

**Mckenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Civic Association Meeting Minutes**  
**Capital View-Homewood Park Recreation Building**  
**March 23, 2010**

Richard Tingley, President, with Board members Randall and Kaplan

President Tingley called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. and introduced the speaker from WSSC, Gary Gumm, Chief Engineer. Mike McGill, Public Affairs Coordinator, came as well, to assist with the PowerPoint presentation and to answer questions.

Mr. Gumm began with the premise that, as one Vietnamese worker put it, “this is America, we don’t need to boil our water.” WSSC is ninety years old, and some of the pipes in it are older than that, and was formed because raw sewage was going into the streams and people outside the not-yet-built beltway were dying of typhoid.

He discussed the budget, the age of the pipes, and the timetable for replacing them. There are 5500 miles of pipes and the goal is to service 55 miles per year to stay current; last year 34.4 miles were serviced. Pipes last 75-100 years, and one fourth of the system is more than 50 years old. There were 4,000 breaks in pipes in the last 2 years, and the biggest factor is the temperature of the water going into the pipes.

Consumers can help prevent blockages by “canning the grease,” pouring grease into a can, freezing it, and then putting it in the trash. He brought special lids for use on the cans and left some extras for subsequent meetings. He asked that people NOT buy bottled water, which increases the plastic that can end up in the landfill. For the \$1.25 it costs to buy one bottle, you could fill it 2,000 times with tap water.

He touched on the Bi-County Water Tunnel, already under construction, and the use of wind power. He did not discuss the current work being done in our neighborhood to modernize the older sewer mains—this work is being done by companies under contract to WSSC.

Those in attendance asked questions and requested that the presentation be put on our web. That might be possible, but much of this information can be found at [www.wsscwater.com](http://www.wsscwater.com). He ended by saying that several times in the last year, residents have needed to boil water, making it even clearer that we must work to provide the same legacy to our grandchildren that our grandparents have given to us.

A brief business meeting followed the presentation.

The minutes were summarized and approved.

**Announcements:**

\*Park Clean-Up will be April 24 from 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Reports:**

\*Treasurer Norman Kaplan reported a net income of \$74.30 for January –March 2010, Dues for 2010 can be paid on the web.

**New Business:**

\*Kathy Toffenetti suggested that for presentations such as this, we should notify our sister associations nearby to increase attendance. There was general agreement on this point.

\* Ryan Thomas is a new resident in our neighborhood. He is a USPTA Pro Instructor and PTM Program graduate. He has done tennis clinics and lessons and would like to start a similar program here. He will bring us more information at a subsequent meeting and utilize the listserv.

**Discussions for the Good of the Association:**

\*Committees still needing volunteers include Membership, School Liaison, Archives, Traffic and Safety, Sidewalks, and MCAD.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting will be April 27 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Martha Randall, (Secretary)

The association e-mail is [mh-ck@hotmail.com](mailto:mh-ck@hotmail.com), the web is mhckcivic.org, and the home page gives information on how to join the listserve.

Dues are \$10 per year and can be sent to the MH-CK Civic Association, PO Box 2102, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2102, or online with PayPal, or paid at the door of most events sponsored by MH-CK Civic Association.