

## The Greater Timonium Community Council

Volume IX Issue III

9b Ridgely Rd., Box 276, Timonium, Maryland 21093 http://www.gtccinc.com May 2007

President: Eric Rockel, 410-252-8439 Treasurer: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070 Secretary: Katie Barone, 410-561-1848 Membership: Marge DiNardo, 410-252-3378 Newsletter: Frank Regan, 410-337-5070

#### \*\*\*\*\* NEWSLETTER \*\*\*\*\*

President's Message – Eric Rockel

We Need to Make Our Presence Known !

As community organizations we are often confronted with the pressing problems in our neighborhoods, and it's those concerns that draw upon most of our energies. You know the types of problems that I'm referring to: the neighbor who is not abiding by the architectural covenants for the neighborhood, the code enforcement issue concerning the improper commercial vehicle parked in the community and on and on. However, there are often county-wide issues that we also have to be concerned about from time to time. One such issue is the pending reappointment of the Deputy Zoning Commissioner.

Both the Zoning Commissioner and Deputy Zoning Commissioner are appointed by the County Executive for a term that often times runs for four years and requires approval by the Baltimore County Council. The County's Charter requires that the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner be appointed or re-appointed in June following the election or re-election of the County Executive. Recently rumors have been circulating that John Murphy, the Deputy Zoning Commissioner, may not be re-appointed. They are rumors, so we have to take them for what they are, but we should all be alarmed that these rumors may have some credibility. John Murphy has demonstrated good judgment in his term as Deputy Commissioner. He tries to probe and hear extended testimony on issues that are of concern to the communities. He is also more likely to impose conditions in his rulings that address these community concerns. It is for these and many other reasons that I think that John Murphy should be re-appointed as the Deputy Zoning Commissioner. I would ask that within the next couple of weeks that our member community associations write County Executive James Smith expressing support of Mr. Murphy. Believe me, going forward it may well be worth your time and effort.

Before I end this message, let me salute Stephanie Boblooch, who had served for many years as President of the Orchard Hills Community Association. I recently learned that Stephanie will be stepping down, and her many years of service are appreciated, particularly in this age when most community association officers serve only one or two terms.

Our May meeting should be a lively one with reports from some of our elected officials about the recent General Assembly session and a discussion about an alternative electric service provider that could save you money on your electric bills. I hope to see you on May 9 at the Cockeysville Library for our next meeting !

#### GTCC Website - http://www.gtccinc.com

The Greater Timonium Community Council maintains a website to provide everyone information related to our organization and activities of Community interest. We invite all of you to '*surf*' our site where you can even find a brief summary of neighborhood Code Enforcement Definitions for Baltimore County in the *Issues Section*.

#### GTCC General Meeting - This Wednesday, May 9th, 2007

The GTCC will hold their '*Next Meeting*' on <u>May 9th, 2007 at the "Cockeysville Library" Meeting Room</u>, at 9833 Greenside Dr., Cockeysville beginning at 7:00PM. The Ridgely Middle School will be undergoing major renovations through 2006 and 2007. They have asked the GTCC to vacate our use of Room 103 effective February 10, 2006. Therefore, we have arranged to hold our meetings at the Cockeysville Library in their Meeting Room.

Please note the meeting changes and remember that our *meetings will STILL begin promptly at 7:00 PM*.

Subsequent meeting dates are posted on our web page "www.gtccinc.com" and are noted in this Newsletter below.

<b>GTCC</b> 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.				
	CALENDAR 2007	NOTICE ! ! !		
****** <u>Meeting Schedule</u> *****				
<b>Board of Directors</b> 7:00 pm – 9:0	<u>0pm</u>	<u>General Membership 7:00 pm – 9pm</u>		
February 14, 2007 April 11, 2007 June 13, 2007 August – No Meeting October 10, 2007 December 12, 2007		January 10, 2007 March 14, 2007 May 09, 2007 July – No Meeting September 12, 2007 November 14, 2007		
All Meetings are <u>NOW</u> Scheduled at the " <u>COCKEYSVILLE LIBRARY</u> ", on the DATES NOTED ABOVE ! ! !				

#### The GTCC's "Newsletter" Emailed – Frank Regan

We have received 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. This is really great news to hear and it's nice to know that the advantages of this delivery method are working out so nicely. We will also begin to post the Newsletter as a link on our GTCC website, shortly.

In Order for this to be a continuing success: <u>WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS</u> **!!!** <u>Please forward me 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.

Agenda and Speakers - GTCC May 9th Meeting - for our next meeting: Tentative Schedule...

- 1. Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports
- 2. Safety Update from the Cockeysville Police Precinct Captain Lurz / Lt. McGraw
- 3. Climb the Ladder Bull Roast Report Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company
- 4. Kevin Ryder of Power Max Energy Energy Choices & Conservation
- 5. Review of the General Assembly Session Our Legislators
- 6. Update on Zoning Issues Eric Rockel
- 7. New Business
- 8. Adjournment
- 9. Adjourn

#### Annual GTCC Membership Dues – Marge DiNardo

GTCC '2007' 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 to date! Dues notices for 2007 have been mailed out so look for them in your mail boxes. Please send your 2007 dues payments, if you haven't sent them yet, 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 Councilman's Corner – Kevin Kamenetz

We have invited our 2nd District County Councilman, Kevin Kamenetz, to provide us this month with an article for our newsletter in the form of 'The Councilman's Corner' on any issue(s) that he feels might be of interest to our membership. The following article is from Kevin:

Good-bye Winter! Welcome Spring! Thank you for again affording me this opportunity to address the GTCC community through your most informative newsletter. When I last wrote to you I was hopeful that a competitive 15-year agreement between Verizon-MD, Inc. and Baltimore County would be reached in early 2007. I am now most pleased to report that at the March 5, 2007 Legislative Session, the County Council formally approved that agreement, paving the way for direct competition with Comcast. I am hopeful this cable competition will provide incentives for lower prices and improved services for all county residents.

Other recent Council action includes adoption of Resolution 4-07, which I co-sponsored, that requests the Department of Public Works to review and update the County's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. The Department has operated the program for three years and the Council wants to further evaluate the effectiveness of the process. Projects have been approved on the basis of their equal geographic distribution among the seven Councilmanic districts of the county. This new resolution seeks to broaden the applicability of this popular program.

Additionally, Bill #136-06, which I also co-sponsored, provides \$300,000 to the Secure Our Schools Grant. The funds will be used for installation of security camera systems for 34 elementary schools to monitor playgrounds, parking lots and portable classrooms. This project will provide a visible deterrent for child predators, vandalism, arson and drug activity, as well as increase the Police Department's ability to investigate incidents committed on elementary school grounds.

Baltimore County's Annual Budget Process has officially begun. During the month of May, the Council will thoroughly review the County Executive's submitted budget and vote to adopt the FY 2008 Budget by May 31, 2007. In your next newsletter, I hope to offer highlights of the new budget and discuss how it will affect the GTCC community.

My best wishes for a safe and fun filled spring and summer. Enjoy!

#### 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:

This month's Captain Corner is from Lieutenant Robert McGraw.

We have recently experience an increase in thefts from automobiles. In the majority of the cases the automobiles were left unlocked and items were taken from the passenger compartments. I encourage all of you to please lock your vehicles and secure your valuables.

Also please have your community be on the lookout for deception burglaries. This involves subjects who offer lawn service or claim they are checking your water meter or BGE usage. The utilities will usually call in advance or make public service announcements on radio and television if your neighborhood is experiencing problems. Always demand ID from all individuals and if in doubt call the Police department.

Also schools are going to be dismissing for the year. So please be aware of your speeds in the school zones. If you observe any violation of the traffic laws please call 911 or report problems to Cpl. Zito of our traffic division 410-887-1861.

Lastly, I want to remind residents of the PC7 E-mail tree to look for crime alerts from my office so you can keep up to date on the activities in your neighborhood. Any concerns feel free to notify myself at 410-887-1828 or one of my staff with your concerns.

Stay Safe and enjoy the warm Spring weather !

#### 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:

The Cockeysville Library is proud to showcase about fifty works of art on paper created by students at Ridgely Middle School. The colorful artwork is hanging in the children's area throughout the month of May. On April 26 the art teachers held a reception at the library for proud parents and students. In recent years, the art teachers at both Ridgely Middle School and Cockeysville Middle School have provided creative artwork at the end of the school year. This art is used to decorate the library during our summer reading club. Even if you don't have children or grandchildren who attend Ridgely Middle School, you'll want to stop by and take a look. You never know; one of these very talented young adults may become the next Picasso! You might look back someday and say, "I saw them when they were just getting started!"

#### Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company Kicks Off Capital Campaign – Eric Rockel

With a formal announcement scheduled for May 12, the Lutherville Volunteer Fire Company will kick off a capital campaign to raise funds to construct a new fire station on its Bellona Avenue site. One of our member associations, Pinewood-Valleywood Community Association, will be holding a bull and oyster roast in September to support the fire company, and many volunteers are needed to support this event.

Check out the LVFC Flyer at the end of the Newsletter !

Please Contact LVFCbullroast@comcast.net if you are interested in participating in this worthy event.

#### The Legislator's Corner – Delegate's Bill Frank & Dan Morhaim

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 articles this month are from both Bill & Dan:

#### <u>42<sup>nd</sup> District</u> – Delegate Bill Frank

The General Assembly session which adjourned on April 9, 2007 was a relatively low-key affair, largely a "getting to know you" session due to a new Governor and a large contingent of new Senators and Delegates. Several controversial proposals, including providing in-state tuition benefits for illegal immigrants, and the enactment of a new statewide fee on new development, were defeated. These bills will return next year and will be hotly debated.

The General Assembly enacted the Governor's \$30 billion budget largely intact, with minimal cuts. Highlights include full funding of Program Open Space, a freeze on tuition at USM colleges, a \$400 million increase in school construction funding and full funding of the Thornton program for K-12 education. Unfortunately, the Governor transferred \$1 billion from the Rainy Day Fund to pay for current operating expenses, leaving us the bare minimum in the Rainy Day Fund in the event of an economic downturn.

You've heard much talk about the State's "structural deficit." This simply means that, year after year, we are spending more than we are collecting in taxes and fees. The anticipated FY 2009 deficit is estimated to be \$1.5 billion. It is highly likely that the General Assembly will be called into a post-Labor Day special session to deal with this bleak fiscal situation. Don't believe for a minute that a massive tax increase on the citizens of Maryland is the only way to fix this mess. This past session, the House Republican Caucus offered a responsible plan to slow the increase in spending in several programs, including education, in order to avert a tax increase. Unfortunately, the plan was defeated, but we will continue to seek ways to responsibly manage Maryland's fiscal challenges without continually going back to the taxpayers for more and more money.

It is a great privilege for me to represent you in Annapolis. As always, I welcome your phone call: 410-823-2768 (Lutherville) or 410-841-3793 (Annapolis)

#### <u>11<sup>th</sup> District</u> - Delegate Dan Morhaim

Dear Friend,

After 90 days, the 423rd session of the Maryland General Assembly drew to a close at midnight, April 9th. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent you in the House of Delegates for the past thirteen years. I am pleased to serve the 11th District of northwest Baltimore County along with my teammates State Senator Bobby Zirkin, Delegate Jon Cardin, and Delegate Dana Stein. We share a common vision to improve our community, and together we have achieved positive results. Your priorities are clear, and we have worked hard to reflect them.

In January I was named Assistant Majority Leader and House Chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Delivery and Finance. I continue on the Health and Government Operations Committee and chair the Government Operations Subcommittee. In that latter role, I continue to focus on finding efficiencies and streamlining the bureaucracy...not an easy task but an important one.

The media tends to cover high-profile and controversial bills. Some of these are important, but coverage for other, often more significant, legislation is limited or non-existent. Let me summarize some of these below to give a fuller view of what was accomplished this year and what was not. Bills with one \* are bills I lead-sponsored; those with two \*\* are bills I co-sponsored. You can look up details for these bills, plus all others, at the Maryland General Assembly web site: http://mlis.state.md.us .

#### FISCAL ISSUES

The key challenge looming before us is Maryland's fiscal problems. For the most part this was deferred this session but will undoubtedly be the front burner issue over the next twelve months. Fixing the imbalance will not be easy, and we each will have to think long and hard about the best courses of action. I've attached a separate message at the end of this letter on fiscal issues for your review and comment. Please take a look at this. I sincerely request your input and guidance on these decisions.

#### HEALTH CARE

The House took a big step forward with the passage of HB 754\*\*. It would provide health insurance for up to a quarter of uninsured Marylanders (some 200,000 of our fellow citizens), and it had other key provisions, including an emphasis on wellness. The costs would be funded by a combination of raising the tobacco tax and diverting funds for uncompensated hospital care to primary care. Unfortunately, the leadership in the State Senate blocked action on this bill. Other key bills include: HB 27\* provides funding for cerebral palsy care (\$200,000 appropriated); HB 29\* provides funding for Hopewell cancer support services (\$100,000 appropriated); HB 157\* promotes wellness; HB 214\* facilitates end of life care; HB 487 \* keeps CareFirst's board on its non-profit mission; HB 682\* deals with end of life care in emergency situations. I chaired the sub-committee that passed HB 1030\*\* which would prevent counterfeit medications from entering the State. HB 30\*\* provides oral health care. HB 359 \*\* promotes clean indoor air; HB 524\*\* reduces minority health disparities; and HB 793\*\* helps those with sickle-cell disease.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

HB 488\* builds on our success with electronic recycling. This is an effort I initiated three years ago, and I'm pleased to report that e-cycling is working in Maryland in a way that is both good for the environment and for business. Our unique approach is being modeled by other states. HB 942\*\* expands the role of the Maryland Green Building Council, an important step toward green building construction, something long overdue in state policy. Other key bills included HB 131\*\* the clean cars initiative and a variety of clean, alternative energy bills (HB 74\*\*, 76 \*\*, 416 \*\*, 451 \*\*, 745 \*\*). House Bills 74, 76, and 451 were not passed by the Senate. These are all vital to protecting our public health and quality of life.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

Several key bills were passed, including "Jessica's Law" which increases penalties for the most serious sex abusers of children. HB 216 \* helps crime scene investigators, and HB 53 \* tightens rules for residential child care centers that take care of juvenile offenders. I played a key role in chairing the sub-committee for HB 879 which regulates forensic labs; this is important to be sure that evidence is properly handled so that the guilty are caught and the innocent set free.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HB 28\* continues a program that expands small businesses. I also supported numerous bills, such as HB 135\*\*, that promote the life sciences and biotech in Maryland. I am pleased to continue on the Board of the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute (UMBI) which does basic science research and translates that into economic development and new businesses. Eminent domain issues took a first step with a bill that fairly compensates property owners. More work is needed in this area.

#### EDUCATION

The most important step was to continue funding for school construction and renovation. Baltimore County has some of the state's oldest schools, and students and teachers deserve a clean and safe environment. Other bills included HB 243\*\* for Baltimore County athletic fields (\$250,000 appropriated); HB 316\*\* to help Irvine Nature Center with its programs for school children (\$325,000 appropriated); HB 619\*\* which deals with county superintendents; and HB 1056\*\* which helps blind and disabled students. I also worked on ways to help make our Baltimore County school board more responsive to the public.

Overall, I believe the legislature took positive steps this year. Partisan bickering was minimal, and legislators worked together regardless of party affiliation. Besides the fiscal issue, it is my fervent hope that we will find a consensus on making health care effective, available and workable for patients, providers, and payers.

Last, your input is key. We won't always agree, but it's important that we communicate. Please stay in touch with me and with my legislative staff: Mary Lou Cole and Penny McDougal. We will do our best to respond. www.drdanmorhaim.com

#### 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 (49) 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:

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	Falls Road Comm. First Mays Chapel HO Fox. Chapel Comm. Holly Hall Garden Condos Hunt Meadow Comm. Huntridge Comm Kilcolman Garden Condos Lutherville Comm	Monterey Imp. Orchard Hills Comm. Pine Valley / Valleywood Pot Spring Comm Ramsgate Comm. Rockfleet Garden Condos Rosslare Ridge Condos. Shenberd's Knoll Garden Condos	Springlake Comm. Stapleton Court Garden Condos Stratford Comm. Tullamore Condos Valley Crest Civic Valley Garth Wakefield West Timonium Heights
1	-	1 6	Valley Crest Civic
Chapel Gate 4-5-6	Huntridge Comm	Rockfleet Garden Condos	Valley Garth
Chapel Ridge Comm.	Kilcolman Garden Condos	Rosslare Ridge Condos.	Wakefield
Coachford Comm.	Lutherville Comm.	Shepherd's Knoll Garden Condos	West Timonium Heights
County Home Park Comm.	Northhampton Comm.	Sherwood Hill	York Manor
Dulaney Forest Comm.	Mays Chapel Village Garden Condos	Springdale Comm.	Yorkshire/Haverford Comm
Dulaney Valley	Mays Chapel Townhouse HomeOwrs	Limerick Condos	Longford
Jennifer Ridge	Overlook	Topfield Condo	Tralee Forest Condo
Roundwood Ridge	Wellington Valley	Pebble Creek HO	Dunloy Condo

#### What About Age? – Lou Miller

Another decade has just passed which results in my young age now at eighty. Have any of you tried to remember the important issues during each of those decades? Obviously, some of those issues were winnings and some failures. How did you, as well as I, proceed through each?

My resolve has always been to learn from the past but look enthusiastically to the future, hopefully not to repeat the failures. The most important result during the early decades was to have great success in participating in many activities with a special person, my wife Marylea. We both were brought up by hard working parents in a little town in Allegany County called Lonaconing (Coney for short). This young lady has always been my pride and joy and counsel during our fifty nine years of marriage.

To list many of our accomplishments during those years would fill many pages. You who know us do not need any such listing.

We have lived in Baltimore County for fifty four years, fifty of them in Timonium. Two main goals for both of us have been to assist in maintaining the residential standard of living in our area, and teaching children the path of freedom and accomplishment for their future.

Just ten quotations which have guided our lives: (1) It's not how old you are but how you are old. (2) When ever you are asked if you can do a job, tell'em, "Certainly, I can!" Then get busy and find out how to do it. (3) There are no great men, only great challenges that ordinary men are forced by circumstances to meet. (4) A man's character and his garden both reflect the amount of weeding that was done during the growing season. (5) Nothing is ever accomplished by a committee unless it consists of three members, one of whom happens to be sick and another absent.

Finally, (6) To me—old age is always 15 years older than I am. (7) There is no security on this earth. There is only opportunity. (8) Nothing is so full of victory as patience. (9) Spring is the time of the year when farmers and golfers start their spring plowing. (10) The Toastmasters lament, "Stand up to be seen; speak up to be heard; shut up to be appreciated.

#### 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!

#### GTCC Trivia – 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. Where in Towson were drinking straws manufactured?
- 2. Where in Baltimore County were the rolls of copper sheathing made which were used to cover the original dome of the U.S. Capitol building?
- 3. What is the name of the local businessman who invented an upset stomach remedy and ran a dairy on his Baltimore County estate?

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 The building most recently housing the Baltimore County Employees Federal Credit Union on Susquehanna Road in Towson.
- 2. In the early 1800s Levi Hollinsworth built the Gunpowder Copper Works near the Harford Turnpike on the Great Gunpowder Falls.
- 3. Capt. Isaac Emerson invented Bromo Seltzer. He bought Brooklandwood on Falls Road in 1916 (now St Paul's School) and also operated the Emerson Farms dairy at the corner of Falls and Green Spring Valley Road.

# GTCC

## The Greater Timonium Community Council

The Next GTCC General Meeting is scheduled for <u>May 9th, 2007 at 7:00 PM</u> at the "<u>Cockeysville Library</u>".

#### **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 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. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, and GTCC Executive Committee)

**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)

**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 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. The Planning Board has approved the conceptual plan for this site We will continue to monitor the project with regard to specifics, such as landscaping, lighting, signage and the like. A specific site plan will be forthcoming.(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. This shall remain on our Current Issues list, but the proposal may be dead. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee, C. Roller & M. DiNardo, Pot Spring Community, S. Smith, Springlake Community)

**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. Statement made 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 the fall of 2006 with an expectation that the site would open in late 2007. (E. Rockel, L. Miller, GTCC Executive Committee)

**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, and Longford North intends to further scrutinize the proposal. The Hearing Officer's Hearing was held in April with Longford North, Pinewood/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.

**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. The owner will make a revised plan to address leaving Southfork Road closed. (E.Rockel)

#### **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. (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. (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)

#### **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 (B. Moore & FRCA)

**Francis Burns Property, Falls Rd.** - A (19) new home project. Traffic, water table and environmental concerns. Hearing decision appealed. FRCA and neighbors recently reached agreement with the developer on developing the property. (B. Moore & FRCA)

**Brewer Properties – 2412, 2414, 2416 York Rd.** – Site plan reviewed by GTCC Executive Committee 11/22/2005 for a Class B Office Building in the RO zone to replace the three single homes. Special Exception must be approved by Baltimore County. Two contingencies noted: (1) Curb cut on York Rd., if not granted further review by GTCC is requested, and (2) variance for west boundary line of 6'. Minutes of this meeting were given to petitioner for future petition to Zoning Commissioner. Zoning Case 6-536-XA filed for hearing June 13, 2006, 9:00a.m., Room 407 County Courts Building, 401 Bosley Avenue, Towson Md. Several variances approved. GTCC to follow construction, but for now this issue is complete.. (E. Rockel & GTCC Executive Comm.)

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)



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