



## East Silver Spring Citizens' Association, Inc.

MAY 2016

*Board Elections and an Update for Progress Place will be topics  
of our next*

EAST SILVER SPRING CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (ESSCA) MEETING • MEETING DATE: MONDAY, May 18, 2016 at 7:00PM

MEETING LOCATION IS THE HISTORIC B&O TRAIN STATION

8100 Georgia Avenue, just south of the Fire Station

NEW MEETING TIME: Third Monday of every other month (Sept - May) Doors open 6:45PM, Meeting starts 7:00PM

JOIN ESSCA'S LIST-SERVE: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/eastsilverspringcivic>

(Include your name and street name when you send your "join request")

VISIT ESSCA'S NEW WEBSITE: [www.eastsilverspring.org](http://www.eastsilverspring.org) EMAIL CONTACT: [esscaprez@gmail.com](mailto:esscaprez@gmail.com)

PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION AND DATE  
FOR OUR MAY MEETING: THE HISTORIC B&O  
TRAIN STATION AT 8100 GEORGIA AVENUE

At our May meeting we will have board elections (see below for details), and updates and discussion on the new facility for the Progress Place, homeless shelter, currently under construction adjacent to the B&O Train Station Museum. We also hope to have a discussion to solicit ideas for meeting topics, community needs and action items for next year.

### OUR MARCH DINNER & NETWORKING MEETING WAS A BIG HIT!

We had a great turn out for our annual meet and greet at Pete's New Haven Pizza. Thanks to all those who were able to join us for this fun evening of socializing and getting to know our neighbors. It was also an opportunity for us to express our appreciation to Megan Moriarty who has served us faithfully as President for the past 2 years. Megan and husband Jack are relocating to Colorado. They will be greatly missed!

### VOTING FOR ESSCA BOARD POSITIONS

We invite your participation! At our May meeting we will hold a vote for board positions. Per the last newsletter and the ESSCA constitution, nominations for board positions had to be submitted by April 15th. Our civic association's outreach and advocacy efforts are only as effective in part as those who serve in these leadership positions, so we hope you will make an effort to come out to participate in the election.

Candidates: Darian Unger (Vice President),

Steve Knight (Treasurer) and Nancy Gurganus (Recording Secretary) are running unopposed for reelection. Tim Haveland has been nominated for the position of Correspondence Secretary. Voting: To be eligible, you need to be a member in good standing (i.e., you are current on your dues—these can be paid that night if needs be) and every adult over 18 in a household is allowed one vote.

### ESSCAFEST RETURNS!

Back for its fourth year, our annual community block party featuring local musicians will be held on Saturday, May 7th. This year we are taking the party back to Houston Street in front of Bullis Park. The street will be closed from noon to 7PM and the music will run from 1 to 6. Our appreciation again goes to Nancy Gurganus and Tim Haveland for organizing this fun event. We hope you can come by, sample some of our local talent and get to meet your neighbors! See the flyer on the back.



TASTE THE WORLD IN FENTON VILLAGE  
MAY 15, 2016 1-5pm  
Doorprizes – drawing at 5:30pm

Taste the World of Fenton Village will be back for its 6th year, expanding to include even more restaurants. Newcomers to this year's

event include Bibim, Fenton Village's first Korean Restaurant, Urban Winery, and Kefa Café's library location. They join the huge variety of restaurants that have made Taste The World in Fenton Village a hit year after year.

Great for families and people of all ages, the restaurant crawl invites attendees to explore Fenton Village. Attendees pick up their free event "passport" at one of three port entries. 35 neighborhood restaurants offer tastes of their standard menus for anywhere from \$2-5 from 1 PM to 5 PM. Attendees earn a stamp in their "passport" for every "taste" at a participating restaurant and with three stamps, can enter in a raffle to win prizes announced at 5:30 PM.

This year's event will also include the 2016 debut of Fenton Street Market as they bring several of their vendors to the event. You will be able to find local and handmade crafts on the service road in front of Pacci's and the World Building. Just across the street, you can take a tour of the B&O Train Station throughout the day and experience a part of Silver Spring's history.

Fenton Village Inc., a local non-profit in partnership with Montgomery County, coordinates Taste The World in Fenton Village to promote and highlight local restaurants that show off the diversity of food in the eclectic neighborhood often called the hidden gem of Silver Spring.

### B & O TRAIN STATION MUSEUM & MBT BIKE TRAIL UPDATE

Plans for the next leg of the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT) Bike Lane appear to be advancing. One of the more difficult pieces of this leg of the trail is at the juncture of

Georgia Avenue and the B & O Station. The concept calls for the bike trail to run from the Transit Center south along the Metro tracks, behind Progress Place and the Fire/Rescue Station, cut across the B&O Station property, cross Georgia Avenue on a newly-constructed trail bridge, run along Selim Road, cross Burlington Avenue, continue behind the self-storage warehouse and then turn out to Fenton to join the existing trail heading south along the Montgomery College campus. ESSCA voted on and generally approved this concept a number of years ago, but the interface between Trail and Station was never satisfactorily resolved in a manner that wouldn't negatively impact the B&O and its function as a Museum and event facility. In particular, the trail was originally intended to run under the platform canopy, but this was not allowed due to CSX

right-of-way requirements and landmark status of the building. There have been ongoing negotiations between Montgomery Preservation Inc. (MPI—the non-profit advocacy organization that owns and manages the Station) and the County to work through these conflicts. Revised plans now call for the Trail to run in front of the Station.

Because this is a County-owned project, there needs to be a Mandatory Referral hearing with plans presented to the Planning Board. This has been scheduled for May 19, 2016. The Board will be accepting comments at the hearing or in writing until then. You may sign up online to testify at the hearing and written comments may be sent by email to [mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org) or via mail to "Montgomery County Planning Board, 8787

Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910." Comments must be submitted at least one full business day before a scheduled hearing (i.e. by 9 a.m. on Wednesday morning before a Thursday hearing). Office of Planning staff report and plans should be available for review closer to the hearing date at: [http://www.montgomeryplanningboard.org/meetings\\_archive/](http://www.montgomeryplanningboard.org/meetings_archive/). Construction on this next leg of the MBT is supposedly scheduled to start in the next fiscal year.

#### AIR BnB IN SILVER SPRING

Council Member Hans Riemer submitted Bill 2-16 (Feb. 4) to allow short term rental in residential properties. Specifically, the rental of single rooms in private residences for less than 30 days, through online websites like Airbnb or HomefromHome. Currently it is illegal to rent a room in your house for less than 30 days without a B&B/hotel license, which are Conditional uses. Bill 2-16 will allow "Hosts" to apply for a B&B license online, certify that their property meets all the required building and zoning codes; such as life/safety, parking, room size, smoke detectors, etc. Other features of the Bill include:

- The number of renters can be no more than 5 unrelated people in a residence.
- The "Host" must live in the property and either own it or be an agent of the Owner.
- There will be no inspections before or after application.
- There will be no public notification of the application because it will not be a Conditional use like a B&B.
- There will be no limits on how many of these rentals can occur on a block or in a neighborhood.
- Enforcement will be by complaint at the time of the annual renewal.
- Insurance is the responsibility of the property owner.

Bill 2-16 is under review with the Planning Board through this summer. If you want to comment you should direct your comments first to the Planning Board and/or to the PHED Board and the bill sponsor Council

### East Silver Spring Citizens' Association Proudly Presents the Fourth Annual

# ESSCA FEST

**Houston Street**  
Next to Bullis Park

**Saturday, May 7**  
Rain or Shine!

**FREE!**

**Live Bands 1-6 PM**

"Open Mic" between sets for  
acoustic singer/songwriters

**Family Activities! Bring your lawn chair & relax!**

**Snacks and soft beverages provided! BYOB!**

**Open to all neighbors in the ESSCA community**



**NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS CAN  
NOW PAY THEIR DUES ONLINE  
THROUGH PAYPAL!**

Visit the ESSCA Website:  
<http://eastsilverspring.org/Membership.html>