OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN THE MARYLAND NATIONAL CAPITAL

PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

## MCP-Chairman

From:

Elizabeth Forrest [betforrest@earthlink.net]

Sent:

Tuesday, November 08, 2005 10:26 AM

To:

Tim De Arros

Cc:

Lynn Fantle; Andrea Escher; Barbara Stoffer; Betty Forrest; Dee Baris; Jean Casey; Phil Marti;

Steve Burns; Clarksburg Civic Assoc.; Melissa McNeil; MCP-Chairman; Newhouse, Rachel; Sherry

Nicholson; Terri Davis

Subject: Clarksburg Town Chronicle

To Tim & The Communications Committee (I would like to direct this to all the Communications Committee but You or Lynn have not been able to give me their names and e-mail addresses yet!)

Is the Clarksburg Town Chronicle the only means of Communications the Committee has of getting out news of interest to the residents?

Who supervises and decides who runs ads in the Clarksburg Town Chronicle?

Garden Gossip - Is this the person we would send our articles to with reference to the Grounds committee? Where does she live and what is her e-mail address?

Lynn - please check out the "Welcome to the Clarksburg Chronicle" on page two of the September 2005 issue. Andrea Escher, Editor - states that - "The Clarksburg Homeowners Association Board of Directors and management team are excited to announce the debut of the Chronicle newspaper."

"The Chronicle is your official communication source and voice for community news. The newspaper is published every other month by the Clarksburg Homeowners Association with the support of the various builders within the community and local retailers."

"As the new editor of the Chronicle, I am excited to be bringing you factual and current information about your community, and updates on what is happening throughout the area. This is YOUR community newspaper, and I want you to get involved! Without your neighborhood news, there wouldn't be a newspaper, so I encourage all of you to share your news with your friends and neighbors in the Chronicle."

"The funding for the production and distribution of the newspaper has been partially underwritten thanks to the generosity of our local advertisers. I encourage all of you to share copies of the newspaper with anyone you think could be a potential advertiser. If you are a resident who would like to advertise your business, what could be a better way to reach hundreds of readers then with a low cost ad in the Chronicle?"

"If you are interested in advertising, would like to submit an article, community classified, baby, anniversary, birthday or wedding announcement, or have news you would like to share, please contact me today at 301-519-1678 or via e-mail at towncenternews@aol.com"

"I hope you enjoy this first edition of the Chronicle! Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts and opinions on how we can make future issues even better. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you in the future. Happy Reading!"

This does look like the Chronicle could and should include articles other than just what goes on directly within the boundaries of the Clarksburg Town Center, therefore my article which I wish to submit could easily go into the Chronicle. Items that directly effect Clarksburg Town center were discussed, as well as other items of interest to all of us even though they were not within the parameters of the physical Clarksburg Town Center itself.

Does the Communications Committee intend to write an article about this extremely upbeat and informative meeting? I have started one and would be glad to have your input as I did not have a tape recorder and I would not like to leave anyone or any important items out of the article. I have e-mailed The Gazette and asked them if they are going to write an article, which Lynn said is within their boudaries, because they had not as of the

November 4th issue.

I know Lynn said that "Regarding the Town Chronicle, the basic nature and scope of our HOA newsletter is to cover issues pertaining to the Homeowner's Association, not serve as a newspaper for the entire town of clarksburg. (In any event, the Town Chronicle does not appear often enough to serve as an effective town newspaper.) It is not the responsibility of the HOA or any related committee to distribute your personal newsletter; there just isn't a budget for that. We will instead consider for publication anything you would like to submit as a resident."

I'm confused, I am a resident and I asked to submit an article. As a resident I found 3/4 of the items discussed at this Clarksburg Community Meeting totally relevant to the Clarksburg Town Center Directly and 1/4 indirectly, what could be more interesting then all the items discussed at this meeting, i.e. Roads opening and closing, Parks, Open Green Space, Bike Trails, Walkways, Public Transportation, Police, Fire and Rescue, Retail Center, Library, Clarksburg Town center Rec center, Future public pool in Clarksbrug, a new and informative Clarksburg Bulletin Board launched October 28, 2005 <a href="https://www.montgomerycountyandgov/clarksburg">www.montgomerycountyandgov/clarksburg</a>, a promise of more frequent public meetings pertaining to Clarksburg, the opening of the public pool in Germantown, new Traffic signals, and the moving of a Historical Home and relocation.

The Montgomery County Officials and different departments spent allot of time and money, I'm sure, in preparing for this informational meeting and not to include it in our basic news I think would be a gross oversight.

Tim did you get to notify the Gazette about this meeting I know you notified allot of people by email 10-28-2005?

**Betty Forrest** 

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