



MONTGOMERY VILLAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

10120 APPLE RIDGE ROAD
MONTGOMERY VILLAGE, MARYLAND 20886-1000

(301) 948-0110 FAX (301) 990-7071 www.montgomeryvillage.com

July 6, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Committee on the Environment

FROM: Scott Gole, Assistant Director of Recreation, Parks and Culture *SG*

SUBJECT: Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Committee on the Environment will be held Wednesday, July 12, 2017. ***For those that can attend, we will be meeting at North Creek Community Center at 6:30pm and will walk over to North Creek Lake to look at the shoreline vegetation that was cut back over the winter. We will be back at North Creek Community Center for the regularly scheduled Committee on the Environment meeting by 7:30pm.*** If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact me at 301-948-0110, ext. 2336 or by e-mail to sgole@mvf.org.

SG/tg



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COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

North Creek Community Center

20125 Arrowhead Road

AGENDA

1. Residents' Time
2. Call Meeting to Order
3. Chairman's Remarks
4. Review Minutes of Meeting April 12, 2017 – (Enclosure 4)
5. Board Liaison Report
6. New Business
 - a. Review Goose Count Data – (Enclosure 6a)
7. Old Business
 - a. Update on Tree Montgomery Plantings
 - b. Update on Solar Power Project for North Creek Community Center
8. Environmental News Updates
9. Next meeting date – October 11, 2017

DRAFT

Montgomery Village Foundation
Committee on the Environment
April 12, 2017

A regular meeting of the Montgomery Village Foundation Committee on the Environment was held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at the North Creek Community Center, Montgomery Village, MD.

Members Present

Claudette Lease, Chairman
 Scott Dyer, Board Liaison
 Tim Goodfellow
 Patricia Johnson
 Ed Ohanian
 Jeannie Pizzonia
 Mario Salazar
 Tom Vetter
 Orlow Zumwalt

Members Absent

Nancy Farrar (*attended walkthrough)

Others Present

Scott Gole, MVF Assistant Director of Recreation, Parks and Culture
 Sarah Albert, Recording Secretary
 2 residents

Residents' Time

Mr. Wilder added that Snouffer School Road is being widened and the utility poles are being moved as a result. He explained that the runoff from the construction was feeding into Whetstone Run. Mr. Wilder said that the construction project included retrofitting storm water ponds that feed into Whetstone Run and that the project was being conducted by Montgomery County. Mr. Wilder thanked Mr. Gole for researching information about this project.

Ms. Wilder wanted to call attention to a Letter to the Editor by a Northgate resident about the pruning around North Creek Lake. She stated that the foliage had been drastically cut back and that it looked really sad. Ms. Wilder added that the foliage on the two islands had also been pruned and that the extent of the pruning was very bad for erosion control and the animals. Ms. Wilder submitted copies of the letter to Committee Members for review.

Mr. Gole stated that the Montgomery Village Foundation would better monitor its contractors for compliance of safety and environmental guidelines. He added that this pruning did not comply with Foundation policy. Mr. Gole said that the Foundation was looking at areas around North Creek Lake for the creation of foliage; he hoped more trees could be planted. He added that the landscape crews did not go over to the islands to prune, but that North Creek Lake had a lot of beaver activity. Mr. Gole stated that he met with the head of the maintenance crew to explain the no mow buffer around the lake. Additionally, white lines have been painted, delineating a three to five foot buffer around the water, to provide guidance to the work crews for where not to mow.

Ms. Wilder stated that the letter gave an excellent description of the pruning and that the wildlife habitat was disrupted. She added that the natural look was extremely important. The Committee agreed to walk around North Creek Lake at its next meeting on July 12th.

Ms. Pizzonia expressed concern that a member of the grass cutting crew was standing in the roadway along Montgomery Village Avenue and could have been hit by traffic. Mr. Gole said he would relay the concern to the landscape contractor.

Call Meeting to Order

Ms. Lease, chairman presided. She called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Chairman's Remarks

Ms. Lease stated that the state legislative session in Annapolis in support of the environment was very successful. She added that the governor signed over 100 different bills into law and that he was currently the second most popular governor in U.S.

Review Minutes of Meeting January 11, 2016

Ms. Lease asked if there were any changes that needed to be made to the minutes.

Ms. Pizzonia moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2017 committee meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Board Liaison Report

Mr. Dyer encouraged Committee Members to attend the Arbor Day Celebration which will be held on Saturday, April 22 at 9:00 am at the North Creek Lake Nature Center. He added that there would be a tree giveaway, crafts for children, creation of a Monarch Butterfly waystation, and that the Montgomery Village Garden Club will be present. The Montgomery Village Board will plant a Ceremonial Tree at 10:00 am.

New Business

a. Recommendation for Committee Chairperson

Mr. Gole stated that every year, the Committee recommends a Committee Chairperson to the MVF Board of Directors. He noted that the Board also reaffirms the committee membership. Mr. Gole added that if a Committee Member missed more than two meetings consecutively, the Board would want to know whether the Committee Member was still interested in serving. Mr. Gole said he would contact any committee member, if any, who may have missed two consecutive meetings to ascertain their interest in remaining on the Committee.

Mr. Goodfellow moved to nominate Claudette Lease as Chair for the Committee on the Environment. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

b. Coordination of Annual Goose Count – June 24, 2017

Mr. Gole said that an annual goose count is conducted at Montgomery Village Foundation owned lakes and ponds. He added that this event had been conducted for more than 15 years. Mr. Gole said that the count is usually conducted on the last Saturday in June when geese are molting and cannot fly. Mr. Gole asked that Committee members who are interested in helping contact him. Ms. Wilder volunteered to help with the count, Mr. Goodfellow stated that he could help with the South Valley Park area, and Ms. Lease said she could count at Kaufmann Park Pond and Ed DeSimon Recreation Area Pond.

c. Rake the Lake – May 6, 2017

Ms. Pizzonia circulated information about the Friends of Whetstone Lake (FOWL) annual Rake the Lake event clean-up, which will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2017. The event will start at the Lake Whetstone Boat House and have SSL hours and community service credit forms available to students.

Ms. Pizzonia asked about moving the Arbor Day Event to Lake Whetstone in 2018, so that the Rake the Lake event could be held on Earth Day.

Ms. Pizzonia asked that a letter of appreciation be sent to Richard Zeman on behalf of the Committee on the Environment for the cleanup of Lake Whetstone. She asked that the letter recognize his work and efforts.

Old Business

a. Update on Tree Montgomery Plantings at MVF Parks and Facilities

Mr. Gole stated that Tree Montgomery had planted many trees throughout Montgomery Village during the fall. He followed-up with the Committee regarding a question about the trees' warranty. He explained that Tree Montgomery would monitor the trees for 3 years. Mr. Gole stated that the trees would be replaced if they died during this time frame. He added that about 75 trees, each 10-12 feet tall, had been planted. Mr. Gole said that Tree Montgomery is a program that the Village can continue to work with and that a goal of the program is to add canopy shading to asphalt areas, tot lots, paths, and other recreational areas.

Mr. Gole stated that trees had been planted in nearly every single facility owned by the Montgomery Village Foundation. He added that each newly installed tree had a brace and fencing placed around it for protection. Mr. Gole added that current maintenance standards call for a no mow area of three to five feet from lakes, ponds, and streams to protect the shorelines.

Prior to the meeting, the Committee on the Environment conducted a walkthrough of the South Valley Park and viewed a number of the newly planted trees.

b. Lake Whetstone Outfall Tower Repairs Update

Mr. Gole updated the Committee about the repairs to the outfall tower at Lake Whetstone. He stated that the work has been completed, and that seeding and sodding was underway for areas disturbed during the construction. He explained that the sluice gate, which is a mechanism that allows water to be drained from the lake, had been replaced. He added that the areas of concrete, which had eroded over time, were resurfaced. Additionally, a cranking mechanism had been installed. He stated that the state had inspected the inside of the tower and outfall barrels to ensure that they were appropriately installed.

Mr. Gole said that the toe drain on the South Valley Park side needed repair. He explained that there were two pipes, one on each side of the barrels, and that one of the pipes had separated.

Ms. Pizzonia asked about moving a 6" x 6" timber border in the Whetstone picnic area. She explained that people who were coming from the park were walking through the plants and memorial area. Mr. Gole explained that a contractor would be working on the rock wall and that they would look to determine if the timber should be relocated.

c. Update on Potential Stormwater Management Grant Projects

Mr. Gole stated that Montgomery County had solicited proposals from contractors for stormwater management projects to help them to fulfill their requirements for renewal of the MS4 Permit, which is a storm sewer system permit. Mr. Gole stated that there are two areas in Montgomery Village were under consideration. One area is behind the Foundation office, and

the other area is in North Creek Lake Park off Maple Leaf Drive. Both areas have untreated stormwater discharges that are creating erosion channels. If the proposals are accepted, the projects would have to be completed before July 2020. If awarded, the County would pay for these improvements. Mr. Gole stated that two grant applications for this work had been submitted. Mr. Gole also noted that grant requests for improvements to these areas were also submitted to the State Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Gole stated that the Montgomery Village Foundation is seeking an exception to apply as a 501-C4 organization for County grants related to reforestation projects.

Environmental News Updates

Mr. Goodfellow asked if there would be any pruning around Lake Whetstone this spring now that the work on the outfall tower was complete. Mr. Gole said that only the dam area would be pruned.

Mr. Goodfellow stated that following the Committee's tour around North Creek Lake in July, there should be a commitment to enhance the area. He asked for support for more plantings and trees around this lake.

Mr. Ohanian stated that federal watershed protection responsibility will be passed to states, but no federal funding will be given. Programs to protect ground water are also at risk. Mr. Salazar added that 60% of all potable water in the world is ground water.

Mario Salazar introduced himself to the Committee. He said that he worked at the Environmental Protection Agency for 27 years, as well as USAID, with a concentration on international programming and ground water. He stated that he had lived in Montgomery Village since 1976 and was a Vietnam War veteran. In retirement, Mr. Salazar added that he enjoyed volunteering in a soup kitchen, making jewelry, refurbishing computers, writing, and cleaning up trash around Lake Whetstone.

Mr. Gole will schedule a walk prior to the July Committee meeting to view the pruning at North Creek Lake.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting for the Committee on the Environment will be held on July 12, 2017 at North Creek Community Center.

Adjournment

**Mr. Vetter moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.
The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m. The reports, authorizations and other documents presented at the meeting have been initialed for identification and attached hereto or filed in the Montgomery Village Foundation offices.

/s/

Sarah Albert
Recording Secretary

MVF Committee on the Environment

Results of April 12, 2017 Meeting

Motion List

- 1. Ms. Pizzonia moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2017 committee meeting as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**
- 2. Mr. Goodfellow moved to nominate Claudette Lease as Chair for the Committee on the Environment. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**
- 3. Mr. Vetter moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

Action List

_____ Mr. Gole will schedule a walk through at North Creek Lake prior to the July 12th meeting.

_____ Mr. Gole will follow-up with the lawn mowing crew about not standing in the roadway of Lake Shore Drive.

_____ Committee Members who can help with the goose count are asked to contact Mr. Gole.

_____ Mr. Gole will write a letter to Richard Zeman on behalf of the Committee on the Environment for his cleanup of Lake Whestone. The letter will recognize Mr. Zeman's work and efforts.



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July 6, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members, Committee on the Environment

FROM: Scott Gole, Assistant Director of Recreation, Parks and Culture *SG*

SUBJECT: 2017 Goose Count

On Saturday June 24, 2017, a count of geese at Village parks with lakes or ponds was conducted. Counters included COE members, MVF staff and other interested volunteers. The following data was collected during this count. I have also attached a comparison sheet that has the past seventeen year's data.

<u>PARK</u>	<u># OF GEESE</u>	<u># OF GOSLINGS</u>
Lake Whetstone	119	0
South Valley Park	183	0
North Creek Lake	152	0
Lake Marion Park	73	3
Ed DeSimon Rec. Area	14	0
Kaufmann Park	0	0
	<u>541</u>	<u>3</u>

GRAND TOTAL = 544

SG/tg

Goose Count Data Yearly Comparison

Year	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Lake Whet Geese	140	149	138	91	168	171	191	151	169	118	138	123	181	193	191	153	119
Lake Whet Goslings	0	4	0	28	0	19	0	0	9	2	0	4	0	11	37	0	0
Lake Whet Total	140	153	138	119	168	190	191	151	178	120	138	127	181	204	228	153	119
South Valley Geese	166	179	192	175	225	162	150	146	151	170	115	107	112	91	83	85	183
SV Goslings	2	14	8	7	14	1	3	11	0	5	1	2	17	0	2	0	0
South Valley Total	168	193	200	182	239	163	153	157	151	175	116	109	129	91	85	85	183
North Creek Geese	143	127	130	152	166	143	114	141	156	230	104	138	123	132	133	137	152
NCL Goslings	3	0	17	8	11	6	15	20	0	6	7	0	19	9	21	0	0
North Creek Total	146	127	147	160	177	149	129	161	156	236	111	138	142	141	154	137	152
Lake Marion Geese	35	50	23	24	1	14	0	24	16	34	33	36	58	36	15	57	73
LM Goslings	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	5	0	2	3	3
Lake Marion Total	35	52	25	24	1	14	0	24	16	34	37	36	63	36	17	60	76
DeSimon Geese	50	13	26	24	37	31	35	20	14	61	30	29	30	17	4	5	14
DeSimon Goslings	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DeSimon Total	50	13	26	24	38	31	35	20	14	61	30	29	30	17	4	5	14
Kaufmann Geese	0	24	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kaufmann Goslings	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kaufmann Total	0	25	12	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Geese/Gosling	539	563	548	509	626	547	508	513	515	626	468	439	545	489	488	440	544