

SECURITY AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Thursday, November 12, 2009
Montgomery Room – Clubhouse I**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Damsky, Chair; Marion Simmons, Robert Becker, Brenda Flam, Cornelius Heine, Philip Zenchoff, Gerry Windham, Barbara Fink, Lon Morin, Sara Kain, Marjorie Farr, Marjory Olson and Richard Kahl

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Barr, Richard Haney, Al Weisenfeld, and Marvin Franklin

MANAGEMENT: Mark Ellis, Deputy General Manager; Richard Schultz, Director, Security & Transportation Department; Jane Emerick, Administrative Assistant

VISITORS: Gail Greenberg, Creekside; Rosemary Marks, M24; Joseph Michelson, 20A; Ruth Weinberg, M24; Charles Weinberg, son of Ruth Weinberg; Mecca Sue Simmons, Caregiver

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Damsky called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.
2. **Chairman’s Remarks** – Mr. Damsky thanked all the committee members for participating as members of the Security & Transportation Advisory Committee. There will be new members on the committee beginning January, 2010. There will also be some members who will not be serving on the committee beginning January, 2010. Our thanks to all of them.
Mr. Damsky also asked members who would not be returning to please return the package given to new members including a map of Leisure World and the 2003 Traffic Engineer Study.
3. **Review/Approval of Agenda** – The agenda was approved as amended.
Please move 6 (d) under (Crosswalk Safety) and 7 (b) The Quality of Paving Outside of the Connecticut Avenue Gate to follow The General Manager’s Report – Mark Ellis. Add 7 (c) Speed Bumps – Sara Kain
4. **Review/Approval of Minutes** - Minutes were approved as amended:
By adding that both Lon Morin and Sara Kain were present at the October meeting.
5. **General Manager’s Report** – Mr. Ellis presented the November, 2009 report and answered questions and comments from committee members.

6. Old Business

6(d) Crosswalk Safety – Update – Mark Ellis

Mr. Ellis reported that some crosswalks have been repainted. As a result, some of the lines that were 4” wide have been repainted to 12” wide. They have been done in accordance with the recommendation of the Traffic Engineer’s 2003 report. Some of the crosswalks required fresh paint because the asphalt work had not cured completely before the painting of the crosswalks. Mr. Ellis stated that the crosswalk on the inner-loop near Rossmoor and Villa Cortese were faded and would require repainting.

Mr. Ellis reported that there have been a number of positive comments regarding the improvements made to the crosswalks.

7(b) Quality of Paving Outside of the Connecticut Avenue GateMark Ellis

Mr. Ellis reported on the quality of the paving that had been done at this location. Mr. Ellis stated that the end result was a tar and chip product with loose chips not being cleaned up.

Mr. Schultz contacted the appropriate people including the Inspector of the Highway Division of Montgomery County, Battalion Chiefs, Fire Department and others regarding the quality of the work and having the chips cleaned up. A sweep was done of the chips but the quality is below standard. All contacts have been made to rectify the poor quality but the assumption is that nothing more will be done.

6. Old Business continued

6(a) Change in Blue and Green Bus Schedules – Update Gerry Windham and (b) Expansion of Bus Service to Aspen Hill

On November 4, there was a change in the Blue & Green bus schedules. Mrs. Windham reported that she rode the buses and spoke with the drivers. She stated that they were happy with the change in schedule. The bus drivers pointed out that after a change has been made it takes a period of time for the residents to become accustomed with the new schedule.

Mrs. Windham stated that more residents are having difficulty in boarding and exiting the buses. Mrs. Windham pointed out that the committee should discuss those residents who may be experiencing these problems and perhaps work on a solution to solving them so as not to have the driver responsible for communicating this to the resident.

(b) Covered after the General Manager's Report by Mr. Ellis

(c) The Decal Program Update – Richard Schultz

Mr. Schultz stated that the New Decal Program came to a successful conclusion on November 9. On September 9, when starting the program, there were 5,880 registered vehicle decals. At 12:00 noon, yesterday, November 11, 2009, there were 4,390 decals provided to residents. Out of the remaining 1,490, there were some who were denied decals because they failed to meet the requirements. It is thought that some residents are snowbirds and were not available to receive the decals. Other reasons are that some residents no longer drive and because of physical reasons no longer have a driver's license.

The three things that are required to be eligible to be issued a decal are: 1. Current driver's license; 2. Leisure World ID card, and 3. Vehicle registration in the resident's name. This was discussed and it remains the same. No changes have been made to these requirements.

Mr. Ellis stated that the current requirements were considered carefully and put into place for the safety of the residents.

(d) Crosswalk Safety Update – Mark Ellis – Discussed after the General Manager's Report

7. New Business

(a) Winter Operations of Leisure World Buses – Richard Schultz

Mr. Schultz explained the policy for the Aspen Hill and Olney runs. If a resident is stranded at Olney or Aspen Hill due to a change in the weather and the last bus could not accommodate them, a Leisure World car will pick the resident up if the resident was transported by the Leisure World bus.

Mr. Schultz discussed the policy for cancellation(s) of bus services as follows:

The policy in use is that when the Montgomery County School District cancels its bus service, the Leisure World buses are cancelled automatically. Using the LW TV service residents will either know the night before or before the scheduled runs in the morning. If bus service is cancelled, bus drivers will either take a scheduled day off, annual leave, work at the gate or the Director of Security will reassign the drivers to other duties.

If there is a two-hour delay, the first two bus runs will be delayed. Management, (Mr. Schultz in this case) reserves the right to make a further cancellation or update at 10:00 a.m. on the day of the inclement

weather. The information regarding cancellations or delays will be on the Leisure World TV station as soon as the information is available.

Mr. Schultz will be writing an article on Winter Operations of the Leisure World Buses for the Leisure World News and to be included in mutual newsletters.

(b)The Quality of Paving Outside of the Connecticut Avenue Gate – Mark Ellis – Was discussed after the General Manager’s Report.

(c) Speed Bumps – Sara Kain

Mr. Michelson – 20A had contacted Ms. Kain regarding speed bumps and was invited to participate in the open forum with his comments which he did. Mr. Damsky will respond to Mr. Michelson’s letter, his suggestions and comments in writing.

7. Investigative Reports – Richard Schultz

Mr. Schultz answered questions and comments from committee members.

Mr. Schultz referred to news release from the Department of Police titled *Reoccurring Distraction Theft Schemes target Senior Citizens*. This news release was included in the handouts.

Mr. Schultz reported on scams and crime in the area and emphasized That even though this is a gated community with security, we all must be alert to what goes on around us and keep our cars and doors locked. Mr. Damsky will write an article on this subject for the LW News.

8. Open Forum – The following residents participated in the Open Forum:

Ruth Weinberg, M24; Charles Weinberg, son of Ruth Weinberg on behalf of his mother; Rosemary Marks M24; Joseph Michelson, M20A

9. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting of the Security & Transportation Advisory Committee will be held on December 10, 2009 in Clubhouse I.

Lawrence Damsky, Chairman
Security & Transportation Advisory Committee