

Kemp Mill Civic Association
General Meeting
04 February 2013
Kemp Mill Elementary School

President Rebekah Rasooly opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

There have been six reported break-ins over the past several weeks, mostly during the daytime when residents are not at home. Two juvenile suspects have been arrested after attempting to pawn stolen items. Police have had marked and unmarked cars in the area, however residents are reminded to always be prudent about securing their homes and vehicles. Please visit the website <http://home.howstuffworks.com/home-improvement/household-safety/security/discourage-break-ins.htm> for some tips about improving home security.

Costco Marketing/Membership Manager Debbie Ross announced that the Westfield Wheaton location would be opening on April 10th. She reviewed some membership categories and noted that Costco's grocery would include a kosher bakery. Ms. Ross noted that the proposed gas station still is in the approval process and encouraged attendees to express their support. (Note: the Kemp Mill Civic Association has not taken a position on the gas station.)

Community member Max Rudman encouraged members to support a community food drive to support the Capital Area Food Bank. The drive will be held February 24th through March 1st. Collection sites include the Shalom Market, the Little Gym, and the Warwick University Towers.

Steve Silverman, Director of the Montgomery County Department of Economic Development, spoke of the measures the county is taking to support small businesses. The county believes that small businesses are key drivers of the county's economy and of the county's tax base. Among the measures the county has taken are setting aside 20% of contracts for local small business; encouraging agencies to "buy local;" and providing low-interest loans. More information about the county's programs is available at <http://www.choosemontgomerymd.com/>.

Community member Bruce Brigham announced that he was trying to start an investors' club to help members become more knowledgeable about investment options.

The Kemp Mill sign that had been at the neighborhood's main entrance was destroyed by an unlicensed and uninsured driver. The KMCA does not have the resources to replace the sign or to pursue the driver in small claims court for damages. If anyone is interested in taking on the driver please contact Ms. Rasooly at president@kempmill.org. In the meantime, the remnants of the sign will be removed.

After repeated complaints by the KMCA and strong support from Council Member Nancy Navarro, the pond at the Kemp Mill Urban Park (next to the shopping center) is being drained and cleaned. Renovations to improve the park and to make it less attractive to geese still are several years away, with no firm commitment for interim measures from Park and Planning.

No other business was presented.

Respectfully,

Cynthia D. Brandt Campagna
Secretary, Kemp Mill Civic Association