—exciting that this is moving forward.

Push cart and mobil vendors—wanting to move sponsor legislation to control these activities.

CKAR—Thanks to David Lingua for all of his efforts—acting as chair.

Civic Association dinner—recently held and think town would be interested in hearing from many of the organizations that presented to this and suggest that the town do something similar.

3. Doug Jarmin—Push cart vendors have right to operate ever in Prince Georges County. These operations are not legal business period. They need to be stopped. Major problem in Langley Park and in park system.

Legislative Action

1. Minutes for June 7—1st Thompson, 2nd Ewen passed 6-0
2. Letter to Board of Appeals 4713. 1st Ewen, 2nd Thompson, passes 6-0
3. Street closing Sheridan 45th street to 46th Avenue September 18th 12-6.1st Ewen, 2nd Thompson passed 6-0
4. Authorization of Contract with Omni for Maryland Avenue Storm Drain 1st Thompson, 2nd Henry 5-0-1(Ewen not in chamber)
5. Authorization of contract with VMP for Maryland Avenue Road Construction 1st Thompson, 2nd Henry, 5-0-1(Alan-smith not in chamber)
6. Special Exception for Tires R Us, 6328 Kenilworth Avenue—motion to approve special exception for tire installation 1st Lingua, 2nd Henry 6-0 passes

TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK

MONDAY, JULY 6, 2010

REGULAR LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

7. Nomination of Director to CKAR Board of Directors—Mayor nominates David Lingua to B of Directors 1stThompson, 2nd Henry 5-0-1 (Lingua abstains from vote)
8. Handicap sign for 6110 54th Avenue (Veronica Wingfield. 1st Henry, 2nd Lingua 6-0 to post sign

New Business

Unfinished Business

Adjournment