

Meeting of the Cool Spring Terrace Civic Association, Sat. February 21, 2004, the National Archives at College Park, Lecture Room A.

Officers Present: Cliff Ukachu, President; Ted Hull, Treasurer (Acting Secretary). Eleven additional members present.

The meeting opened at 1:05 with a prayer by Mr. Ukachu. Mr. Ukachu announced that the 47th District Reception is scheduled for Mon. March 15, 2004, 6:00-8:00 p.m. in Annapolis. He encouraged all to attend.

He also circulated a copy of *The Gazette* article from February 19, 2004, concerning the Cool Spring Forest development. Mr. Ukachu expressed concerns that the article made the community sound as if it were against senior citizens. He asked Mr. Hull to contact *The Gazette* to make these feelings known. [On March 2, 2004, Mr. Hull spoke with Ms. Megan Mullen, the author of the article, and expressed the CSTCA's concerns about the article.]

Mr. Ukachu also announced that the Northern Prince George's County Association, of which the CSTCA is a member, wrote to oppose the pupusa truck legislation sponsored by Mr. Shapiro.

Mr. Ukachu then departed the meeting and Mr. Hull presided. Mr. Hull opened the floor for comments for the good of the Association and general discussion.

Takoma Tree and Landscaping (TTL): A member asked whether the CSTCA had received any responses from the District Council concerning the letters sent December 30, 2003, about the continued operation of TTL and the lack of enforcement of the zoning laws. Mr. Hull replied that he was not aware of any replies received and that Mr. Ukachu would have to address that issue.

Terrapin Highway and Cool Spring Forest: Dr. Robinson brought the CSTCA up to date on the proposed study by the Maryland State Highway Administration for a connector road between I-495 and the UMD campus (the "Terrapin Highway"). Dr. Robinson discussed that basic thrust of the proposal is that the highway will alleviate traffic from local roads. He stated that the 47th District delegation is generally opposed to the plan, but encouraged all to write letters to the MSHA oversight committee to deny funding for the study.

Dr. Robinson announced that he continues to work on legislation through the county to acquire the Cool Spring Forest property as parkland. As recounted in *The Gazette* article, no decision the zoning hearing examiner has made no decision on the special exception. He reminded the assembled that Mr. Shapiro needs to continually hear from us about this issue and its importance to our community. Concerning questions about UMD interest in the property, Dr. Robinson assured the assembled that UMD is not likely interested in the property because it does not appear on the master plan. Dr. Robinson again appealed for donations to defray the cost of the legal expenses.

Additional Neighborhood Concerns: A member asked that the CSTCA seek the removal of the car with DC temporary tags parked at the corner of 26th Pl. and Adelphi Rd. [the car was removed by the conclusion of the meeting] and to contact the owner of the 7-11 at Metzert Plaza about removing graffiti from their building.

Another member brought concerns about noisy student parties and the operation of a business on Curry Pl. and a suspected group home or nursing facility on Rambler Dr. between Curry and Rambler Pl. Mr. Hull advised the member that the noise ordinance takes effect at 9:00 p.m. and that the member should contact the police. Although the member needs to identify themselves to get action, they can request anonymity. On February 28, 2004, Mr. Hull contacted Mr. Shapiro's office about inspections at the two locations, as well as at 2311 Cool Spring Rd.

A member asked about the status of the community standards brochures promised by Mr. Laureys of the County Executives' Office of Community Standards. Mr. Hull was not aware that the CSTCA had received the 300 brochures and will follow-up with Mr. Laureys.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m. The next meeting of the CSTCA is scheduled for Sat March 20, 2004, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Lecture Room A, the National Archives at College Park.

Respectfully submitted 17 March 2004.

Ted Hull
Treasurer
Cool Spring Terrace Civic Association