



February 2013

Volume X, Issue I

Membership Meeting
February 21 at 7:00 PM
St. Marks Church

The Crossroads: Substantially Altered or Sustained?

President's Message

The window has closed, but 7 properties within the Highland Crossroads have jumped through it to apply for commercial status. This would represent a substantial increase to the Highland commercial zone – more than doubling the current acreage and eliminating Highland's status as a rural crossroads.

The **Department of Planning and Zoning, DPZ**, has suggested an alternative scheme to create a zoning overlay entitled **BRX**. This is how **Comprehensive Rezoning** works: everything is on the table every 10 years or so. GHCA has proposed a revised vision for **BRX**. We are hopeful DPZ will be ready to discuss it in relation to our proposal by the time we meet.

Bill Mackey, Chief of Comprehensive and Community Planning will give an outline of progress so far and how things will unfold in 2013, and he will be prepared to respond to your questions and comments. **Bill** has been meeting with us since the founding of GHCA.

The zoning process should be completed in 2013, and will determine the face and character of Highland for about 10 years. A good turnout will show DPZ we care about our

community. Come and participate in your future. As always we ask you to come around 6:45 to check in so we may begin at 7:00.

It's membership renewal time. So, please bring your dues.

GHCA Website

Chuck Gait, whose column appears in the **Howard County Times**, loyally continues as **GHCA Webmaster**. Visit the site, <http://www.highlandmd.org/> and send your comments or suggestions to **Chuck** at: Chuck.Gait@gmail.com

!!! THE SCOOP -- SIGHTINGS – RUMORS – BARGAINS

- Work continues on the **Highland Inn** building itself. Close-in inspections are complete. The weather is stalling progress on installing the parking and exterior improvements. No opening date yet.
- **Highland Bald Eagles:** Two eagles have settled in Highland. It's true. I have seen the photos. George Boarman told me he saw one on the cell tower a couple years ago, and now a neighbor has a number of confirmed sightings. Location? Confidential.
- **Boarman Solar:** **George Boarman** states they will proceed with the more intense landscape buffer and berm on Highland Rd. as soon as his budget allows.
- **Crime Report:** Published reports have been insignificant. Do you have information we should publish? Dan: danielol@aol.com or 301-854-9424
- **Traffic Study:** The MD SHA tells member **Ed Schinner** that they need to collect more data to re-evaluate the traffic signals at the **Crossroads**. Results soon.

Membership Special Appeal: Shortly, we will be representing GHCA's position on **Comprehensive Rezoning.** I ask every current member to bring at least one neighbor to our next meeting and to join; we need double our numbers and clout in 2013. Please join or rejoin GHCA. The Membership is **\$50** for the calendar year. **Now more than ever your participation and membership is needed to support the continued efforts of GHCA to represent your interests before Maryland/Howard County government, development interests, and community events.**

Name: _____
Email: _____ (very important! Save postage, and keep informed)
Address (only if not on your check)

Make Your Check Payable to GHCA
Mail to GHCA, PO Box 235, Highland, Maryland 20777

**THE GHCA CANNOT SUCCEED WITHOUT MEMBERS AND WITHOUT THE
GHCA WE'RE ALL ON OUR OWN!!!!**

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