

Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

Agenda for the January 18, 2017 meeting

Next regular meeting: February 15, 2017 at 8:00 PM Somerset Town Hall (4510 Cumberland Ave.). Possible special meeting to address the planning staff report on Equity One's sketch plan TBD.

Introductions

Approval of agenda

Approval of December 21, 2016 meeting minutes

Reports:

- Bethesda downtown plan – update. Letter to Council, PHED Committee schedule, Capital Crescent Trail tunnel.
- Westbard: Equity One's second resubmitted sketch plan. Planning Board to address that plan on February 9 (note, this is a new date). If the February 9 date holds, the staff report would be due on January 30 but likely would be filed on January 27. We may know by January 18 if the February 9 date will be pushed back. Discussion of informal stakeholders meeting on Willett Branch of January 11. Preparation for the Planning Board hearing on the sketch plan (numerous people). Possible special CCCFH meeting before hearing. Development Review Committee meeting on January 24 at noon on preliminary plan.
- Bike paths master plan – Friendship Heights area (Norman Knopf).
- Rooftop terraces (ZTA 16-17) (Lynne Battle).
- Sumner motion. Attached (Sid Clemons)
- Treasurer's Report (Sue Schumacher).
- MCCF Report (Sue Schumacher).

New business/Miscellaneous

Adjournment

Representing the Citizens Associations of Brookdale, Chevy Chase Village, Chevy Chase West, Drummond, Glen Echo Heights, Green Acres-Glen Cove, Kenwood, Kenwood Condominium, Kenwood House Cooperative, Kenwood Place Condominium, Somerset, Springfield, Sumner, Sumner Village Condominium, Westmoreland, Westbard Mews, Westwood Mews, and Wood Acres

CCCFH meeting of January 18, 2017

Motion by Sumner:

Resolved that CCCFH should issue a statement in the near future to clarify that:

CCCFH at considerable expense, developed a plan for the Westbard area, “A [Vision](#) for The River Road - Westbard Area: Bethesda, Maryland, 2008.” The Vision allows redevelopment with significant increased residential development and a twenty percent increase in commercial space with building heights consistent with the neighborhood and adjoining areas. The Vision would allow significant increases in affordable housing. The Vision documents that the community supports mixed development while it adamantly opposes high rise development. While not directly addressed, the Vision allows for Willett Branch naturalization. The Vision remains CCCFH’s preferred plan for the area. CCCFH is concerned that some parties apparently incorrectly believed that CCCFH supported or acquiesced to the Westbard Sector Plan, owing to CCCFH's voluminous testimony and comments supporting a reasonable increase in density and heights. While the Westbard Sector Plan approved May 2016 has a number of interesting elements, CCCFH does not support it. The Westbard Sector Plan seeks excessive density and heights which will overwhelm local infrastructure and change the character of this long-mature, stable area. CCCFH is also concerned that the County base planning decisions, and all decisions, on reasonable and adequate information and follow decision making requirements. Certain parties have filed a lawsuit asking the County to follow the law and regulation in this regard with respect to the Westbard Sector Plan. CCCFH supports that lawsuit and urges our constituents to consider supporting it.