

DUBLIN/DARLINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

October 21, 2009

(DRAFT) MINUTES

Wilson Community Center

Members Present: Rich Norling, Chairman
Charles Day, Vice Chairman
Jane Howe, Secretary
Jim Murphy
Joni Nugent
Donald Thomas
Alan Thompson
Shirley Thompson
Stephen Smith

Guests: Barry Glassman
Janet Gleisner
Gerry Kunkel
Alex Rawls
Chad Shrodes
Sgt. Kevin Thomas

Rich Norling called the meeting to order at 7:08PM.

Review of Minutes: Minutes from the September 16, 2009 were distributed. Donald Thomas made a motion to accept them, seconded by Shirley Thompson. Passed. Next, Donald Thomas made a motion to accept the minutes from January 21, 2009 and October 15, 2008. Shirley Thompson seconded the motion and it passed. Jane Howe explained that catches her up on reporting the minutes. She also commented that she had reviewed both the bylaws and Robert's Rules of Order. Minutes are to reflect what was done, not what was said. She tries to strike a balance.

Government Updates:

Sgt. Kevin Thomas – Sgt. Thomas presented the Sheriff's Office crime stats for September 2009.

Total calls for Harford County – 11,363

			Dayshift 8am-4pm	Evening 4pm-12pm	Midnight 12pm-8am
Sector 100	9/09	340	29%	35%	36%
Sector 90	9/09	608	34%	37%	29%
	9/08	537			
Sector 60	9/09	243	49%	35%	16%
	9/08	258			

New to this monthly report is a breakdown of calls for service by shift. He stated that the Crime Prevention RV has been located recently at the WaWa and also the Apple Festival. Jim Murphy thanked the Sheriff's Office for their help with traffic control at the Apple Festival.

Barry Glassman – Unfortunately, Barry reported that the counties will take tremendous cuts in State funding. Income tax will be going down. Counties will not feel the full impact for another 1-2 years. See the rest of his report below.

Chad Shrodes – Chad thanked Charles Day for his input on the Natural Resources Element Plan.

Guest Speakers: Rich Norling introduced Gerry Kunkel. Gerry grew up in Churchville, but has lived in Darlington for the past 25 years. He works for RKS Realty and when he heard about the closing of PNC bank, he began to investigate perpetuation of the property as a local bank. PNC owns the property and RKS hopes to get the listing. Several suggestions were made about banks that might purchase the property and keep the corner bank a part of the Village. Jim Murphy made a motion for a resolution: The Dublin Darlington Community Council supports keeping a local bank at the present location. Stephen Smith seconded. The motion passed. Traffic, parking and lack of an ATM will be issues for any new bank to resolve.

Next, Rich introduced Janet Gleisner and Alex Rawls from the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning. They gave a presentation on the draft Transportation Element Plan. The plan is online at www.harfordcountymd.gov/planningzoning. Objectives include reducing the carbon footprint by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by reducing passenger cars and providing more public transit. This plan updates the 2000 Transportation Element Plan and is a companion piece to the 2004 Land Use Plan. Major arteries and their feeder roads impact the plan. One identified bottleneck is MARC transit which narrows down to only two tracks in Harford and does not offer weekend service. There are no identified projects in our DDCC area except for a sidewalk to the library. In checking archived minutes, the community did vote for a sidewalk, but property owners along the west side of the street would not permit it. In the discussion that followed, local bridges came up. Rich reminded everyone that the DDCC received a response from the Project Engineer, Carlos Smith, regarding scheduled bridge painting over Deer Creek. Regarding the speed limit on rural roads such as Main Street in historic Darlington, Janet said there is only vague language in this plan "to respect rural character". But Charles Day said that even though it is a State Road, a disparity exists. Darlington has been told the minimum speed limit is 30 mph, but part of Route 24 is posted at 25mph. Barry Glassman stated that he has consulted with SHA and updated Wendell Baxter on multiple items that came up during the September Town Meeting with regard to traffic and transportation. He will send this information to the DDCC through Rich Norling. Rich complimented Planning and Zoning for the current plan which is much more than a list of projects. Rich reported that the State is doing a full year study on vulnerability as impacted by global warming, sea rise and rain storms. Regarding bus transportation on the Route 1 artery, Janet suggested we revisit the issue in the next plan. The Transportation Element Plan is part of the Department of Community Services.

Updates:

1. **Aberdeen Water Permit** – No action. Mayoral candidates are taking different positions, but the 6th Amendment to the existing Water Agreement has been signed into use.
2. **LNG Pipeline** – A Federal decision is pending.
3. **NYP** – No cases.

Old Business:

1. **Crosswalk on Route 161 in Darlington** – One crosswalk has been installed and upgraded at Scarborough's store. A crosswalk on Shuresville Road at Darlington Elementary is governed by the school crosswalk laws and can not receive this treatment. Flashing lights are an alternative. Jane Walker is exploring this with SHA. Sgt. Kevin Thomas commented that a pedestrian only has the right of way once they have stepped off the sidewalk onto the crosswalk.
2. **Repainting local bridges** – see above.
3. **Runoff from Harmony Church Road into Deer Creek** – Ronnie Cassilly is concerned about runoff on the gravel part of the road. Jane Walker is working to set up a meeting with SHA, Soil Conservation, Bob Cooper and Chad Shrodes.
4. **New Members** – Shirley Thompson asked Gerry Kunkel to apply for a seat on the DDCC.
5. **Future Guests** – It was suggested that the pool manager of the Exelon Public Swimming Pool be invited to address issues on the perceived decline in services. Mary Ann Lisanti, Executive Director of the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, will also be invited.
6. **Scarboro Landfill** – Jim Murphy and Stephen Smith reported that they met with Tom Hilton at the landfill to present the idea of a key code card. They distributed the draft text of the request. Rich Norling said he has factual corrections. Jane Howe questioned whether or not there is policy about who is authorized to represent the Community Council without action of the Council. The policy is that individual members shall not claim to be representing the views of the Council unless they have been authorized to do so by a vote of the Council. Discussion followed about how a key code card could work. There was consensus that Tom Hilton is now aware of the idea. No further action is needed.

New Business:

1. **Designating Lower Susquehanna as a National Scenic Byway** – Several DDCC members attended the meeting earlier this evening. Mary Ann Lisanti will be invited to give a presentation. (see above)

Good of the Council:

~ Jim Murphy and Stephen Smith reported they have another idea to help reduce items taken to the landfill. They are exploring an idea they saw on a news story about how Texans are re-using salvage from the local landfill.

~ Jim Murphy announced that the Darlington Lion's Club will once again be selling Christmas trees on his property on Shuresville Road. New this year, live trees will be offered. Sign up for them with Jim.

~ Charles Day reported that the Harford County Ag Advisory Board recently took a field trip to a Carroll County slaughterhouse. He gave a description of the "chilled room."

~ Lee Mc Daniels has been elected Treasurer of the National Association of Conservation Districts.

Next Meeting: November 18, 2009 at 7PM, Wilson Center.

Adjournment: Donald Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Shirley Thompson. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Howe