

The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume X Issue I

9b Ridgely Rd., Box 276, Timonium, Maryland 21093 http://www.gtccinc.com January 2008

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***** NEWSLETTER *****

President's Message – Eric Rockel

Let's Gaze into the Crystal Ball

As we start the year of 2008, we should start making plans for the coming year. What will 2008 bring the Greater Timonium area? Well, your guess is as good as mine, but here are a few things that we should be considering. One of the most notable events in 2008 will be the Comprehensive Rezoning Cycle, which culminates in decisions by the Baltimore County Council in the Fall of 2008. We have a number of significant issues in the area, including the Timonium Fairgrounds request to change all of their acreage to commercial zoning and the request of the College Manor elder care facility to turn their low density residential zoning into high density residential zoning. In these and other situations, the character of the immediate area will change if the zoning is allowed to change. Letters to the Planning Board and Councilman Bryan McIntire are always important in showing the community's feelings about zoning changes, and the more letters the better. Fortunately, Councilman McIntire has a deep history of being sensitive to the community's feelings on these issues.

The new year will also usher in a round of reassessments for property values, not only in the Timonium area but for all of the central part of the County. So not only do we get increases in the sales tax, and for some the income tax, but we can look forward to higher property taxes as well. I can hear some of you groaning now, "When will it end?"

As significant as the reassessment notices will be, don't forget the Homestead Tax Credit Eligibility Form that arrives with the reassessment notice. Due to a change in the State laws, all owner occupants must apply to continue to receive this significant credit. Do not overlook filing for this important benefit.

Another trend that we may see across all of Baltimore County is the spread of planned unit developments (PUDs). These are site specific developments that do not rely on the underlying zoning for the site but rely on a specific site plan that is usually more intensive than the underlying zoning. We have experienced this in Timonium at the Global View condominium site, and this process seems to be gathering interest around other areas. Don't be surprised if we see a PUD proposal on the Greenspring Drive or Aylesbury Road corridors in the next year or two.

Finally, 2008 will mark another presidential election. I'm not here to endorse one candidate or another, or even one party or another. What I can urge each reader is to take the time to learn about these candidates, not just from sound bytes on TV, but through news articles and the candidate's own literature. The economy, the war, the environment, foreign relations and many other issues face this nation. Let's hope our collective wisdom can find the leader who will navigate us through these many challenges.

<u>GTCC General Meeting</u> – Next Wednesday, January 9th, 2008

The GTCC will hold their '*Next Meeting*' on <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>January 9th</u>, <u>2008 at the Cockeysville Library Meeting</u> <u>Room</u>, on Greenside Dr., Cockeysville with *meetings STILL beginning promptly at* <u>7:00 PM</u>.

GTCC

The purpose of the GTCC is to coordinate a united council of Community Associations to enhance and protect the quality of residential life within the community.

NOTICE !!!	CALENDAR 2008	NOTICE !!!
***	*** <u>Meeting Schedule</u> *	****
Board of Directors 7:00 pm	<u>1 – 9:00pm</u>	<u>General Membership 7:00 pm – 9</u>
		January 09, 2008
February 13, 2008		March 12, 2008
April 09, 2008		May 14, 2008
June 11, 2008		July – No Meeting
August – No Meeting		September 10, 2008
October 08, 2008		November 12, 2008
December 10, 2008		

Agenda and Speakers - GTCC January 9th Meeting - Tentative Schedule.....

- Introductions
- Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports
- Report on Safety in the Cockeysville Precinct
- Comprehensive Zoning Map Process: Review of All Issues
- The Basics in Understanding Your Assessment Notice
- Old Business: Global View PUD
- New Business

<u>Annual GTCC Membership Dues</u> – Marge DiNardo

GTCC '2008' Membership dues of \$50 dollars for the year are due at this time. We had a great response from (48) Associations contributing their Annual Membership dues payment last year! Dues notices for 2008 have been mailed out this past month so if you haven't received one or if you need a copy, please don't hesitate to let us know. Please send your 2008 dues payments to GTCC, 9b Ridgely Rd., Box 276, Timonium, Maryland 21093. Thanks to all our contributing Associations for all their dedicated support for the ongoing work of the Greater Timonium Community Counsel!

The Captain's Corner – Captain Martin Lurz

We have invited our Cockeysville Precinct"7" Commander, Captain Marty Lurz, to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Captain's Corner' on any issue(s) that he feels might be of interest to our membership. The following article this month is from Captain Lurz:

Everyone at Precinct 7 sends their wishes for a healthy and safe New Year !!!

In this month's issue of the newsletter, I want to ask you to consider some proactive crime prevention resolutions as you enter the year 2008. I have written many times in the past about the importance of taking the small steps to prevent the bigger problems. A well-known Major League Baseball manager used to say, "You can't win the World Series until you learn to field the ground balls." That statement has a lot of merit in things other than baseball. Putting it into a crime prevention perspective, I want to paraphrase it to say, "You have to lock your doors and windows if you want to decrease the chances of being a victim of a burglary." The official statistics aren't in yet, but in 2007 it preliminarily looks like about 30% of the burglaries in the entire Precinct 7 area involved entry gained through an unlocked door or window. Stop and think about that in another way for a second...that means that for every ten burglaries, three may not have happened with some good basic crime prevention. Can I guarantee that? No. Is it likely or possible? Absolutely! It seemed that we made some substantial progress in reducing that number earlier in 2007. But then came spring and summer and the numbers starting going back up. I am passionate about this and hope to instill that passion throughout the precinct. And so, I need to deputize the GTCC members to preach the good crime prevention tips about locking and making houses and cars secure. And when you're asked why, repeat the often- heard-from-Captain-Lurz- in-this-newsletter-column mantra ..."burglars do not like noise". Burglars do not want attention. Breaking a window or forcing a door makes noise. Noise attracts attention. Opening an unlocked door or window does not make a lot of noise. That makes the burglar consider the odds and choose the easier method of entry!" So, please field the ground balls - lock doors and windows - to win the World Series - don't become an easy noise-free attention-free target!

Some good news for you...again unofficially, reported robberies of all types decreased by about 35% in 2007 compared to 2006. The reasons are many but include some hard and tenacious work by Precinct 7 officers and officers countywide *and* citizens calling 911 to report suspicious activity or suspicious persons. That action alone is critically important as it gives us the opportunity to respond and often-times "ruin plans" for someone who may be planning to commit a crime. So please, keep up the good work and make that call to 911. Many crimes are solved because we get a "tip" from a citizen who may not think the information is important but to us it may be the missing part of the puzzle.

Thank you for your support over the past year and I look forward to continuing our partnership in 2008.

The GTCC's "Newsletter" Emailed – Frank Regan

We continue to receive a lot of positive feedback on our Newly Formatted and now Emailed bi-monthly GTCC Newsletter. Many of our Associations like the new .PDF format as they can now easily forward the Newsletter to many of their Board and Community Members. We will also begun to post the Newsletter as a link on our GTCC website.

In order for this to be a continuing success: <u>WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS</u> **!!!** <u>Please forward us your email</u> <u>address</u> if you have not submitted it already to: **regan87@comcast.net**. Otherwise, you may not be receiving future Newsletters. We hope that you continue to find this form of our Newsletter delivery easy to use and as informative as always. Please feel free to forward this Newsletter to all those in your Association that you think might benefit from it.

<u>GTCC Website</u> - http://www.gtccinc.org - Frank Regan

The Greater Timonium Community Council maintains an active website to provide everyone information related to our organization and many activities of Community interest. We have recently taken on the challenge to update our website to enhance your surfing experience by providing an updated interface with more information and with greater ease to find what you may be looking for. Our website access has been changed to <u>GTCCINC.ORG</u> for now instead of our traditional <u>GTCCINC.COM</u> as a result of a change in our web hosting company. Hopefully, we will be able to link the .ORG and ,COM sites together in the near future. Check out our '*NEW*' look at <u>GTCCINC.ORG</u>. We hope you find it informative !

<u>The Legislator's Corner</u> – Delegate Steve Lafferty

We have also invited our State Representatives to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Legislator's Corner' on any issue(s) that they feel might be of interest to our membership. The following article this month is from the 42^{nd} Legislative Districts from Steve:

<u>42nd District</u> – Delegate Steve Lafferty

The Maryland General Assembly will soon convene to address a wide variety of issues that have been simmering and that citizens have been pushing us to take on.

We have seen many economic changes that the General Assembly will need to take on. Mortgage foreclosure rates are at an all time high, tossing many Marylanders out of their homes. This has been fueled, largely, by the sub-prime market that lured buyers to the table who should not have been purchasing a home. There will be a series of bills to better ensure that transactions are handled well and that purchasers are neither mislead nor stretched beyond their means.

The energy crisis has also not subsided. The Public Service Commission recently warned of the need to address electricity pricing and generation. We consume so much darn energy that the system isn't keeping up. So, what's the solution? Biofuels? Wind power? Nuclear? We'll be asked to see what is best for all of us in the future.

Then there are issues of climate change, educational funding, preparing for the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), and tackling the budget. The legislature recommended \$550 million in cuts to the Governor that should be included in the budget he gives us. We'll wait to see what services or resources he wants to cut. I know that the House had proposed cutting over 400 vacant positions, reducing educational funding by over \$150 million as well as a number of cuts in health care. This will require tough decisions.

I again urge you to contact me if you need assistance of if you have questions, suggestions or opinions regarding legislation. I can be reached at 410-841-3487 or stephen.lafferty@house.state.md.us.

I wish you and your family a healthy, happy and peace filled New Year.Del. Steve Lafferty

The Librarian's Corner – Margaret Prescot

We have also invited our Cockeysville Library Manager, Margaret Prescot, to provide us with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Librarian's Corner' on any issue(s) that she feels might be of interest to our membership. The following article this month is from Margaret:

As of January 2, 2008, most materials in Baltimore County Public Library, including those at the Cockeysville Library, will become "floating collections." You might be wondering what floating collections are and what this change means for you. When customers return "floating" materials, they are shelved at the branch where they are returned, rather than being sent via our delivery truck to their "home" branch. This means that you will be seeing more materials and different materials on the shelves. (You can get materials in about three days from any branch using our easy, free reserve system for materials that BCPL already owns. Call us for more details.)

Many libraries across the country already enjoy the benefits of floating collections. Two advantages are: the increased availability of materials for our customers and collections that are constantly refreshed because of the influx of floating materials from other branches.

In July 2007 we began "floating" books on CD, music CDs and other non-print materials as a pilot project. It proved very successful. Circulation rose significantly which indicated that more customers had access to more materials. Exactly what we wanted! With this new procedure, we hope you'll find even more materials to your liking when you come into the library. Please call me at 410-887-7750 if you have any questions about this exciting new idea and concept.

You'll find lists of new books, DVDs, and music CDs. Or call the Cockeysville Library at 410-887-7750; we're waiting to help you and answer any questions that you may have!

Membership & Annual Dues Report – Frank Regan

The GTCC has always had a great representation from the many Associations that exist in our geographic area which encompasses about 25 perimeter miles. This area is roughly bound from Dulaney Valley Road & I-695 to Falls Road & I-695, then north on Falls Road to Shawn Road, then east over to York Road, then up Ashland / Papermill Roads to the Loch Raven Reservoir boundary then over to Old Bosley Road and then down Dulaney Valley Road to I-695.

Each year we have been fortunate to increase our participation with a growing number of Community Associations. We are pleased to report that the GTCC now has (50) active dues paying Associations within its umbrella that represents over 60,000+ residents within our thriving neighborhoods. It is through the hard work and participation by each member Community Group that helps to enhance and protect the quality of residential life within our area.

Please find a list of participating Community Associations below:

Falls Road Comm.

Belmont Forest Condos Brooking Court Condos Burncourt Condo Chapel Hill Chapel Gate HO 1-2-3 Chapel Gate 4-5-6 Chapel Ridge Comm. Coachford Comm. County Home Park Comm. Dulaney Forest Comm. Dulaney Valley Jennifer Ridge Roundwood Ridge

First Mays Chapel HO Fox. Chapel Comm. Holly Hall Garden Condos Hunt Meadow Comm. Huntridge Comm Kilcolman Garden Condos Lutherville Comm. Northhampton Comm. Mays Chapel Village Garden Condos Mays Chapel Townhouse HomeOwrs Overlook Wellington Valley

Monterey Imp. Orchard Hills Comm. Pine Valley / Valleywood Pot Spring Comm Ramsgate Comm. Rockfleet Garden Condos Rosslare Ridge Condos. Shepherd's Knoll Garden Condos Sherwood Hill Springdale Comm. Limerick Condos Topfield Condo Pebble Creek HO Springlake Comm. Stapleton Court Garden Condos Stratford Comm. Tullamore Condos Valley Crest Civic Valley Garth Wakefield West Timonium Heights York Manor Yorkshire/Haverford Comm Longford Tralee Forest Condo Dunloy Condo

This & That – Regular and New Helpful Items

- Balto.Co. Executive Updates The Office of the County Executive periodically has information to provide to community leaders. A number of community leaders have expressed a desire to receive this information in an email format. If you would like to receive these emails, please register using the following website:
 http://www.baltimorecountyonline.info/Subscribe/communitynews
- **Balto.Co.** E-Community Newsletter Baltimore County has unveiled a new County service, the E-Community Newsletter. The county will publish seven monthly letters, one for each County Council district, detailing planning, zoning, development and public works decisions and their impact on communities. The first issue will be published in mid-August. Residents can register for the newsletter at: http://www.baltimorecountyonline.info/subscribe/ updates.

You can find a weekly calendar of development- and zoning-related hearings and meetings for County: Council District 3 at: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm_d3.html Council District 2 at: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/MeetingsandEvents/pdm_d2.html Full Newsletter at: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/communityupdates/d3/060901d3.html Previous Editions at: http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/agencies/communityupdates/d3/index.html

• **Baltimore County Public Library** – The Cockeysville Library is located at 9833 Greenside Drive adjacent to the Baltimore County Home Park. Library hours are Monday-Thursday 9-9; Friday and Saturday 9-5:30, and Sundays 1-5 (October-April). The library has 153,000 books, DVDs and videos, CDs, newspapers, magazines and more. Annual circulation is more than 1.1 million items. There are 19 computers available for the public that have Internet access and Microsoft Office for typing resumes and other documents. All programs are free and include drop-in story times for children, family puppet shows, computer courses and book discussions for adults. The BCPL website (*www.bcpl.info*) has magazine, newspaper, genealogy, literature and other databases for research and general information. Librarians welcome information requests and questions at 410-887-7750. Please..... Give them a call!

<u>GTCC Trivia</u> – Did You Know?

There is so much history and tradition here in both the *Greater GTCC and the Baltimore County* area that books could easily be written and filled with all the information. However, from time to time we will provide a source for the lighter side of our many Communities.

See if you know the answers to these few trivia factoids:

- 1. The first deed in Baltimore County was filed in 1664. Where was the property?
- 2. What is "Towson's Light-House"?
- 3. Who were the last five County Executives?

Please don't hesitate to send any of our Board members a trivia fact and we will try to include them in our next Newsletter. (See Answers Below)

1. In 1664, the property of Captain Thomas Todd, known as "Todd's Inheritance" was recorded. The original house on old North Point Road was burned by the British during the War of 1812. This structure was supposedly built of English brick that had served as ballast on tobacco ships that came directly to the plantation to load. For several years after the War, the Todd family lived in a granary on the property until a new brick house was finished in 1816. This structure can be seen today.

2. A genuine hero of the War of 1812 was native son General Nathan Towson who had a 40 year career in the army and was considered to be the "ablest artillery officer" in the United States. He was born in Towson in 1794 and was primarily a farmer until he joined the Baltimore militia when the British attacked the frigate Chesapeake in 1807. During the War of 1812 he fought in the Lake Erie theater and rose quickly through the ranks. His battery unit won the day in two important engagements in 1814 and became known as Towson's Light-House from their constant flashes of rapid fire.

3. The last five County Executives were Hutchinson, Rasmussen, Hayden, Ruppersberger and Smith.

<u>Recycling Information</u> - What You Need to Know – Christmas Trees

Towson, Md. (December 21, 2007)—The Collection of Christmas trees for recycling will take place over a two-week period, beginning Monday January 14, 2008. To ensure collection of Christmas trees, residents must have the trees out at the curb no later than Sunday, January 20.

Residents should follow these rules when placing their Christmas trees at the curb to be recycled:

- Set out undecorated trees only.
- Do not set trees out that are in bags or wrapped in plastic.
- No decorations or tree stands.
- Only set out trees at the front curb/street.
- Trees will not be collected from alleys.

Baltimore County collectors will pick up Christmas trees in standard trash/recycling trucks, and deliver them to County facilities to be chipped and later used as mulch. Baltimore County residents who live in an apartment or condominium should follow their concierge's or property manager's rules when recycling their Christmas trees.

Residents who want to drop off Christmas trees themselves, may do so from Wednesday, December 26, 2007 through Saturday, January 26, 2008. Residents may drop off their Christmas trees at one of the following County drop-off locations. The trees must fit all of the previously mentioned criteria.

- Western Acceptance Facility, off of the 4500 block of Hollins Ferry Road, in Halethorpe.
- Monday Saturday, 7 a.m. 4 p.m.
- Baltimore County Resource Recovery Facility, on Drop-Off Drive, off Warren Road, in Cockeysville. Monday – Saturday, 7 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Eastern Landfill Solid Waste Management Facility, off of the 11400 block of Pulaski Highway, in White Marsh. Monday – Saturday, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

For more information on Christmas tree recycling and for directions to drop-off centers, Baltimore County residents may log onto www.baltimorecountymd.gov/recycling or call the Bureau of Solid Waste Management at 410-887-2000.



The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for January 9th, 2008 at 7:00 PM at the "Cockeysville Library".

CURRENT ISSUES

Potin Stil Restaurant Zoning Variance Appeal – Zoning Case 02-165-A, 2323 York Rd, Variances to Parking Regulations as to number required, island sizes, aisle space dimensions. Zoning Commissioner granted all variances. GTCC filed an appeal with the Board of Appeals. Appeals Board reversed the Zoning Commissioner's order by a 2-1 vote. Petitioner made request for Judicial Review to Baltimore County Circuit Court. GTCC and Peoples Counsel of BC filed in opposition to request. Circuit Court Judge agreed with the Board of Appeals decision reversing the variances granted. Director of Permits and Development and Code Enforcement have not exercised the Circuit Court's order of July 5, 2005. Request, if granted by the County, for any future meeting to be held, to participate in settlement of this case. Engineer for the owners have requested a refinement to the development plan to correct this violation. Lou Miller attended the DRC meeting, and Baltimore County did not approve the DRC request. The matter is rightfully considered a zoning violation and not a development refinement. To date, the violations have not been corrected, and Baltimore County needs to enforce the zoning violations. The engineer's revised plan has been rejected by zoning officials of Baltimore County. As of the end of April revisions to the plan have not been received. Lou Miller is writing a letter to County Exec. Jim Smith asking him to intercede to require code compliance. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, and GTCC Executive Committee)

York Rd.-Timonium Condo Proposal – A & A Global Industries and Keelty Company are proposing a two tower Condo and mixed use on York Rd across from the north end of the Fair Grounds. Meetings were held 9/21/05, 10/2705, 1/10,06, 3/08/06, 5/24/06 concerning adopting the site plan to minimize sight lines from Stratford Community at top of the hill. What started with 14 stories and one underground and two above ground parking stories is now reduced to two underground parking and one above is now 10 stories of 216 Condo's. Movement into the hill is now approximately 35 feet. Councilman will not grant a PUD going forward until the residential communities are satisfied with the plan. Concerns remain about the scale of these Condo towers and the precedent for future development on York Road. A meeting before Christmas 2006 produced a compromise. Keelty's architect reduced the towers to eight stories of residential units and one above-ground level of parking. The scale of the cupolas were also reduced. The Stratford Community Association's Board of Directors and GTCC have recently agreed not to oppose the Planned Unit Development (PUD) with respect to height and size. As stated at the Community Input Meeting , concerns still exist regarding hours of construction, landscaping, and lighting. A Planning Board hearing is scheduled for January 4, 2008. Attend the next general meeting to learn of the outcome ...(E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee & Stratford Community)

Epithany Episcopal Church, 2216 Pot Spring Rd. – Cingular Antenna Tower – Church is proposing to lease space for Cingular to place an antenna on their property. GTCC and many of its member Community Associations totally oppose that use. Baltimore County Regulations 426 governs that use. Church property is undersized to provide required setback from other residential property. Case law has determined this in other cases. Letter received from Executive Vice President, External Affairs and Public Relations of Cingular stating no decision yet but may file for approval to install a stealth system within the steeple. (Means a hidden antenna). As of October, no communication from Cingular's attorney had been received. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, C. Roller, M.DiNardo & concerned CA's)

Hampton Manor: This property is located on the east side of Scott Adam Road and is an existing multifamily residential development that will be adding more units. Concept Plan Conference scheduled for 11/6/2006 at 10:00 am in Room 123 County Office Building. Community Input Meeting will be scheduled thereafter. The community input meeting demonstrated several objections to the plan. The most common objection was a proposal to connect Southfork Road with the existing roads in the apartment complex. Residents on Southfork are concerned about additional "cut thru" traffic. Despite the owner's willingness to eliminate the connection to Southfork Road, Baltimore County DPW and Fire Department officials insist on a second access. A compromise may have been reached at the start of the Hearing Officer's Hearing. Both sides will examine making the Southfork connection a gated entrance. At the Hearing Officer's Hearing, Baltimore County agreed to allow Southfork Road to be a gated entrance. This issue will move to the completed list following the Hearing Officer's written decision. (E.Rockel)

Mays Chapel School Site: The Baltimore County Board of Education has approved preliminary funding in its FY 2009 to relocate the special needs school to Board of Education-owned and Baltimore County-owned property on Padonia Road. Residents of Mays Chapel are concerned about loosing this parkland in their community. Few details about the size and layout of this proposed school are currently available. The Save Mays Chapel Park Committee has prepared a series of questions for Baltimore County Public Schools to answer regarding its site selection. (E. Rockel & Mays Chapel Community Associations)

ON-GOING ISSUES

Texas Station – Jacoby Properties sold property to Peter Angelos. Zoning changed in 2004 Comprehensive Zoning Cycle from ML-IM to BM (Business Major). No further plans presented to occupy the property. GTCC continues to monitor this property. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, F. Regan, GTCC Executive Committee.)

Ames Store Building – Land and building owned by Capital Enterprises. The DRC approved plan to change the building which should lead to the construction of a Giant Foods in place of the now vacant store. Despite requests from GTCC and Yorkshire/Haverford, Giant has not replied to a request to publicly present their plans.(L. Miller, F. Regan)

York Rd. Widening, Seminar to Ridgely Rd. – York Road is a Md. State road. Funding approved of \$5.5 million from Md. State and \$875 thousand from Baltimore County to widen and provide for a third middle lane. Utility relocation activity started in August. Estimates of two years of construction were previously given for the entire project, including utility pole relocations, water main replacement and road work.. From the Fall of 2006 to Fall 2007 expect water main construction, and road reconstruction to take place from Fall 2007 to Fall 2008. Construction has started on the east side of York Road (E. Rockel, GTCC Executive Committee)

Becker Property - Developers to modify their plans to comply with limitations set by the hearing officer on the project. While their modifications are scaled back from 20 homes on 89 acres. Hearing Officer's Hearing to take place in November 2007. (B. Moore & FRCA)

Francis X. Gallagher Center- The development Review Committee of Baltimore County approved the construction of a thirty foot wide by forty foot long pavilion, which will be constructed near the existing greenhouses on the property. This pavilion will support the existing functions on the property, including the greenhouses. The pavilion's style is reportedly similar to the pavilions at Oregon Ridge. (E.Rockel, M.DiNardo)

Beaver Dam Swim Club Property – Development Concept Plan reviewed by GTCC. Plan calls for four (4) mid-rise residential buildings with fifty-five units per building, or eleven units per floor. Two hundred twenty (220) units with garage parking below for five-hundred twenty-eight (528 spaces. Plan would occupy ten of the twenty-six acres. No plans given for the remaining acres. A PUD overlay zoning is required. Further discussion with Mr. Mark Hanley, Jr. results in no further action at this time. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee)

1928 Greenspring Drive: Plans to create a commercial recreational facility within the existing building to host birthday parties, corporate outings and other events. The recreational uses will include laser tag, cosmic miniature golf and other high tech gaming activities. (E. Rockel)

Comprehensive Rezoning for 2008: See the list of properties requesting a zoning reclassification under the Comprehensive Zoning Map Process by looking at the GTCC website. (E.Rockel & GTCC CZMP Committee)

COMPLETED ISSUES

Smyth Property, Falls Rd & Padonia Rd.- New (20) home development. Traffic, water table, and environmental concerns still. The Court of Special Appeals dismissed FRCA appeal without hearing its merits. The Court ruled that the FRCA lacked standing to continue the appeal by itself and this case is now concluded. More details at http://www.thefrca.org (FRCA)

Anderson Honda: Proposal to construct a Honda dealership at the corner of York Road and Halesworth Road. This proposal will require that the project go through a Planned Unit Development process (PUD-Commercial), as was done for the Hummer facility because the existing zoning is not fully commercial. The Community Input Meeting produced no objections to the proposal. In fact the communities of Monterey and Still Pond are supportive of the dealership. (E.Rockel, J.Rogers)

Frankel Property (Old AAI north property) – Super Wal–Mart – Comprehensive Zoning Cycle changed the zoning from ML to BM. Land was sold by AAI to Frankel. He planned to build a 260,000 sq. ft. retail center. Early May 2006 it was understood Wal-Mart would occupy that site. Construction began in late 2006 with completion late 2007. Signs will be affixed to the building. No signage will be installed on York Road. Wal-Mart officially opened on October 24, 2007. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Exec. Comm)

Jessup Property – The County Landmarks Preservation Commission has approved placing the Jessup House on the landmarks list. The Baltimore County Council would have to also approve the inclusion. As of August, the developer's attorney indicated his client was reviewing how this would impact the proposal. Regardless of the Landmark's issue, the developer has not submitted a development plan for County review. Longford North was to hold a fundraiser in early November to help pay for its legal expenses. The developer has submitted a revised development plan in December. The Hearing Officer's Hearing was held in April with Longford North, Pine Valley/Valleywood, Huntridge and GTCC offering comments on the plan. A consistent remark from all was that the number of units, 103, needed to be reduced. The hearing officer approved the 103 unit plan. The Longford North Community reached a compromise with the developer and has dropped any plan to appeal the development. (E. Rockel & Longford North)