

TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE  
ZIMMERMAN PARK COMMUNITY FORUM  
MINUTES

September 26, 2018, 7 p.m.

Council & Staff

Barney Rush, Mayor  
Cecily Baskir, Vice Mayor  
Kirk Renaud, Secretary

Joel Rubin, Treasurer  
Wicca Davidson, Community Liaison

Residents and Guests

Mafida Siddique, 4116 Blackthorn Street  
Tom Collins, 6903 Ridgewood Avenue  
Tina Lustgarten, 4305 Thornapple Street  
Jacob Lustgarten, 4305 Thornapple Street  
S. Ghorban, 6700 East Avenue  
Irene Lane, 4106 Aspen Street  
Dave Eason, 7507 Lynn Drive  
Matthew Hoffman, 7302 Maple Avenue  
Susan Ziemann, 4202 East West Highway  
Bren Lizzio, 4218 Oakridge Avenue  
Cathy and Mier Wolf, 7624 Lynn Drive  
Andy Hill, 7602 Lynn Drive  
The Toregas, 4325 Leland Street  
Lou Evangelista, 4402 Walsh Street  
Jane Root, 4209 Thornapple Street  
Aki Peritz, 7607 Maple Avenue  
Paul Magnusson, 4228 Leland Street  
Jennifer Burton, 4311 Leland Street  
Lourdes Castineira, 7707 Maple Avenue  
Alexander Miller, 4121 Aspen Street  
Carol Miller, 4121 Aspen Street  
Karen Kuchins, 4111 Leland Street  
Samer Korkor, 4105 Blackthorn Street  
Christine Korkor, 4105 Blackthorn Street  
Don MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street  
Peggy MacGlashan, 4114 Woodbine Street

Peter Grayson, 6900 Ridgewood Avenue  
Steve Cohen, 4114 Rosemary Street  
Judy Van Namen, 7617 Lynn Drive  
Bob Van Namen, 7617 Lynn Drive  
Sally Kelly, 7300 Oak Lane  
Michael Pollard, 7300 Maple Avenue  
Max Fainberg, 4403 Stanford Street  
You Mon Tsang, 4114 Blackthorn Street  
Erica Hauver, 7618 Lynn Drive  
Danielle Rinsler, 3913 Virgilia Street  
Leanne Hartzell, 4101 Blackthorn Street  
Mary Wienczek, 7210 Ridgewood Avenue  
Sharon Eldor Gerling, 4215 Leland Street  
Orna Eldor Gerling, 4215 Leland Street  
Barbara Brocker, 4401 Elm Street  
Maria Roche, 4313 Leland Street  
Kristin Peake, 4103 Blackthorn Street  
David Smith, 4103 Blackthorn Street  
Amy Kostant, 7317 Maple Avenue  
Penny Pollard, 7300 Maple Avenue  
Alisa Lebowitz, 7102 Oakridge Avenue  
Julia Craighill, 6911 Maple Avenue  
David Davidson, 7600 Connecticut Avenue  
Katie Berg, 7217 Oakridge Avenue  
Susan Bracey, 4124 Aspen Street

The Town Council hosted a public forum to present and discuss two projects under consideration for Zimmerman Park: a pathway to East West Highway and a dog exercise area.

**Pedestrian Path to East-West Highway**

Residents favored constructing a formal path for use by B-CC students and other residents who cut across Zimmerman Park to East-West Highway now that the Lynn Drive path no longer exists. The general sense of those attending was that the path should follow either the dirt trail the students

have created, or an alternative route a few feet to the north, where the ground is somewhat more open and less steep. Some residents expressed a desire for the new path to be made of permeable material, connect to the garden at the south end of the park, and include some low-level lighting.

### **Dog Exercise Area**

A majority of the comments expressed at the forum and sent to the Town were in favor of a dog exercise area in Zimmerman Park, but there also were a significant number of comments in opposition to it, especially from residents who live near the park. Proponents of a dog exercise area cited the need for a legal place in Town to exercise their dogs off-leash and noted the community-building benefits of such areas. However, the presentation prepared by the Land Use Committee also noted a number of concerns, many of which were commented on by residents. Those concerns include potential noise, parking problems, odors, stormwater run-off, enforcement of rules, potential liability, installation and maintenance costs, loss of open green play space, and impacts on property values. Several residents asked if the dog exercise area could be placed elsewhere in the Town. The Town's Land Use Committee has already explored many of these issues and will follow-up with more in-depth study to consider alternate sites, determine likely impacts, and identify potential mitigation measures. The Town Council will not decide whether or not to move forward on the dog exercise area until the concerns have been thoroughly explored and the findings shared with Town residents.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kirk Renaud, Secretary

Transcribed by Todd Hoffman, Town Manager