

June 14, 2012 Annual Meeting – Cleveland Park Library

CPCA president, Susie Taylor, opened the meeting at 6:40.

1. State of the Association Report

Susie explained that it has been traditional at the Annual Meeting to summarize the activities of CPCA during the year, particularly in light of the budget and work plan approved the previous fall. She noted that CPCA is on target with regard to its budget.

Susie stated that there were three principal goals for the past year and that reviewed each.

A. Engage and Expand Membership

There are now 530 CPCA members, a respectable participation rate among Cleveland Park residents.

CPCA, as part of its outreach effort, continued to sponsor Cleveland Park Day in conjunction with the Cleveland Park Business Association. Next fall the celebration will be held on a Sunday in October, a change from prior practice which was to hold the event on a Saturday. Jeff Davis coordinated Cleveland Park Day this past year. CPCA needs a coordinator for this year.

CPCA has also tried to be responsive to initiatives of the membership. One example is the successful launch of an aging in place organization, Cleveland Park Village. CPV now has an independent Board of Directors, has incorporated as a non-profit corporation in DC, and has filed with the IRS for 501(c)(3) status. The Village boundaries cover a larger area than CPCA, extending to McLean Gardens/Vaughan Place, Cathedral Heights and north to Tilden. Efforts will be made to expand neighborhood awareness and membership in the fall.

This year Mark Rosenman helped organize a series of topical meeting presentations, which were well received.

B. Outreach

To reach out to new constituencies, one of the meetings featured a discussion of ways that CPCA could serve families with young children.

To broaden our outreach, the CPCA web site is being redesigned for greater accessibility, visual appeal and functionality. The new version will be ready to use by the fall.

C. Participation in City-wide Issues

CPCA established a separate committee to help CPCA be informed on city-wide regulatory matters and to participate in proceedings as appropriate.

CPCA was successful in leading a citizen push back on a proposed overlay change which would have calculated the 25% restaurant rule to segments of the Conn. Ave. commercial blocks.

CPCA has been active with other citizens associations regarding the proposed rewrite of ABRA regulations restricting citizens. An example of a new proposed regulation is one that would restrict a citizen's right to protest proposed liquor licenses to those living within 400 feet of the establishment. (See more below)

2. Current Activities

In addition, CPCA has been active in areas that affect the neighborhood:

- McFadden's (Uptown Tap Room) is moving into the Four Fields space. CPCA is working with John Sullivan, a McFadden's Principal, to enter into a Voluntary Agreement, providing assurances on operation in areas of concern to neighbors (e.g., noise, dancing, patronage). At a recent meeting, McFadden's agreed to consider 9 specific points that CPCA requested be included in a Voluntary Agreement.
- Historic Preservation issues that have delayed the completion of the Fire Station renovation have been resolved and the work is supposed to be completed in 18 months (fall 2013).
- CPCA is a participant in The National Cathedral School Usage Committee. This committee has operated well this year, with appropriate flexibility provided to the Cathedral to allow usages necessary in response to the earthquake and the consequent repairs.
- Connecticut Avenue Project
 - New traffic lights will be operational as soon as PEPCO can complete the wiring.
 - The mid-block crossing is scheduled for completion by the end of the fall.
 - The Conn. Ave Newark intersection will be realigned to be more perpendicular and planters added that will also collect rainwater run off from Newark Street.
 - There will be newly designed tree boxes.
 - DDOT is commencing with a \$250,00 study of further improvements to CT Ave. and CPCA will work with Kelly Peterson, the new Ward 3 DDOT planner, to ensure that the valuable input of the community is obtained at the front end, rather than after most of the planning study is completed.

3. Improvements needed.

--Getting timely notice of regulatory issues so that we are not caught by surprise. The Federation of Citizens Associations needs a system to help all the citizen associations with this.

--Better communication with members, including advance distribution of meeting agendas and ensuring that all members are receiving meeting notices now that we have moved to e-mail notification.

--More membership involvement, especially regarding holistic review of the overlay, addressing ABRA regulations, and participating in the Greening Committee.

4. Discussion of Members Areas of Interest for 2012-13.

Members suggested the following topics that might be added to the agenda for next year.

- Placement of Solar Panels in Historic Districts.
- Review of Cleveland Park Overlay – possible survey of businesses and citizens as to their vision for the Connecticut Ave. commercial area.
- Consider ways to support DC Statehood.
- A representative of Neighbors for Neighborhoods distributed a summary of the significant zoning changes, which would increase density and commercial activities in residential areas. Explore these proposed changes with the membership.
- Explore opportunities to cooperate with the Uptown Theater to bring programs of broad interest to the neighborhood.
- Bring together parents involved in each of our schools, the library and Macomb playground.

5. Election of 2012-2013 Officers

Susie Taylor thanked the retiring Board Members (Gabe Fineman, Gene Massey, and Trish Savage) and turned the Election procedure over to retiring Board Member Gene Massey. After a brief introduction of the nominees to replace the retiring Board Members (Rachel Cox, Chris Fioravante, and Margie Siegel) the following slate was unanimously elected:

President:	Susie Taylor
1 st Vice Pres:	Ann Hamilton
2 nd Vice Pres:	Ruth Caplan
Recording Secretary:	Rachel Cox
Corresponding Secretary:	Ana Evans
Treasurer:	John Korbel

At Large: Jeff Davis, Chris Fioravante, Clark Madigan, Mark Rosenman, and Margaret Siegel

6. Councilman Phil Mendelson

Acting Council Chair Mendelson arrived around 8:00 to make a brief presentation and to answer any questions.

He first discussed the ethic issues affecting the Council and stated his commitment to set a high standard in this regard. He wants to lead by example and emphasize honesty, integrity and hard work.

He wants the Council, acting as the committee of the whole, to take on fewer issues by removing housing and economic development and retaining education and the budget.

He will continue to chair the Public Safety Committee while serving as Acting Council Chair. He expressed his confidence in Cathy Lanier who has been responsible for significant progress and staying within budget.

In response to a question regarding the Mayor's initiative on Sustainable DC, he said the Mayor had presented a report to the Council with specific goals and objectives. He sees the current Council as supporting green initiatives.

He also explained his vote against the nomination of Betty Noel to the Public Service Commission, stating that he did not think she could be a disinterested Commission member, based on her testimony at the confirmation hearing. He also explained that he had received the opinion of the Council's General Counsel that his ownership of \$15,000 of PEPCO stock did not constitute a conflict of interest.

Several questions were posed from the audience:

- The need for clarification of CFO Gandhi's opinion on the tax status of interest from Tax Exempt Mutual Funds owning non-DC bonds
- The need for clarification and education of Council Members on the Federal and DC conflict of interest regulations.
- The need for an oversight hearing on the activities of the Office of Planning relating to proposed revisions to zoning regulations discussed earlier.
- The need for working on external relations with the Hill. Mendelson said he was meeting with Eleanor Holmes Norton and leaders from both sides of the aisle.

Councilman Mendelson said he would follow up on these points, but stated that no Office of Planning oversight hearing could be held before the summer break (July 15 –Sept 15).

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.