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# Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting February 17, 2010

Approved: March 11, 2010

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The regular meeting of the Columbia Association Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. at the Columbia Association building. Present were the Chair, Phil Kirsch, and members Cynthia A.S.H. Coyle, Russell Swatek, Alex Hekimian, Michael Cornell, Shari Zaret (via telephone), Pearl Atkinson-Stewart (via telephone at 7:33 p.m.), Gregg Schwind (arrived at 7:37 p.m.), and Kathleen Dragovich (arrived at 8:01 p.m.); Staff Liaisons Rob Goldman, Steve Sattler, Rafia Siddiqui, and Daniel D'Amore substituting for Chick Rhodehamel; and President Phillip Nelson.

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**2. Board Monitoring Form** The Chair reminded the Board members to complete the Board Monitoring Form.

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**3. Closed Meetings** The Architectural Resource Committee held a closed meeting on Monday, January 4, 2010. The closed meeting was authorized under the Maryland Homeowners Act, Md. Code, Real Property § 11B-111 (4) (iv) consultation with staff personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other persons in connection with pending or potential litigation. The vote to close was 4-0-0, with members Michelle Miller, Gracie Bradford, Pat Loeber, and Kristin Shulder all voting for closure. The meeting was closed from 1:15 p.m. until 2:05 p.m.

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**4. Approval of the Agenda**

**Action:** Mr. Cornell moved to approve the agenda and Mr. Swatek seconded. The Board unanimously approved the agenda as presented.

Vote: 6-0-0

For: Mses. Coyle and Zaret; and Messrs. Kirsch, Hekimian, Cornell, and Swatek.

Against: None

Abstain: None

**5. Approval of the Minutes**

**January 28, 2010**

**Action:** Mr. Swatek moved and Ms. Coyle seconded approval of the minutes.

At 7:33 p.m., Ms. Atkinson-Stewart joined the meeting on the telephone.

The following correction to the minutes was suggested:

by Mr. Hekimian: page 2, last two lines should read, "Ms. Dragovich moved to approve the Purchasing Exception. Mr. Hekimian seconded." instead of "Mr. Schwind moved to approve the Purchasing Exception. Ms. Waller seconded." because it was a motion made in committee and only the committee members could make motions, so it must have been the committee members making the motion. However, there was discussion over whether or not it was actually a motion before the Board, and the consensus was that this

46 could only be resolved by listening again to the recording. The Chair agreed to send the  
47 minutes back to be checked against the tape and address them again at the next Board  
48 meeting.  
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50 At 7:37 p.m., Mr. Schwind arrived at the meeting.  
51

52 **6. Resident Speakout** There were two residents who spoke during Resident Speakout.

- 53 a. Tom Scott of Wilde Lake spoke about the poor financial performance of the CA golf  
54 courses compared to the Timbers at Troy Golf Club.
- 55 b. Ginger Scott of Wilde Lake spoke about possible reasons the county golf course, Timbers  
56 at Troy, has a better financial performance than Fairway Hills.  
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58 **7. Chairman's Remarks** The Chair spoke about setting up a committee after March 2<sup>nd</sup> to  
59 review Michelle Miller's team's work on preparing candidate packages for the Spirit of  
60 Columbia scholarship awards. He also stated his interest in the Board being timelier with  
61 the President's annual evaluation.  
62

63 **8. Committee Agendas**

64 **(a) Planning and Strategy Committee**

65 **1. Continuation of discussion concerning logistics for using CA pathways for**  
66 **commuting as well as recreational purposes**

67 The committee discussed the pathways document developed by staff.  
68

69 At 8:01 p.m., during the discussion of this topic, Ms. Dragovich arrived.  
70

71 Staff members Daniel D'Amore, Jan Clark, and Denis Ellis gave a presentation of the  
72 County-approved GGP plan for a continuous pathway from Howard County General  
73 Hospital to Blandair Park.  
74

75 **Action:** The committee asked the staff to continue to work on the plan and bring it  
76 back to the next meeting with the following items completed:

- 77 a. Subsume the document on pathways into the Strategic Plan document under S2.
- 78 b. Correct the grammar in the section titled Strategic Element Under Consideration
- 79 c. Include pedestrian safety in the Desired Outcomes
- 80 d. Develop action sequence to include the following initial steps: 1) ID key users  
81 including advocacy groups, GGP, County, Chamber of Commerce, and  
82 businesses; and, 2) design concept  
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84 **2. Consideration of a staff report concerning Lakefront and Plaza improvements at**  
85 **Lake Kittamaqundi**

86 The committee discussed a staff report on the Lakefront and Plaza Improvements.  
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90 **3. Recommendations to the Board of Directors**

91 **Action:** Mr. Schwind moved and Mr. Swatek seconded that the Planning and  
92 Strategy Committee recommended to the Board that it approve the staff’s  
93 recommendation that the Board set aside funds to develop a master plan for the  
94 Lakefront as related to Symphony Woods Park and possible enhancements to  
95 Merriweather Post Pavilion and future GGP development, and include connections  
96 from this area of Downtown to nearby Village Centers. The motion passed  
97 unanimously.  
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99 **(b) Performance Oversight Committee**

100 **1. Chair’s Report** The Chair, Mr. Hekimian, reported that the following topics will be  
101 on the agenda for the next Board meeting:

- 102 (1) amendments to the purchasing policies
- 103 (2) the formation of a 501 (c)(3) organization with information on  
104 Reston’s experience
- 105 (3) the enhanced “going green” plan status
- 106 (4) the Athletic Club parking lot plan—Mr. Hekimian wants a Versar  
107 representative to be present at the February 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting to answer  
108 questions on report.
- 109 (5) CSS update
- 110 (6) CA’s monthly financials

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112 **(c) External Relations Committee**

113 **1. Chair’s Report** The Vice Chair, Mr. Cornell, spoke about the committee’s  
114 continuing work in reaching out to various constituencies to create partnerships to  
115 address various issues of concern to CA as well as developing different avenues to  
116 push out information to the residents. He further talked about advocacy  
117 particularly in the context of current legislation. He also agreed to bring an update  
118 on the area of public safety. He also stated as the Chair of the Audit Committee  
119 that they would be bringing a recommendation to the full Board about amending  
120 the terms of the residents who serve on the Audit Committee.  
121

122 **9. Tracking Forms** There was nothing to add.  
123

124 **10. Complete Board Monitoring Form** The Chair reminded the Board members to complete  
125 the Board Monitoring Form.  
126

127 **11. Talking Points** The recording secretary, Erin Gilland Roby, iterated the following  
128 Talking Points:

129 **(a) Business Commuter / Recreational Pathways**

130 The Planning and Strategy Committee continued discussions on CA pathways and  
131 asked the staff to incorporate the results of that discussion into the strategic plan  
132 document.

133 **(b) Staff Report on Lakefront and Plaza Improvements** The Planning and Strategy

134 Committee recommended to the Board that it approve the staff’s recommendation  
135 that the Board set aside funds to develop a master plan for the Lakefront as related to

136 Symphony Woods Park and possible enhancements to Merriweather Post Pavilion  
137 and future GGP development, and include connections from this area of Downtown  
138 to nearby Village Centers.  
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140 **12. Adjournment**

141 There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.  
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144 Respectfully submitted,  
145 Erin Gilland Roby  
146 Recording Secretary