

ST. MARY'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
Governmental Center
August 3, 1999

Present: Commissioner President Julie B. Randall
Commissioners Joseph F. Anderson
Commissioner Shelby P. Guazzo
Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.
Commissioner Daniel H. Raley
Mortimer L. Smedley, County Administrator
Judith A. Spalding, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER

Commissioner Guazzo moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to authorize Commissioner President Randall to sign the Check Register. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Raley moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve the minutes of the Commissioners' meeting of Tuesday, July 27, 1999, as corrected. Motion carried.

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Present: Mortimer L. Smedley, County Administrator

- Draft Agendas for August 10, 1999 and August 24, 1999

(During discussion of the draft agendas, Commissioner Mattingly requested that a future agenda include a presentation on the process for amendments to the water and sewer plan. Currently the amendments are considered every six months, and he thought it should be changed to 45 days. The Commissioners agreed to try to add it to the August 24 agenda.)

1. Grant Documents
 - a) Office of Community Services – Grant Agreement
VISTA Program
Federal Funding: \$224,000
VISTA Mileage Reimbursement Request (\$6,000)

Also present: Walt Biscoe, Community Services Coordinator

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Grant Agreement and the Request for Reimbursement. Motion carried.

- b) Office on Aging – Grant Agreement
State Funding: Senior Nutrition (\$47,878); Senior Guardianship (\$6,600);
Senior Information & Assistance (\$12,535); Senior Care (\$97,458);
Vulnerable Elderly (\$6,330)

Also present: Jenny Page, OOA

Commissioner Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and authorize Commissioner Randall to sign the Grant Agreement. Motion carried.

- 2. Office of Central Services
Resolution Increasing County Department Purchasing Authorization
from \$500 to \$1500

Also present: Jim Haley, Manager, Office of Central Services

As a follow up to Office of Central Service's presentation on procurement procedures, the Commissioners considered a Resolution increasing the \$500 limitation within the procurement manual to \$1500.

During discussion the Commissioners requested that the Resolution be amended to include a statement that departments be required to get three telephone bids for any purchases between \$500 and \$1500 and document the information for auditing purposes.

After discussion Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Guazzo, to approve and sign Resolution No. 99-17. Motion carried four to one with Commissioner Raley voting against stating that while serving on the Efficiency Task Force he had voted against the increase from \$200 to \$500 and that he felt there was insufficient justification to now increase it to \$1500. (Commissioner Guazzo stated she voted for the motion but she would have preferred to have received information as to the amount of purchases from \$500 to \$1500 in the last year.)

- 3. Tri-County Animal Shelter Committee
Appointment

Commissioner Mattingly moved, seconded by Commissioner Raley, to approve and sign letter appointing Michael Golden to the Tri-County Animal Shelter. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Commissioners presented a Proclamation designating Tuesday, August 3, 1999 as *National Night Out*. The Commissioners also recognized Scott McLane, "Rusty" Malone and Dave Zylack for their efforts in organizing the "National Night Out."

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' TIME

Drought Conditions

Commissioner Mattingly referred to two notices regarding the current drought conditions; one from Dr. Israel, Health Officer dated June 8 requesting support of a open air burning ban, and the other from the Public Information Officer announcing the Commissioners' request for voluntary compliance with drought emergency measures in response to the Governor's statewide drought emergency declared on July 30.

Patapsco Aquifer Study

Commissioner Anderson referred to correspondence from Charles County Commissioners regarding financial and administrative support for the *Southern Maryland Patapsco Aquifer Project*. He pointed out that Calvert County will be meeting this date to discuss its participation in the study; state agencies (MDE, DNR) have not budgeted their share. Commissioner Anderson suggested that Steve King of MetComm provide the Commissioners with information on the status of this project, and further that the County work with the legislative delegation to urge the state agencies to participate in the funding.

One-Room School House in Drayden

Commissioner Anderson advised that a gentleman in Drayden owns a one-room African American schoolhouse and would like to donate it to the County. Maryland Historical Trust is being contacted to see if funds are available for restoration and repairs to the building.

Drayden Post Office

Commissioner Anderson referred to plans to replace the existing Drayden Post Office and stressed the importance that the new facility be designed to fit the character of the community.

Route 5 Improvements (from Ridge to Point Lookout)

Commissioner Anderson requested the Commissioners' support to send a letter to Secretary Procari, Department of Transportation requesting a status report on the next steps for the upgrade of Route 5 from Ridge to Point Lookout and what needs to be done to get the project moving. The legislative delegation and Tri-County Infrastructure Committee should be copied. The DOT will be making its annual presentation in September at which time this issue can be addressed.

Transfer from Private Industry Council to Workforce Investment Board

Commissioner Anderson brought the Commissioners up to date on the initiative to transfer from Private Industry Council to Workforce Development Board. A grant in the amount of \$50,000 is being prepared which will be used to hire an individual on a contract to work on the mechanics of the transition. It is a reimbursable grant and will require forward funding. Mr. Smedley will be meeting with the County Administrator from Charles and Calvert County Commissioners and will provide a report at the August 10 meeting.

The Department of Human Resources and Department of Social Services are working to bring Workforce Development monies to the County to assist in employee and middle management training. It will be several months before the project is approved.

Public Forum for September

Commissioner Anderson suggested that at the September public forum the Commissioners entertain the idea of having young people attend to have them speak to their needs and requirements. The Commissioners should also hear from parents about youth-related issues. The Commissioners gave their concurrence.

Local Carnivals

Commissioner Raley advised that he attended the Hollywood Carnival this past weekend and encouraged people in the community to attend the various local carnivals.

Relocation of Navy Museum

Commissioner Raley reported that he attended a meeting with Commissioner Randall on the Navy Museum and progress is made relative to the relocation of this facility. He expressed appreciation to Keith Fairfax, Captain Roberts, Dave Jenkins, and J. Frank Raley for the time they have spent on this project.

GED Graduation

Commissioner Randall advised that she attended the Family Center's GED Graduation on Friday and indicated that those who pursued getting their GED should be very proud.

Southern Maryland Technology Report

Commissioner Randall referred to the Southern Maryland Technology Report, a supplement to the Technology Gazette, which lists a number of business initiatives in the tri-county area. She suggested that Director of DECD Martin Fairclough meet with the Commissioners to discuss business initiatives in St. Mary's County in that there is only one mention in the Report about St. Mary's.

Childcare for Disabled Children

Commissioner Randall referred to a letter from Lori Mellott regarding the lack of daycare services for disabled children. Commissioner Randall pointed out that the Commissioners have received several letters of this nature and have forwarded them to LMB and the Child Resource Center; however, it appears that these people are not being helped. She requested support from the Commissioner to have the Local Management Board come before the Board to specifically discuss childcare. The Commissioners gave their concurrence.

COMMISSIONERS' "MEET AND GREET"

The Commissioners conducted a "Meeting and Greet" with County Employees at the Carter State Office Building Public Meeting Room.

LEXINGTON PARK SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT BRIEFING

Present: Cliff Singleton, developer
David D. Douglas, Partner
Allan M. Schiner, Alliant Capital, Ltd.
Tricia Kokotan, Regional Manager, Reliance Management Services

As a follow up to previous discussion the referenced individuals appeared before the board to provide a briefing on the Lexington Park Senior Housing Project. The presentation included the following information:

- ❖ Construction is to begin in November and should be open in 6 – 10 months from construction start date;
- ❖ Facility is a retirement center for active seniors and is designed for "aging in place" as seniors need more assistance;
- ❖ Amenities will include computer room, lap pool, walking trails, arts and crafts room, and exercise room.

Areas of discussion included handicap accessibility issues (handicap accessories, door widths, handicap adaptability in each apartment).

In conclusion Mr. Singleton indicated that the previous Board provided a letter of support and requested a letter of support from the current Board. The Commissioners agreed to provide the requested letter to Mr. Singleton.

LEXINGTON PARK LIBRARY PUBLIC FORUM

Present: Jim Stirling, Director, Office of Capital Projects

Site Alternatives Presentation

Mr. Stirling provided a presentation on the two sites being considered for the location of the Lexington Park Library—the Nicolet Park site and the Gabrelcik property site. The presentation included review of space needs analysis (based on standard two volumes per capita); future expansion; public input (library task force's evaluation and recommendations, public surveys); site comparisons (zoning, water and sewer, utilities, stormwater management, road access, pedestrian access, land issues, and topography); and capital cost comparisons between the two sites (construction, furnishings/equipment, and professional fees).

Public Comments

The meeting was opened for comments from the public:

Elinor Cofer – stated that the Commissioners should move quickly on this issue because of other issues facing the Board;

Kathy Weigle – expressed support for the Nicolet Park site because of its potential for growth, its access, and visibility.

Barbara Conrath – stated that the community has sent the message in support for the Nicolet Park site.

Laurice White – Inquired as to why the Gabrelcik property was not on the survey. (Commissioner Randall responded that at that time the Gabrelcik property was not on the table because the County did not own the property and there were no funds in the budget; however, it is now back on the table because the owner offered to donate the property to the County.)

Clare Whitbeck – Stated she had walked the Nicolet Park site and that the library's presence at that site would make the park more useable.

Fred Powledge – Urged the Board to choose the Nicolet Park site, stated that the Library Board supports the findings of the Library Task Force (Nicolet Park), and pointed out that the Gabrelcik site of today is not the same site it was last fall. (Mr. Powledge submitted a letter from Todd Morgan, member of the Task Force).

Mary Ann Chasen – Stated that an overwhelming number of the public preferred the Nicolet Park site.

Janice Hummel – expressed preference for Nicolet Park; that the site was more accessible to walkers and would be a good setting for outdoor programs.

Irvanette Hall – Expressed support for Nicolet Park site.

Tabitha Powledge – Stated library should not be used as a tool for development; expressed support for Nicolet Park.

Coleman Hillman – Expressed support for the Nicolet Park site stating that this site would help bring the community together.

Mary Wood – Expressed support for Nicolet Park because of its location, because of room for expansion, and because of less potential for development.

Ed Pinno – Expressed support for Nicolet Park.

Elfreda Mathis – Expressed support for Gabrelcik property because the children from Lexington Park Elementary could walk to the library.

Bob Lewis – Stated he would support whatever decision the Board makes; stated he did a rating and that the Gabrelcik property was rated the highest and stated that this site has the greatest potential for launching the Lexington Park revitalization plan.

Debra Johnson – Expressed support for Nicolet Park stating it was centrally located, easily accessible, and had pleasing surroundings.

Jack Witten – Stated that because of the importance of the issue and money involved the Commissioners should consider taking a new look at the issue.

Barbara Thompson – Pointed out that the issue is the redevelopment of Lexington Park and that the Lexington Park Master Plan Committee agreed that it should be a Town Center; stated that the Commissioners in making their decision should consider the “bigger picture”—the revitalization of Lexington Park.

John Dixon – Expressed support for the Gabrelcik site.

John Cook – Expressed support for the Gabrelcik site stating that the Nicolet Park site would bring more congestion to Route 235.

Tom Watts – Expressed support for the Gabrelcik site.

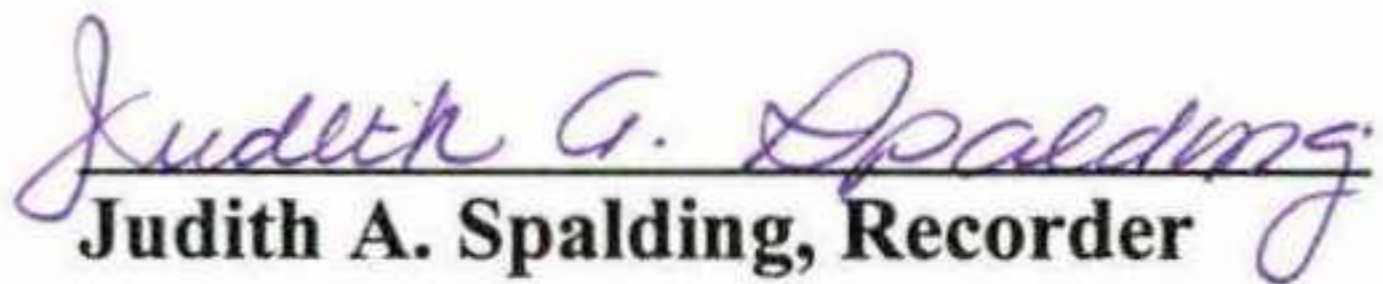
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Commissioners participated in the Annual *National Night Out* along with the Sheriff's Department.

**Minutes Approved by the
Board of County Commissioners on 8/10/99**


Judith A. Spalding, Recorder