



NOTES OF FOUR CITIES MEETING held Thursday, October 29, 2009, Greenbelt Municipal Building.

Mayor Davis called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

PRESENT were Greenbelt Mayor Judith F. Davis, and Greenbelt Council members Konrad Herling, Leta Mach, Edward Putens and Rodney Roberts.

ALSO PRESENT were Mayor Stephen Brayman, and Council members Bob Catlin, Jack Perry, and Patrick Wojhan, and City Manager Joe Nagro of College Park; Mayor Cheye Calvo and Council members Patricia Dennison, Darald Lofgren, Richard Ahrens and James Wilkinson of Berwyn Heights; Council members James Wildoner, Duane Rosenberg and Richard Bechtold, and Assistant Administrative Officer Graham Waters of New Carrollton; David Moran, Assistant City Manager and Michael McLaughlin, City Manager of Greenbelt; Thomas White of the News Review, David Hill of the Gazette, Bill Orleans, and Chris Hatcher of Rifkin, Livingston, Levitan & Silver.

Mayor Davis chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone to it.

College Park Items:

1. Presentation by Small Business Development Center – It was decided that College Park should determine if there is value in this matter coming to the Four Cities.
2. Regional Climate Action Plan – Mr. Catlin explained this initiative being undertaken by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG). It was noted the plan will include best practices for energy efficiency, especially street lighting, and would be accessible by both members and non-members of COG.

Greenbelt Items:

1. Mayor Davis updated the group on the recent discussions at a Council work session with representatives of GB Development and Craftmark. Greenbelt expressed its interest in maintaining the agreements and covenants that had been reached. Berwyn Heights and College Park concurred and noted they would look for Greenbelt to take the lead on this matter.
2. Election Status – The upcoming elections in College Park and Greenbelt were discussed. Each of the districts are competitive, but Andrew Fellows is unopposed for mayor. In Greenbelt, the Council is being expanded from 5 to 7 members.
3. Legislative Initiatives – Only College Park had identified initiatives including a clean energy loan program, bifurcating Highway User revenue between municipalities and counties, and continuing the ShuttleUM partnership. Greenbelt has submitted to the Maryland Municipal League proposals to incentivize alternative fuel facilities and

revisiting how apartments are assessed. New Carrollton is interested in the apartment assessment issue as well.

New Carrollton Items:

1. New Carrollton was interested in the limited planning and zoning authority presently before the County Council. It was noted the bill may be pulled back for further consideration and resubmittal in January.

Berwyn Heights

1. College Park provided an update on the status of the East Campus development which has slowed due to the downturn in the economy.
2. Speed Cameras – New Carrollton has installed equipment. Berwyn Heights has passed an ordinance to enable it, but is reviewing the pros and cons. College Park and Greenbelt are still looking into the subject.
3. 2010 Budget Update – Each community identified actions it is taking to respond to the cuts in State revenues, primarily the Highway User Revenue. New Carrollton may borrow money to do its street work. College Park is using available monies from the previous fiscal year and deferring projects. Berwyn Heights is deferring projects and may cut merit pay. Greenbelt has not made a final determination at this time, but is looking for savings and may limit capital projects. It was suggested to have this item on the agenda of the next Four Cities meeting along with any thoughts for the sharing of costs/services.

Dates for meetings in 2010 were suggested. They are January 27 in College Park, April 29 in New Carrollton, July 29 in Berwyn Heights, and October 27 in Greenbelt.

Mayor Davis thanked everyone for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael McLaughlin,
City Manager