



**MEETING OF  
UNIVERSITY PARK MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL**

***UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
4315 UNDERWOOD STREET***

**7:30 PM**

**June 2, 2014  
MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER: *Mayor Tabori* at 7:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Mr. Brosch, Mr. Gekas, Mr. Carey, Mr. Cron, Mr. Alvarez,  
Ms. Sorensen (arrived at 7:33 p.m.)  
**Absent:** Ms. Christiansen  
**Excused:** None

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Mr. Carey

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Moved by:** Mr. Cron  
**Yea:** 5  
**Seconded by:** Mr. Alvarez  
**Nay:** 0                      **Abstain:** 0

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *May 19, 2014* as amended**

**Moved by:** Mr. Carey  
**Yea:** 6  
**Seconded by:** Mr. Alvarez  
**Nay:** 0                      **Abstain:** 0

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**6. PRESENTATION**

**A. PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED DESIGN FOR THE VETERAN'S  
MEMORIAL PRESENTED BY THE VETERANS MEMORIAL ADVISORY  
DESIGN COMMITTEE**

A timeline of the Veterans Memorial "How We Got Here" was distributed. Mr. Steve Cook gave a power point presentation of the proposed design of the Memorial. He noted that he asked the contractors for a ballpark estimate at the high-end range for materials knowing that it would most likely be value engineered out, and this cost came in at \$60,000 to \$98,000. Mr. Cook pointed out that using durable, high-end quality materials has a lower long term cost.

Following are some questions that the residents and Council members asked Mr. Cook:

**Gary Williams, Pineway**

- Is there is a designation anywhere on the site that this is a Memorial site?

*The intention is to keep the site simple. It is being considered having an inscription on the seat of the granite seat wall.*

**Michele Dudash, Wells Parkway**

- She was under the impression that the intention was to place the Memorial in a visible site so everyone would know exactly where it is. Curious about why hide the fact that it is a Memorial? Maybe consider replacing the expensive seat wall with a series of stones labeling all the branches of the military.

*Mr. Cook believes that by the time the project starts that most of the people in town will know it's a Memorial. Most Memorials are not obvious until explored.*

*Mr. Carey pointed out that the intention of the Committee is to limit signs at the Memorial.*

- She still feels that the site needs to be cost effective but a done very well.

*Mr. Thompson said that at all of the Committee meetings it was discussed that everything does not have to be done at once. If in the future people have a difficult time finding the site, then at that time the Committee can recommend installing a Veterans Memorial plaque.*

- How can this project be financially planned where the Town would support it?

*Mr. Alvarez said that the Resolution mentions that the funding of the Memorial will be developed through the Public Facilities and Services Committee and they will investigate grants and other funding sources. He pointed out that the cost of the Memorial is not necessarily a cost to residents.*

**Julie Enszer, Wells Parkway**

- Pointed out that the legislation states that the Memorial is going to be primarily plant material and if this were the case, it would not cost \$60,000 to \$98,000.
- She is flabbergasted that the residents keep seeing the same high cost design when there has been multiple input from the community that the cost is too high. There is a group of neighbors that have continuously expressed that they are opposed to the site, but also a majority of the neighbors don't like the amount of concrete that goes into it. She stressed this again since these points do not appear in notes consistently and that everyone feels fine to disregard the feedback.
- She would like to see a streetscape and a four-season rendering of the plan.

**Mr. Gekas, Ward 2**

- Asked if the residents would be willing to pay \$34,000 for this project?

*Kim Sherrill said that the resolution does not call for this. Part of what has been discussed for quite awhile is that this site does not have the infrastructure necessary to provide access; so this would increase the cost. There are existing locations within the community that would offer a respectful and contemplative design and Memorial with access to people and would not have this additional cost.*

**Mr. Carey, Ward 4**

- He would be interested in some of the possibilities to reduce the cost aspect?

*Mr. Cook would like to preserve access to the plaza since this is a priority. There could be changes in the material of the seat wall and reduce the amount of plant material.*

**Mr. Brosch, Ward 1**

- **What amount of runoff will the rain garden capture from Wells Parkway?**

*Mr. Cook stated that it would treat approximately 95%.*

- **What maintenance will the rain garden require?**

*There would be a weekly maintenance of removing debris.*

**Michele Dudash, Wells Parkway**

- The Committee should consider a maintenance free Memorial, similar to the 911 Memorial.

- She questions the need to have permanent seats because the young kids hang out near the creek.

*Mr. Carey said that the decision to have a permanent seat is to accommodate the aging visitors who visit the site.*

#### **Julie Enszer, Wells Parkway**

- Has the Town gotten an environmental opinion that it is okay to put concrete so close to a watershed and is this legal? She is concerned that with erosion the concrete walkway and a bench could fall into the creek.

*Mr. Cook stated that this is legal and he is very familiar with this sort of a project.*

*Mayor Tabori said that the project will be county permitted and possibly state permitted because of the waterway.*

#### **John Brunner, Tennyson Road**

- Will there be designated parking?

*Mr. Cook said there that there has never been an issue with parking along Wells Parkway at the previous events.*

- Would like the design to show where parking is permitted.
- Concerned about handicapped accessibility and having to walk or use a wheelchair in the street in order to get to the Memorial. Would like to see how that access will be provided in order to accommodate veterans who are disabled.

*Mr. Cook said that the Committee has not addressed the roadway but this is a good concern.*

- The utility poles, electrical wires and a stop sign are very distasteful. He suggested contacting Pepco for possible options.

#### **Chris Garcia, Underwood Street**

- When the contractors were asked to give a price, were they instructed to approach it as a competitive bid?

*Mr. Cook said, no, just a preliminary estimate, but they were informed there were other contractors giving estimates.*

#### **Julie Enszer, Wells Parkway**

- What happened to the trashcans for those who walk their dogs in that area?

#### **Mr. Alvarez, Ward 7**

- Is it possible to use evergreen trees so that it would not be bare in the winter months?

*Mr. Cook said that evergreen trees in a shady area are not ideal.*

#### **Michele Dudash, Wells Parkway**

- Did the Council share with the Committee the concern of the cost?

*Mr. Cook said that this has been brought up from the beginning.*

#### **Gary Williams, Pineway**

- It is important to mark this Memorial visibly, possibly a bronze plaque not far from the bus stop, this may encourage respect for the site.
- What kind of guidelines would be used for measuring what the town could do in terms of funding:

*Mayor Tabori said that this has not yet been discussed. He suggests waiting until the new Council is sworn in and they can take this issue up. The Public Facilities and Services Committee will look*

*at all the different cost elements.*

**Mr. Cron, Ward 6**

- The ongoing maintenance has to be taken into consideration.

**Chris Garcia, Underwood Street**

- What does value engineering mean?

*Mr. Cook said that designing a site that is durable is a lot cheaper in the long-term.*

**Harold Freeman, Woodberry Street**

- Has heard from many people that the two concerns are cost and the location. Suggests coming up with a design that is not intrusive in the neighborhood and can the cost can be reasonable. He thanked the committee for the effort put into this but the issues deserve careful consideration.

**Rose Greva, Wells Parkway**

- The site will be a terrible eyesore. Why does it have to be so large? It is being offensive to the people and should be placed in a small place.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion:** To approve the following consent agenda item.

**Moved by:** Mr. Cron

**Yea:** 6

**Seconded by:** Mr. Gekas

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**A. APPLICATION TO REHAB AN EXISTING DRIVEWAY, PARKING PAD AND WALKWAY WITH PAVERS (Rick Moy, 4005 Van Buren Street) Ward 7**

**Motion:** To approve the application to rehab an existing 88' x 12' driveway, 16' x 22' parking pad and 60' x 4' walkway located on Lot: 13, Block: 37 at 4005 Van Buren Street.

**B. APPLICATION TO REPLACE EXISTING 22' X 10' DECK AND RAIL (Richard and Jacqueline Groppe, 6832 Pineway) Ward 5**

**Motion:** To approve the application to replace 22'x10' deck and rail located on Lot: 35/36, Block: E at 6832 Pineway.

**C. BLOCK PARTY/STREET CLOSURE 6500 BLOCK OF 40<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE (Saturday, July 26 from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m.) Ward 2**

*The police department has been notified and supports this request*

**D. STREET CLOSURE TOP OF QUEEN'S CHAPEL ROAD BY ROUTE 1 TO UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.)**

*University Park Civic Association has made this request for the children's bike parade. The police department has been notified and supports this request.*

**8. DEPARTMENT AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**A. MAYOR’S REPORT ~ *Mayor John Rogard Tabori***

- Everyone is welcome to attend the Swearing-In of new officers on June 16 at 7:30 p.m.
- Reminder, the Prince George’s County Planning Department is planning three Countywide Listening Sessions for the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite, hearings are on June 3 at the Newton White House Mansion, June 4 at the Oxon Hill Manor and on June 5 at the Parks & Recreation Administration at 6600 Kenilworth Ave, Riverdale Park. Mayor Tabori encourages members of University Park keep an eye on this issue.
- Report on the College Park/Riverdale Park TDDP/TDOZ hearing of May 29<sup>th</sup> before the Planning Board. They are holding the record open until June 13 for those who wish to make comments.
- Save the Dates! The Tree Committee will hold a Tree Ordinance Public Forum on Thursday, June 5 from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at UPES
- Council set the date for the Special Election for Ward 4 Council Member on August 12, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Riverdale Presbyterian Church.
- Mayor’s comments on DSP-99044-07 Chick-Fil-A Identification of Major Issues Due Date: 6/10/2014. University Park is opposed to a drive-thru in that particular area.
- The new committee “Cafritz Oversight and Monitoring Committee” is having its name changed. The committee is sponsoring a forum on the upcoming changes for the Prince Georges Mall. This meeting is scheduled for June 12 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at UPES All Purpose Room.

**B. COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Mr. Gekas, Ward 2**

- Mr. Gekas and Mr. Tabori met with Mr. Rahimi regarding the proposed plan for building a new house on his plot on 40<sup>th</sup> and Tennyson Road. On June 16, Mr. Rahimi will present to the Council his permits, final plans and letters of notification to the neighbors and the storm water management.

**Mr. Brosch, Ward 1**

- Raised the issue of foxes throughout town. Can an expert be contacted to give advice on how to reduce the fox population. Ms. Jenny Mae of Queens Chapel Road recommended contacting Humane Wild Life Solutions

**9. CONTINUING BUSINESS**

**A. VETERAN’S MEMORIAL DESIGN**

**Motion:** To approve the design concept as proposed, and to request the Committee work with the Town Hall to complete the technical design and solicitation for contracting.

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

**Yea:**

**Nay:**

**Abstain:**

**Motion:** To table this motion and direct to the Public Facilities and Services Committee

**Moved by:** Mr. Cron

**Seconded by:** Mr. Alvarez

**Yea:** 6

**Nay:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**B. CAFRITZ OVERSIGHT AND MONITORING COMMITTEE**

**Motion:** To approve the name change from Cafritz Oversight and Monitoring Committee (COMC) to Development Overview Committee (DOC) and to approve the mission statement, as modified, to set forth in the May 20, 2014 committee meeting minutes.

**Moved by:** Mr. Cron  
**Yea:** 6

**Seconded by:** Mr. Gekas  
**Nay:** 0                      **Abstain:** 0

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 14-O-06 ADOPTING THE POLICE GENERAL ORDER MANUAL**

**This legislative resolution has been withdrawn.** Pursuant to Section 2-205 of the Town Code, any amendments of the General Operating Rules and Regulations instituted by the Chief of Police pursuant to Section 2-207 of the Code shall be forwarded by the Chief to the Council for approval. If the Council does not take action within 30 days of receipt, the amendment is deemed approved. The Council may amend the General Operating Rules and Regulations by resolution. The revised General Operating Rules and Regulations are expected to be provided to the Council on June 16.

Mr. Carey suggested this be referred immediately to the Council Committee on Police Traffic and Public Safety in order to advise the Council and provide recommendations.

**B. LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 14-O-07 ADOPTING THE PERSONNEL MANUAL**  
*(Introduction) The earliest date this Ordinance may be considered for passage is June 16, 2014.*

**Motion:** To introduce Legislative Resolution 14-O-07, approving the University Park Personnel Manual and to delete Section 2-111, “Employee probationary period”, Section 2-112, “Injury While Working”, and Section 2-113, “Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing”, as these provisions will now be included in the Personnel Manual.

**Moved by:** Mr. Carey  
**Yea:** 6

**Seconded by:** Mr. Cron  
**Nay:** 0                      **Abstain:** 0

**11. ADJOURNMENT** by consent at 9:23 p.m.