

**Boyds Civic Association
April 16, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

President Merritt Ednie called the Boyds Civic Association (BCA) to order at 7:35 pm on April 16, 2009. There were about 33 people in attendance.

Minutes (Maggie Bartlett) were approved.

Treasurer's Report (Steve Gibson) was passed: \$20,165.53.

SPECIAL SPEAKER: Rob Garagiola (Maryland State Senator)

- **Increase funding** for K-12, libraries and state aid
- **Renewable energy (solar/wind/efficiency):** looking into options to try to offer incentives to using alternates energy sources.
 - Help homeowners and businesses to use renewable energies (not so much wind) by defraying the costs
 - Solar: County, state and Federal programs can defray costs that will increase use
- **Health:**
 - Maryland matched by Federal government for Medicare using \$22,000 as the poverty level
 - Children's Healthcare: of the 760,000 uninsured MD residents, 240,000 are children
 - People are guaranteed emergency care under Federal law
- **Environment:** Trying to reduce phosphates and nitrogen to decrease these levels in the Chesapeake Bay
- **Education:**
 - Maryland's K-12 is #1 in nation with 1/4-1/3 of MD's budget going to education
 - PEW Foundation states that MD one of the top-managed states, and AAA bond rating (only 4 in US) which allows MD to borrow at low interest rates
- **Arts:** Black Rock Center for the Arts did not receive some of the capital budget for debt financing
- **Up-county hospital:**
 - Helped to get funding for the Germantown Bioscience Education Center (at MC)
 - Working with Shady Grove Adventist and Holy Cross to have a hospital in the Clarksburg triangle
 - MD's Health Commission will review to see if we need 1, 2 or no hospitals.
- **Stimulus Money (Federal government):** Most states are in trouble even with the stimulus money
 - MD had cut spending, so we are not as bad off as many other states
 - Transportation: with fewer people driving and increase of hybrids, the gas tax is decreasing
 - Try to give physicians money using electronic medical records
- **Maryland balanced the budget** by cutting costs and some jobs
- **Surcharge on power plants** will increase the public's costs, so we need to conserve. MD is importing 30% of its power.

OLD BUSINESS / UPDATES

- **Thompson Farm** (Jay Cinque): W. Old Baltimore & Slidell: Rural Legacy will purchase 96 acres for \$2 million on the north side of W. Old Baltimore. Jamison agreed to donate 76 acres on the south side of W. Old Baltimore to connect to Bucklodge Forest and Black Hill Regional Park. Settlement should be in early July. Merritt will write a letter to commend Park and Planning in this seven-year effort.
- **Boyds Historical Society** (Elaine Fors-MacKellar):
 - Boyds Negro School will be open for Montgomery County's Heritage Days on June 27-28 12-4 pm
 - BHS gave away a \$50 award for History Day
 - BHS now qualifies to offer Student Service Learning hours
 - BHS will open the Boyds Negro School on the last Sunday of the month from 1:00 – 4:00 pm
 - Flea Market (1st Saturday of each month) April - November and only costs \$15 per two-spaces
 - Archiving the BHS records should begin this summer
 - Hope to organize a membership drive
 - Hope to plan some hikes to historic sites.
- **Hilltop Farms Limited Partnership** located at Slidell & W. Old Baltimore (Merritt for Allen Noble): in the Court of Appeals. This development would disable the Ag Reserve's planning process.
- **MARC Trains** (Merritt for Miriam Schoenbaum): Ridership is up; extra parking may be available at Boyds Church.
- **Barnesville Oak Farms, LLC** (Merritt for Mike Rubin): Whites Store and Peachtree Rds. over to Beallsville Rd. Due to the downturn in the economy, this development is on hold. For more information, visit the website: ruralmontgomery.org or montgomerycountysidealliance.org

- **Schaeffer & White Ground Rd:** Bridge construction has started. White Ground Rd. will be closed to Rt. 28.
- **Communication tower:** AT&T wants an additional 25 feet higher for a better signal and would require a red light on tower. A hearing should be sometime in June or July.
- **Rustic Roads Advisory Committee** (Mark for Cheryl Imperatore): looking at the request for Barnesville Oaks to move some houses to protect the view.
- **Cabin Branch Development / Summerfield Crossing** (Kathie Hulley): W. Old Baltimore / Rt. 121 / I-270
 - Hospital public meeting was all hush-hush, even Shady Grove Adventist did not know about it
 - Holy Cross Hospital wants to prevent the Clarksburg Civic Assoc. from attending any meetings
- **Dyzak Property:** will have a retail store.
- **Sheppard Property** (10 acres Rt. 121/Little Sierra Ct.): will have four houses on the 10-acre lot, removing 80% of the trees.
- **Zorastrian Temple** (5 acres lot): on hold
- **Anderson Junkyard:** looking good
- **Rt. 28 sign at Clarksburg Rd.:** is gone!

NEW BUSINESS

- **Ride-On Bus depot and maintenance yard** (Kathie Hulley) proposed for Whelan Lane. Community is very concerned about the 250 buses and 90 pieces of heavy equipment to be located there. The specs for the proposed location seemed to be very specific to put the depot on Whelan Lane. At the proposed location the jail could not be expanded. Efforts to get quality and an environmental impact report have been in the works for two years. Merritt will write a letter requesting a presentation about the depot.
- **Clarksburg Marching Band:** were invited to perform in Shanghai at the biggest parade for bands. The Asst. Superintendent would not permit it (multiple times), even though the only expense was the \$715 airfare that the students were paying for themselves. Merritt sent a letter of support to allow the students to go. Talley permitted the students to go.
- **Clarksburg Planning Meeting:** April 20, 7:30 pm
- **CCT (Corridor Cities Transit):** There will be a meeting on April 27 to discuss this bus or light rail transportation.
- **Boyds Highlands** (north side of Barnesville Rd.): want two more additional houses to the already proposed 15-20 houses.
- **Antoinette Smith property** (end of Old Bucklodge at Rt. 28): Friends of Plenty have preliminary development plans.
- **Lyme disease** (Lisa Marçais): 70% of deer ticks and 30% of dog ticks carry Lyme disease.
- **Blood Drive** (Lisa Marçais): May 9 at the Germantown Library
- **Art League of Germantown** (Carol Purcell): host and hang shows Fri., Sat., and Sun. at the Black Rock Center for the Arts.
- **Leg-hold Trapping** (Anne Davies) is still permitted in MD. Petitions were handed out to help ban this cruel practice.
- **Sugarloaf Citizens Association:** Meeting to be held on April 18, 9:30 am at Linden Farm.
- **Speed camera on W. Old Baltimore:** not in yet

Next BCA meeting: July 16, 2008.

Motion to adjourn was passed at 9:30 pm.