

**Minutes of the Oakmont Annual Town Meeting
7:30 pm April 8, 2008**

Attendees – Committee Members: Barbara Moskowitz, Acting Chairperson and Secretary; Pat Mazuzan, Treasurer; Irv Faibisch, Parking Marshal; Marilyn Mazuzan, NIH/Suburban Liaison; Ase Sewall, Accountant

Attendees – Other town residents: Laurens van der Tak; Fran Fabisch; Ella Iams; Eric Moskowitz; Jeff Gemunder; Mike and Kathy Kitzinger; Walt Friauf; Virgil Huber; Ellyn Nasuti; Amy Bogdon; Mark Weissman; Barbara Haupt; Joann Anderson; Dave King; Donna Duer; Vince Manganiello; Kathy King; John Yetter

Eleanor Dillon

Many residents expressed a desire to honor Eleanor Dillon for her long years as a very active Oakmont resident beloved member of the community. After some discussion, we agreed to plant a tree in Daley Lane or some other similar tribute, including a plaque, at a ceremony to which she and her family will be invited.

Parking Report

Irv Faibisch briefly explained the parking permit process and noted that he has given out several warnings recently to people who were illegally parked. None has required calling police.

Treasurer's Report and Tax Rate

Oakmont has concluded its outside audit of town accounts, and the closing balance for 2007 was \$53,597. The balance for 2008 is estimated to be \$68,352 at the current tax rate. There have been no unusual expenditures since the last town meeting.

Because Oakmont has a healthy balance more than sufficient to cover projected town projects, and because the County proposes to increase real estate taxes, the Treasurer proposed we reduce our tax rate to the legal minimum of \$.04/\$100 of assessment from the current rate of \$.06/\$100. This proposal was moved, seconded, and approved.

NIH/Suburban Report

Regarding Suburban Hospital expansion plans, Marilyn reported that plans will go to the County in June or July and construction is not expected to start for several years. Current plans call for demolition of all 19 houses owned by Suburban to allow creation of a campus atmosphere with green space. The parking garage on Lincoln will be expanded and moved back from Old Georgetown. The Huntington Terrace Citizens' Association continues to oppose current plans, particularly those to demolish Suburban-owned houses and close part of Lincoln Street.

At NIH, drainage at the South Lawn continues to be a problem that NIH is working with WSSC to resolve. NIH is also concerned with BRAC plans. The Environmental Impact Statement for the BRAC is out and basically unchanged from the draft report, which suggests BRAC will have minimal impact on area traffic because that traffic is already terrible. The County and State have no money for road improvements, and the Navy has not applied for any of the limited funds available through the Defense Area Roads Fund. They have said, however, that they will look into hiring a traffic coordinator.

Oakmont Charter

Pat explained the need to amend the town charter to raise from \$2,000 to \$10,000 the amount the town Committee can authorize for services without getting competitive bids. The proposed change has been approved by the Maryland State Legislature and will be effective as of October 1, 2008.

Sidewalk, Driveways, and Curbs Project

The County has said that it will put new curbs on Oakmont and extend the Oak Place sidewalk from the point it currently stops to Hempstead. It has also said that repaving Oakmont may be included as part of the project. They expect to do this work between July and November of this year.

Oakmont has received bids and selected a company to replace already identified driveway aprons and make other repairs to driveways damaged during the drainage project. Residents will be able to use the same contractor for privately-funded projects by making individual arrangements with the company. Notices about this will go out before work starts, which we anticipate will be this spring.

Picnic

The annual town picnic will be held this year on Saturday, September 13. The rain date will be Sunday. Volunteers to organize and work on the event are needed. Anyone interested should call a Committee member.

Proposed Building Ordinance

Following spirited debate of the final draft of the proposed ordinance, the ordinance was approved, as amended, by a vote of 18 for and 11 against. The amendment changed the words "the Committee shall consider factors such as the following:" to "the Committee shall consider the following factors:" in section 3.

Next the Ordinance must be approved by the County Council before it can go into effect.

Elections

Mike Kitzinger volunteered and was the only nominee to fill the Committee slot vacated by David Levy. Mike was elected without opposition.

Door Prizes

Fran Fabisch and Jeff Gemunder were each selected in a random drawing of names to win door prizes of \$25 gift certificates to Macy's.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.