

ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD APPROVED MINUTES OF MEETING Greenbelt Community Center October 7, 2010

Minutes Prepared by Amy Hofstra

The meeting was called to order at 7:41pm

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT WERE George Branyan, Sandy Lange, Joyce Gladstone, and Ann Landry Lombardi. NOT PRESENT were Brian Gibbons and Sheldon Goldberg.

CITY STAFF PRESENT WAS Amy Hofstra.

OTHER ATTENDEES present were Ed Putens, Silke Pope, Bobbi Anderson, Corey Smith, and Jeff Lemieux.

No minutes were approved. The Board introduced themselves to the guests present, including a report from the online magazine, Patch.

The Board approved the report to council on the County's new stormwater management legislation. Ms. Hofstra informed the Board that the County would approve the stormwater management plan for any particular development.

The Board also approved the appointment of Mr. Chernikoff to the advisory board for the Greenbelt Middle School task force. Mr. Putens informed the Board that the County had money to renovate the school, but may have plans of their own to use the building for offices.

The Board then moved to discuss the Pedestrian/Bicycle Plan. Mr. Branyan reminded the Board that they intended to get public feedback regarding the plan before submitting it to Council. Mr. Branyan mentioned that he needed to finalize the education, enforcement, and encouragement pieces before collecting input from other Board members. The Board agreed that the final report needed to include the existing conditions document prepared by the consultant as well as a conclusion/implementation section to be written by the Board. Mr. Branyan and Ms. Lombardi agreed that a matrix describing the costs and benefits of each proposed project would improve the chances that some of the recommendations be implemented.

The Board reviewed the updates from a recent stakeholder meeting between the Council and the State Highway Administration. Mr. Branyan remarked that it was amazing that

SHA would consider narrowing express lanes on Greenbelt Road to make a wider slow lane to accommodate bicycles more safely.

Finally, the Board addressed an email from Mr. Lemieux regarding suggestions for bicycle infrastructure along Cherrywood Lane. Mr. Branyan informed Mr. Lemieux that the City already had plans for a roundabout at Cherrywood Lane because it would slow traffic through the intersection without creating additional traffic backups. Mr. Lemieux wondered if the roundabout would slow drivers with a free right turn. Mr. Branyan indicated that proper design would alleviate this problem and he asked Ms. Hofstra to provide a copy of the engineering plans for the Board. Mr. Branyan suggested that the City could look at the warrant for a stop sign at that intersection as a stop gap until the roundabout was completed. Mr. Branyan agreed that bicycle lanes along Cherrywood Lane would help cyclists turn north from the parking lot behind Chipotle, but was concerned that cyclists couldn't then navigate the roundabout at Metro Drive. Mr. Lemieux suggested that cyclists could ride up on the sidewalk. Mr. Lemieux was glad that the City had plans to include many of these improvements in the Greenbelt Metro development plans. Ms. Hofstra indicated that the Board had an opportunity to request improvements to the path by Chef's Secret as the Beltway Plaza redevelopment plan progressed. Finally, Mr. Lemieux asked if a sign could be installed to inform bicyclists of the trail behind the State Highway Administration facility on Kenilworth. Mr. Branyan agreed that the suggestion should be incorporated into the Pedestrian/Bicycle plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.