

**Minutes of the Greater Farmland Civic Association (GFCA)
Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2016**

The Board of Directors of the Greater Farmland Civic Association met on September 19, 2016 at the home of GFCA President Ed Rich, 11703 Hitching Post Lane, Rockville, MD 20852 at 7:00 PM. Board members Ed Rich, Kevin Novak, Toby Levin, Rick Gentry, Peter Rumm, Meg Gold, and Peggy Slye, along with Committee Chairs, Marta Vogel, Emily Mintz, Tracy Miller and Kathy Hoffman attended this meeting. Pamela Levine, Paul Arveson, and Tom Biggs were absent. Ed Rich called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM

Community Forum/Member Comments: No comments were provided at this meeting.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the GFCA Board Meeting on May 3, 2016 were approved.

President's Report: President Ed Rich reported that the Farmland Elementary School PTA had requested that the Montgomery County of Transportation provide a four-way stop at the intersection of Old Gate Road and Hitching Post Lane. A traffic study will be conducted to see if this action is warranted.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tom Biggs provided the Treasurer's Report in advance of the meeting, indicating that current funds total \$19,088. The Treasurer inquired if additional funds would be required for community beautification and maintenance beyond those budgeted for 2016.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Committee Chair Emily Mintz reported that the GFCA currently has a membership of 435 households as a result of the annual GFCA membership drive. The membership goal for 2016 is 450 households. A mailing is being planned for the upcoming 2017 membership drive. It will include a community newsletter for which content is needed. The preparation of the annual membership drive mailing will take place on or about October 17. The GFCA bulk mailing permit was renewed at the cost of \$225 in preparation for the upcoming mailing. Community members who join the GFCA after October 1, 2016 will be credited with 2017 membership. The Board discussed the need to add some additional Block Captains prior to the membership drive and agreed to hold a Board and Block Captain's Party prior to the upcoming membership drive. The Board also discussed efforts to reach out to new community members and agreed that coupons for local businesses and community information would be welcome gifts for new community members. Rick Gentry will coordinate next steps and actions for this outreach.

Beautification - The Board discussed the scope of work in the current community beautification contract for grounds maintenance, especially on the community traffic circles, and whether it was adequate for current requirements. The Board noted the need to maintain these public areas well and to ensure that they were attractively groomed in advance of community events, such as the community Yard Sale. The Board also discussed the need to repair/replace lettering at the community entrances. The question of responsibility for the removal of dead trees was also raised.

Transportation - Committee Chair Tracy Miller reported that a Back to School safety note was distributed on the community listserv and that a note on safety was also included in back-to-school edition of the Farmland ES PTA newsletter; Luxmanor, Feynman, Saint Elizabeth's and Green Acres schools were also contacted. In addition to the traffic study underway at Hitching Post and Old Gate, a request has been made to the Department of Transportation to set up SMART (Speed Monitoring Awareness Radar Trailer) units at three locations identified by the Transportation Committee: Tilden Lane between Old Stage and Farmland, Old Stage near Magruder and Tildenwood between Sulky and Montrose. A timeline for the deployment of the units should be available by early October. A letter will be going out to homes on Farmland Drive between Old Stage and Race Horse asking whether they would like to have sidewalks installed. Comments are requested by October 7, 2016. Homeowner response will dictate the next steps.

On the issue of road repair and maintenance in the community, President Ed Rich indicated that WSSC and WGL had responsibility for repairing any damage to roads which occurred as a result of their ongoing repair and maintenance activities in the community. Other road condition issues should be reported to the Montgomery County Department of Transportation.

Senior Village – Committee Chair Marta Vogel reported that there was no activity at this time.

Energy and Government Affairs – Toby Levin reported that Abby Milstein of PowerUp MontCo was willing to collaborate on information for listserv publication. Ed Rich noted that that Yahoo might be sold and, as a result, the Board should consider Google Groups as a potential new site for the community listserv.

New Business:

Social Event Planning – Committee Chair Kathy Hoffman suggested that a November community meeting at Tilden Recreation Center could be combined with a Ribbon Cutting and Social to introduce the community to the features of the newly refurbished recreation center which was promoted by the GFCA. Kathy also reported that planning is underway for the next Winter on the Farmland family social event to be held in January. Some of the most popular activities at last year's event will be included in the program again. The Board also discussed the feasibility of planning a family social event in early to mid June, prior to the last day of school, to be held at Farmland ES. Some dates were agreed for forthcoming meetings and events; these are listed below under Next Meetings.

Other Business:

Next Meetings: The remaining GFCA Board of Directors meeting in 2016 will be held **November 15, 2016** at 7:30 PM. The next GFCA Community Meeting will be held on October 18, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Farmland Elementary School with a further community meeting / social event to be scheduled in November (tentatively November 14th) at Tilden Recreation Center. The first GFCA Community meeting in 2017 will be held in March, tentatively March 15th, at Farmland Elementary School. Community Members are welcome to attend all GFCA Board of Directors meetings.

Adjournment was moved, seconded and approved unanimously; the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.