



Greater Severna Park Council

Delegation Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2020

www.gspcouncil.org

[Facebook](#)



Delegation meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of the month

President Maureen Carr York opened the GSPC Delegation meeting at 7:37 p.m., a quorum being present.

Guests

Austin Holley, Shipley's Choice HOA

Secretary's Report (Holly Slack)

Motion to accept November and December's delegation minutes made by Amy Leahy and seconded by Susan Nolte. **Motion adopted.**

Treasurer's Report (Steve Poland)

Checking account: \$4,868.23

Dues deposited: \$105

President's Report (Maureen Carr York)

Unpaid for 2+ years: Belleview Estates, Bluff Point, Cattail Passage, Kilmarnock, Manhattan Beach, North Severna Park, Severndale, Whitney's Landing

Guest Speakers

[Circuit Court Judges on the ballot in November 2020](#)

[Judge Pamela Alban](#)

Judge Alban's background is mostly criminal. During law school she went to the state atty's office in AA county. Her father was a sea captain and first mate's wife was in the state's atty office. She fell in love with Annapolis and prosecution, and spent almost 23 years in the special victims unit with cases involving child abuse, sex offense, and homicides. She became head of the unit and worked closely with police dept. while mentoring younger attorneys coming into the

unit. She believes it is important to protect the most vulnerable citizens against the most predatory. She worked on child fatality review, child advocacy center, and was appointed by governors office to work with child abuse programs. She is currently raising a family here with her husband who has almost 30 years in the police dept. and her 2 young boys ages 14 and 11.

[Judge Elizabeth Morris](#)

Judge Morris married her college sweetheart from IUP Indiana PA University. He grew up in DC and she wanted to be a lawyer so she went to UMD law school. She has a 4yr old boy and 11 yr old daughter and has been in AA county since 2007. They first lived in Severn and now live in the Crofton/Gambrills area and are very busy with children's activities. She worked as a law clerk after law school. After clerkship she worked with victims of domestic violence and representing victims of domestic violence around the county. After working for non profits she went to private practice. She eventually ended up in the atty general's office and when she realized her calling was public service. Worked in AGs office and worked at NSA in acquisitions program.

[Judge Rob Thompson](#)

Judge Thompson and his wife have raised 2 children here who are now 29 and 23. They also have 2 grandchildren. They are celebrating their 33rd wedding anniversary in August. He went to law school about making the world a better place. He went into private practice after law school, specializing in family law, civil, and some criminal. His clients were both people and companies, helping people form companies, estates and trusts. He likes being able to shepherd people through tough issues. When the kids were grown, he decided to try and become a judge for the purpose of serving the whole community instead of one client at a time. Greatest part is the satisfaction of a job well done.

[Judge Richard Trunnell](#)

Judge Trunnell was appointed on Dec 9 by Governor Hogan. He was on the commission with Dr. York. His parents got pregnant in high school so they all grew up together. His dad is now a retired electrician and his mom a retired secretary. Judge Trunnell is the first one to graduate college and the first lawyer in the family. He clerked for a Montgomery County circuit court judge. He became a prosecutor then opened his own private practice specializing in helping children. He has done a lot of pro bono work for YWCA representing parents trying to protect their children. He was appointed to the judicial nominating commission in 2014. They look for judicial temperament, hard work, and wisdom. He has a 25 yr old in dental school, and a senior in college at UMD, and has been married since 1997. His skill set was litigation and was in the courtroom all his career. It is about representing someone who needs help. He feels he is not just a lawyer but a counselor at law. This is an extension for all 4 of us to do that as judges.

Q & A

Do you have a website with your biographies and email? (John Norville, GSPC Director)

Facebook page: [Keep Our Judges 2020](#).

What is the process for becoming a judge? (Maureen Carr York, GSPC President)

District court judges do not run but circuit court judges need to run to retain their seats. They appear on the primary ballot on the democrat and republican side. If they win both sides of the primary, then they are done. If not, then there may be 5 or 6 names on the ballot in November. The current judges have a thorough vetting process but challengers do not have to go through that same process. They simply need to file by Jan 24, be at least 30, practiced for 5 years, and have \$50 fee. They are listed in alphabetical order and not whether in the current job or not. The term is for 15 years.

Can independents vote in the primary? (Ann Mitchell, West Severna Park)

Unaffiliated voters do not get to vote in primary. The top vote getters on each ballot party go to the general election. It is non-partisan so they run on both sides.

Comments:

As judges, they are not allowed to take stances on political issues, but those running against them do not have that obligation. (Maureen Carr York, GSPC President)

There was a recent fundraiser for judges that had elected officials from both sides of the aisle. This group has the full support of elected officials on both sides. (Amanda Fiedler, County Councilwoman)

Guest Speaker

Elizabeth Rosborg, Chair of Citizens' Advisory Committee for [GDP](#)

Current status on [General Development Plan](#):

- Trying to plan what AA county will look like in the next 25 years.
- Amy Leahy is representing us from Severna Park.
- We are in Regional Planning area 4. Region 4 is Severna Park, Pasadena, Lake Shore, Arnold, and the Broadneck peninsula.
- There have been changes in the administration and committee.
- There will be 9 town halls in March into April for preliminary draft on land use.
- If people wanted to change land use, could apply. Over 140 applications being vetted through P&Z and will come to CAC for review.
- <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/long-range-planning/general-development-plan/index.html>

- All meetings are taped and can be viewed via youtube. Has regional plans and where they are.
- New program was announced on Friday. They didn't have any recording of the policies. What is the policy on forest retention? No records. Now they are recorded and public information. Trying to be transparent.
- Hoping to have GDP passed by the end of 2020. Then to regional planning areas.
- Each area will address comprehensive rezoning.
- Contact Elizabeth if you want to be in the regional planning area.
- Land market analysis with outside consultant economic, projected jobs, desire to live in aa county, projected 28k UNITS. Surveys have indicated enough is enough and that is too much. Looking very strongly at revitalization. Lots of empty space... why build new?
- The county is behind on infrastructure. Roads need to be upgraded and facilities need to be in place before new stuff is built and permits are granted. Response time from administration. Hoping to solve all problems with wonderful new GDP.

Q & A

When the plan is completed, is that etched in stone or changeable? (Susan Nolte)

Ms. Rosborg: Everything is changeable.

What happens with the current proposal to be R22 in R5? How does that relate to land use changes? (Lisa Bender, SRA)

Ms. Rosborg: It becomes code. That will have to be a code change. Legislation has come before council but it's taking awhile to get GDP and had to make fast changes. That is another administration proposal.

Are the 140 requests county wide? (Brad Myers, GSPC Vice-President)

Ms. Rosborg: These are land use changes (versus rezoning which would be different). If accepted, those land use changes would go to code. Once accepted by the county council it becomes code. For example, Dogwood mobile parks. There are 28 now but R10. They are not going to change zoning, but proposing to change the land use and not have mobile parks there. What it is *intended* for is changing.

Will this go before P&Z? (John Norville, GSPC Director)

Ms. Rosborg: The proposed land use changes and rezoning will. Regional planning areas are only proposed and can change. Fill out the survey and get updates.

Is the GDP zoning changes or land use changes? (Brad Myers, GSPC Vice-President)

Ms. Rosborg: This is separate from the GDP. If someone applies for rezoning, it has to be public, have been posted, and opportunities to comment. Code changes are different but still public information. They go on a docket and have a public hearing.

Committee Reports

Election Report on 2020 GSPC Board or Directors (Steve Poland)

Steve Poland reported that 40 communities had voted electronically before the January 8 midnight deadline. All 40 were YES votes for the slate of Officers and Directors. As allowed by the By-Laws, communities that had missed the January 8 deadline were given the opportunity to vote from the floor. Three additional YES votes were cast from the floor making the final election tally: 43 YES, 0 NO. The 2020 GSPC Board of Directors was elected unanimously.

Chamber of Commerce

There is an Installation dinner on Jan 22 with a presentation by Scott Jay.

Planning/Zoning/Legislation (Amy Leahy)

- Activity has started on Sabrina Park Ph. 3. They've begun marking the area for possible sewer/utilities in the area. Some of the neighbors have been informed their fences/sheds will need to be moved. The neighbors are planning to get second opinions from a survey or plat recordation. The Chartridge community will be watching very closely for any violations or enforcement issues.
- North drive Bosworth property.
- Legislation for progressive taxes. There will be multiple pieces of legislation doing this.
- Housing zoning for elderly of moderate means. Hearing is Jan 21. Putting apartment buildings under this zoning. Considered to meet a greater need for seniors of moderate means. New bill would get rid of requirements for notification. If you live in R5, you should have a right to live in R5. Bill 97-19 *see new business*. They call this a “density bonus”. Can use less expensive R5 or R2 land and ignore some of the boundaries that need to be respected. Part of this law is reducing setbacks. Introduced by Pickard and Lacey.
- Ms. Fiedler discussed the bill in a work session today. When the state awards tax credit to these projects, the clock starts. Their feeling is that the special exception process lengthened approval process so by being conditional use, it can move forward without getting tied up in appeal. Concerns that this will stay for elderly only.
- The Bill rescinds an existing condition which requires state money. Are they opening up to developers to do whatever?

- Reece Peak: Told by the legal office they cannot institute a building moratorium on Rt 2 and 3 corridors. If intersection is failing in a certain section then they can put in a moratorium.

Education Committee (Holly Slack)

- [Pre-kindergarten, etc. moving from Oak Hill to Benfield.](#)
- [Superintendent's recommended budget for next year.](#)
- Board has approved [next year's calendar.](#)

Police / Community Relations (Doug Nichols)

The first 2020 meeting will be on Wednesday, January 15th, 2020 at 730pm. They are hosting Jen Corbin, Director of the Crisis Response Team, to talk about their services and to focus on Mental Health Awareness and Resources available. The Eastern District Station located at 204 E. Pasadena Road, Pasadena, MD

Environmental Committee (Paul Spadaro & Lisa Bender)

- SRA Trivia night is next Tuesday night at union jacks
- MARSH Landing: If the subdivision was to move forward, it would require additional variances for building within steep slopes and building within 100 feet of the Cattail Creek stream buffer. Our expert storm water witness testified that stripping down that much road bank at the location of rain grade 7 will punch a hole in the water table and rain garden 7 would completed be flooded 24/7 with ground water thus providing NO ABILITY TO HOLD ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS OF STORM WATER from the new 3 houses and new road. As a result all the storm water will go directly unchecked down hill into Cattail creek and thus comprise the newly completed 1.5 million dollars Cattail creek restoration project paid county and state funds. Our storm water expert who is a Professional engineer also testified that the rain gardens County memo from inspections and permits prepared on October 11, 2019 to the Marsh Landing developer has SURFACED and TRASHES the site plan for the Marsh Landing development approved by the planning and zoning. This memo points out that the stormwater devices/rain gardens on the site plan as designed will not work, particularly the storm water runoff from Dakota drive, the slot drain and the rain garden M7 will not work, which is WHY WE ARE appealing the county's approval of the Marsh Landing site plan at the ongoing Board of APPEALS HEARING. What is so frustrating is the over the top push back by the County attorney trying to defend the very poor decision of the approval of the Marsh Landing final site plan. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICw65o-XFyc>
- Algae Up date- We are seeing improving conditions on Cattail Creek as well as other areas. Yesterday the visibility on Cattail Creek was 1.3 meters. Hopefully the algae bloom is starting to dye off but the intensity and extend of this particular Algae bloom has raised a red flag. There is difference between "clear "water and "clean" water just because the algae is disappointing and the visibility is improving does not mean that the

nutrients that feed the algae have gone way I am very concerned that in the future we will begin to see waves winter algae blooms that will add up affecting the health of the river.

Public Works Committee (Erin O'Neill)

There is a sheet of ice by Hoyle lane. Erin O'Neill called SHA and they think there is a water main break under there. Be careful driving.

SPHS Neighbors Committee (George Foote & Richard Newton)

There are 105 decimals going into the field and about 80-85 comes back into the neighborhood. Richard Newton called Terry Gilleland who was the school board president. Acoustic will be looking into this.

Airport Noise Committee (Austin Holley)

Report sent via email. Mr. Holley was appointed by Senator Reilly to sit on the BWI roundtable. They have submitted their first comprehensive proposal at the end of 2019 and hoping they will take into consideration suggested flight paths.

ASPIRE Report (Amy Leahy)

Wednesday, March 25 is the annual leadership award dinner. There is an article written in the Severna Park Voice about the 10 recipients. There is also a dinner at Chartwell for \$50 per person. Each community association is eligible to nominate someone. If people attending do not want dinner, they can come at 8pm for the awards portion.

Councilwoman Fiedler

- Next hearing is Jan 21. 2 bills about short-term rentals. Looking at it from a nuisance but another council member picked it up.
- Bill 96-19 lowers lifeguard age to 15 which is state at 15 but county is 16.
- Declares suicide as mental health crisis. Pulled from gun violence task force group. 65% of suicides are gun related.
- District 5 and district 2 have highest rate of suicide.
- Feb 3 school bus monitoring camera capability. Slow roll out and covered under county budget. Will allow identification of those who do not stop for buses.
- Rightaway obstruction abandonment bill: 45 days to get out or county will start fining.
- Oak Hill is closed on the county school utilization chart.
- 3 applications got in during grandfathering. 5 acres total.
- Jan 29 6:30pm County Exec budget town hall in middle school cafeteria.

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Motion for the Greater Severna Park Council to oppose [Bill 97-19](#) as currently written made by Lisa Bender and seconded by Anne Mitchell. **Motion adopted unanimously.**

Discussion: 5 acres of wooded property where Severndale sign is.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43pm.

Next meetings:

General: 2/11/20, Severna Park Library 7:30pm

Board of Directors: 1/28/20, Severna Park Library 7:15pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Holly Slack, GSPC Secretary.