

## Oakmont Minutes – December 15, 2008

Attendees: Pat Mazuzan, Treasurer; Barbara Moskowitz, Secretary; Marilyn Mazuzan, NIH/Suburban Representative; Ase Sewall, Accountant

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Treasurer's Report

- Available funds are \$83,192.97
- Major expenses included the annual audit (\$3,000) and leaf collection and snow removal (total of \$2450).

#### NIH/Suburban Hospital

There continues to be no news on the Suburban renovation. The committee has not met, nor has Suburban, which organized the meetings, been in touch with committee members. Committee members never signed off on a final plan for Suburban, so Marilyn feels the business of the committee is not finished.

We received a letter from the Planning Board notifying us of the continued opposition of Huntington Terrace to interim changes made by the hospital to update heating and air conditioning for operating rooms.

The Oakmont Committee continues to support changes needed at Suburban to continue the hospital's role as an important resource for the entire Bethesda community.

NIH discussion centers on the BRAC.

#### BRAC

At a presentation on the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) released in late December, members of the NIH liaison committee learned the following:

- Navy Medical expects to accommodate 2500 new employees.
- 1900 new patient appointments are expected each weekday.
- The Federal government will provide no money for road improvements, and the State and County governments are both running deficits that make it unlikely they will provide substantial support.
- Intersections are rated on level of congestion on a scale of A (good) through F (bad). The intersections at Rockville Pike and both Cedar Lane and Jones Bridge Road are already rated F. Since they are already rated as bad as the ratings get, the EIS concluded the additional traffic resulting from the BRAC would not cause any change.

Although there is not much hope that our concerns will be addressed, the Oakmont Committee will send a letter for inclusion in the final version of the EIS.

### **Woodmont East Development**

Original plans, widely opposed, for this high-rise condo/hotel development have been scaled back. New plans call for more green space and a smaller footprint. A two-story enclosed bridge will connect the hotel and condo buildings rather than the eight-story bridge envisioned at first.

### **Website**

It is taking two-three days to send a blast email. This is a problem when the information is time sensitive. We need to see if this can be improved, and we should look into ways to improve the way information in the Directory is presented.

### **New Business**

#### **Town Update**

The Committee reviewed the draft of a letter that will go out to residents no later than early February to update them on the Committee's work this year and provide details on the proposed Building Ordinance on which the town will vote in April.

Barbara will prepare copies and Donna Baden will be asked to distribute them to each home.

#### **PEPCO Request**

PEPCO has asked for permission to bury power lines at the King home on Oak Place. The process used does not involve digging up the street, sidewalk, or yard. The Committee will notify PEPCO of its approval.

#### **Action Items**

1. Pat and Marilyn will send a letter stating our concerns on the BRAC.
2. Pat will call the firehouse regarding the possibility of our using their meeting room for our town meeting.
3. Barbara will prepare the update letter for distribution.
4. Barbara will talk with Alex Baden about the difficulties with sending blast email and about restructuring the Directory to make it more user friendly.
5. Committee members will each start asking neighbors if anyone is interested in running for the vacant position on the Committee in April.
6. Pat will testify on behalf of the Oakmont Charter change before the Montgomery County delegation in Annapolis.

The next town meeting is Tuesday, February 19.