
GREATER FALLSTON ASSOCIATION

TO: GFA BOARD MEMBERS

SUBJECT: ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: 11/13/2007

MEETING LOCATION: GRANDVIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH

- Dr. Roman Ratych (President, GFA) addressed the audience, giving a brief description of the evenings planned agenda and outlined the amount of time speakers would be given to present and answer questions, indicating that some of the presenters planned on being available after the meeting to answer questions.
- Greg Solak (Secretary, GFA) read the minutes from the 2006 GFA annual meeting.
- Colleen Craven (Treasurer, GFA) Announced the budget balance.
- Dr. Ratych polled the audience for interest in regularly scheduled meetings to possibly be held at the public library. He then proceeded to introduce the first of the presenters.
- Herb Meade (Program Administrator, Oil Control, MDE) proceeded to give an update on various MDE activities in the Fallston area, some highlights including the following:
 - 7-11 (Rt. 152 & Pleasantville Road)
 - MTBE plume traveling N to NW
 - No impacts recorded outside of the property
 - Operating SVE (Soil Vacuum Extraction) system
 - MTBE levels are generally trending downward, referenced various monitoring well readings
 - Benzene present in some samples, indicating a liquid leak at some point.
 - Owner proposing a Bio-Injection Treatment.
 - Fallston Service Center
 - 509 tons of impacted soil removed when tanks were removed
 - Water supply at church down to 27 ppb MTBE

- Carbon filtration system at church is maintained by Service Center owner
 - Large amount of TBA present in Service Center samples, most likely a breakdown component of MTBE
 - Exxon (Rt 152 and Baldwin Mill Road)
 - 68 monitoring wells, 5 have gone dry
 - 12 of 14 have been installed with well couplets
 - Pump & Treat system is operating on site
 - 3.8 million gallons have been treated and released on site
 - System has run 100% of the time
 - MTBE has decreased in the systems influent supply from 2310 ppb to 42 ppb
 - During the regularly scheduled water samplings, an average of 213 POET systems are tested. One property in Orchard Lakes is of particular concern to the MDE due the MTBE levels remaining at 56 ppb
 - MDE has requested that Exxon install a SVE system
 - Mr. Meade gave numerous examples of Exxon site monitoring well MTBE levels trending down.
 - As part of MDE's notification process, it will be notifying people that own properties near 21 different sites impacted by prior contaminations
- Mary Koch (Esquire, Law Offices of Peter G. Angelos) provided an update on the MTBE Class Action status
 - The case has been moved from New York to Harford County
 - It is yet to be determined if the Class Action status declared in NY will be maintained by Harford County
 - Met with Judge Carr to discuss the possibility of having the case heard by Judge Baldwin, who was part of the Jacksonville case
 - Will meet with Judge and defense attorneys on December 6 or 7 to determine next steps
 - Hottest issue she is dealing with currently is Carbon Filtration system complaints, including maintenance responsibilities

- Sharon Beazley (Co-Chair, State LNG Task Force) discussed current status of the proposed LNG pipeline
 - There are 31 national environmental groups that engaged their lawyers against the pipeline
 - 6 private law firms have also been engaged
 - “Every politician is on our side”
 - Sparrows Point started as a 500 acre island, contaminant dumping has increased the area to over 3000 acres
 - 2 weeks ago BGE denied access to their Right of Ways
 - Pennsylvania will not allow tie-in to their distribution system
 - Baltimore County will not allow access to government owned properties
 - FERC has requested that a new proposal for the pipeline be submitted
- Dr. Ratych discussed signage
 - Due to requests from GFA, 467 illegal signs have been removed from Fallston locations
 - Problem is that there is no penalty for these illegal signs, so they come back
 - Del. Glassman is attempting to introduce legislation to penalize illegal signs
- Veronica Chenowith (Councilwoman, Harford County District B) discussed a few legislative concerns affecting the Fallston community
 - Council voted to lower the Homestead Tax in a phased approach, from 10% to 9%, and then from 9% to 8% over time.
 - Current issues she is “looking into”:
 - Cottage Housing
 - Striping parking spaces in Townhome and Condo communities
 - Signage
 - Mowing ordinance
 - ATV issue
 - Bus Service issues and current law that prohibits buses from making turns where they must backup

- Spoke about indoor facility to be built at Rec Center
- Jesse Bane (Harford County Sheriff) discussed the current status of Sheriff's Department activities and statistics concerning the Fallston area
 - Fallston is Sector 70 in Harford County, accounts for 8% of the total calls to the Sheriff's office, some of which have included the following:
 - 10 burglaries
 - Passing of school buses
 - Request for radar on Derby Drive
 - Sheriff's office has been approved to purchase two (2) decibel meters for Noise Ordinance Enforcement
- Dr. Ratych encouraged the audience to take part in neighborhood watch programs, and gave contact information for the Community Policing Unit through the Highland Office
- Joseph DiGuardo (Chairman FCC) discussed the history and charter of the Fallston Community Council
- As part of introducing the next speaker, Dr. Ratych discussed how the County Executive instituted a Planning and Zoning Workgroup, of which the GFA was denied direct representation.
- Doug Howard (Fallston Planning and Zoning Workgroup Rep) discussed some of the topics currently be addressed by the P&Z Workgoup
 - Buffer yards
 - Landscaping
 - Signage
 - AG Preservation
 - Smart Growth
 - TDR – Transfer of Development Rights
 - Tree conservation – trying to get fee raised for tree clearing
 - Pointed out the fact that storm water control ponds are considered part of the official “open space”
- Beth Scheir (Vice President, GFA) introduced the revisions to the bylaws

- Boundary definitions should include language permitting members that have a Fallston ZIP code
- Annual meeting timeframe should be changed to “3rd quarter” instead of “November”
- Board Nominees can be voted on during the annual meeting
- Allow Chairman to nominate Directors
- Allow multiple officers from single neighborhoods
- Dr. Ratych called for a vote on the stated bylaw revisions and with no objections the revisions were passed.
- Dr. Ratych concluded the meeting with a special thanks to Steven Scheinin for his many years of past service as the GFA President and asked that any volunteers for the board sign up at the front of the room.