

Kemp Mill Civic Association
General Membership Meeting
December 14, 2010
7:30pm

The meeting was brought to order by President Rebekah Rasooly.

The only committee report was from the Parks Committee. A hearing about the Kemp Mill Urban Park will held on January 12th, 7-9 pm at Kemp Mill Elementary School.

Officer Sharif Hidayat, the Montgomery County Policy community services officer, made a brief presentation. He noted that there is a new Commander of this district (the 4th District), John Damskey. There has been a very modest amount of crime in Kemp Mill, and the location of incidents can be viewed at the Web site www.crimereports.com. He reminded everyone to report suspicious activities, either by calling the Police (**301-279-8000**) or by emailing Officer Hidayat at Sharif.Hidayat@montgomerycountymd.gov. During the question and answer period, the following points were raised:

- The robbery that took place on a recent Friday night involved an implied (but not visible) weapon. In response to a request from the KMCA, Officer Hidayat will arrange for extra patrols on Friday nights after dark to try to deter future incidents.
- The holiday season presents added opportunity for crime and accidents in and around malls and shopping areas. The Police are distributing fluorescent green shopping bags to shoppers to increase their visibility to motorists. In addition, there is a "Shop with a Cop" program that has increased the presence of officers in and around Westfield Mall and other County malls. The program supplements the existing team assigned to the downtown Wheaton business district that patrols that area, including the parking garages.
- In response to concerns about traffic violations, such as speeding and illegal right-on-red turns on Arcola and Lamberton, Officer Hidayat will respond directly to the email from a KMCA member about this topic and will explore additional enforcement at times when there seem to be many violations. Kemp Mill residents should let the Officer know what those times might be (morning rush hour, weekends, etc.)
- Budget cuts have already led to the elimination of school resource officers, and there may be additional cuts in the coming difficult budget year.

Rebekah Rasooly then introduced Natalie Cantor, Director of the Mid-County Regional Services Center and presented her with an award on behalf of the KMCA



Ms. Cantor discussed several projects of interest to the Kemp Mill community:

- 1) The resurfacing of University Blvd between Colesville Road and Arcola is beginning in the next few days.
- 2) If you would like to receive a copy of the weekly Police crime report from this district, please let Ms. Cantor know at Natalie.Cantor@montgomerycountymd.gov.
- 3) The west side Kiss & Ride at Glenmont station will be closing in the next week or two to allow construction of a new parking garage.
- 4) The Randolph-Georgia intersection reconstruction plan is underway. So far the work has focused on relocating utilities in the area to permit construction. The actual construction will begin once the sale of the fire station and its move to Arcola is resolved. The County Council recently approved funds for the move, so this project should be getting underway shortly.
- 5) After briefly reviewing the long history of the effort to bring a full-service recreation center to Wheaton, Ms. Cantor described the plan to build a new combined full-service library and full-service recreation center in a new single building that will span the properties occupied by the current library and small rec center to its north. The next step is for the County Council to approve capital funding for the project, which will take 6 years to complete.

The question and answer period covered the following points:

- The Wheaton Rescue Squad will move to the corner of Georgia & Arcola with construction starting in January. There will be a rental space with kitchen available for community use.
- The existing brick building on the old Good Counsel property (the Rafferty Center) will be demolished and a park and playground will be build on the site.
- There is an important meeting about the Kemp Mill Urban Park on January 12th.
- The final details with respect to Costco's move to the Westfield Mall are being finalized, but the target opening date is April, 2012, and the negotiations are well along.
- There is still no tenant for some of the vacant sites in downtown Wheaton, including the former site of Ferdinand's Restaurant
- The Glenmont Sector Plan discussion is scheduled to begin in February, and those interested in seeing revitalization of the mall near Glenmont station should try to become involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebekah Rasooly
President, KMCA 2009-11