

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

Richard Tingley, President, with Board members Randall and Kaplan

President Tingley called the meeting to order at 8:10 p.m.

The meeting began with a presentation by Mr. Huey Battle, Regional Manager Corporate Involvement of Washington Gas and Kelly Gibson, Community Activities. They brought brochures and handouts with their PowerPoint presentation, but spoke informally. There are some extra copies that will be brought to the next meeting on January 25, in case audience members would like to pick them up.

Mr. Battle said that there are 200 miles of transmission pipelines and thousands of miles of distribution pipelines, and the safety record is extremely good. Natural gas is safe, the window for ignition is small, but at some point, if there is a gas leak inside the house, this ignition point will be reached. If the smell is strong (mercaptan is added to make it smell), exit the house without turning ANY switches on or off and call 911 or 703-750-1400 from outside. Call 811 before you dig two business days before excavation is to begin.

Utilities do not make money on the commodity itself, but on the delivery of the commodity—a consumer can sign up for Washington Gas Energy Services and Washington Gas will deliver it.

There are pipeline replacement programs, and careful records are kept to designate where replacements should be made. Plastic pipe will last 75 years, and coated steel, if well maintained, will also last 75 years. The pipes within the house are not underground, so there is no corrosion, and these will last for the life of the house. WGL is responsible for the pipe from the meter to the street, and the homeowner is responsible for any pipe that is from the meter to any appliance. Most problems occur with the connection of the appliance to the fittings—look for discoloration there.

Kelly Gibson briefly described some of the community programs promoting health, education, and the environment.

Announcements:

Elections will be held in January, with new officers taking office in February.

Wheaton Revitalization will include bike ways and a revitalized Wheaton Triangle. According to the Gazette, groundbreaking will be in 2015.

Reports:

* **Brian Bhandari** reported on the Traffic Committee. This was a follow-up to the detailed October report. His committee reported the time required for the following traffic calming measures:

Speed limit signs and stops signs: 30-60 days.

Edgelines on the larger streets: 30-60 days

Pedestrian islands: 12 months

Curb extensions: (Gardiner, Hildarose, Brunswick, among others)

Speed humps: 3 years

Traffic circles: 3-4 years.

The Planning Board will look at the engineering designs and trees after receiving the recommendations of the committee after it has been approved by MH-CK. It is possible that some requests will not be granted, but pedestrian safety with the new school coming makes this an advantageous time for making these proposals. Some improvements may require individual resident approval.

Brian, on behalf of the committee, moved that their recommendations be put before the Board for approval, then placed on the MH-CK website for two weeks for feedback. The committee will make adjustments per the viable suggestions made, take it to the Board for approval, and then forward the final recommendations to the Planning Board and appropriate county departments.

Motion passed unanimously.

***Treasurer Norman Kaplan** reported a net income of \$713.42 for the current year. Balance on hand is \$3,047.72, retained earnings. (This is in the account opened in 1994.)

* **Norman Kaplan** reported on the updating of the **Listserv**. This is to be done periodically to update the list. There are now currently 215 households on the listserv and 119 members in the MH-CK Civic Association.

*Nominating Committee: **Kaplan**, chair, said that he had not been able to find anyone willing to serve on the nominating committee, nor anyone willing to serve in an office, despite some 40 phone calls. He again requested volunteers.

*The minutes for October 26 were approved by unanimous consent.

New Business:

Brian Bhandari moved that the listserv be restricted to residents (including renters) who live within the MH-CK boundaries as defined on the MH-CK Civic Association's website.

Tingley seconded.

Discussions included the fact that currently only 2 people outside the neighborhood are on the listserv, but if exceptions are made for a few, exceptions would have to be made for any who request it. There will be children on one side of the street who will go to the

new elementary school, and those on the other side will go to some other school—boundaries are not always easy to determine. Also, many other listservs restrict access to their defined communities such as Capitol View, Oakland Terrace. The MH-CK listserv should be consistent with the definition as provided on Yahoo! Groups.

The motion passed unanimously.

***President Tingley** took a straw poll for a preferred date for the winter blues, with January 30 or February 13 being the two possibilities. January 20 was the preferred date. The president will check the dates for the rental of the **Capital View-Homewood Park Recreation Building**, which now must be rented in 8 hour blocks on week ends at \$40 per hour.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m. The next meeting will be January 25, 2011 at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Randall, (Secretary)

The association e-mail is mh-ck@hotmail.com, the web is mhckcivic.org, and the home page gives information on how to join the listserv.

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