

## Planning Commission Forms Subcommittee on Night Lighting

George Kaplan

Planning Commission member Ken Wiggins has taken the lead in forming a subcommittee to consider a possible lighting ordinance for Cecil County. The idea is to enhance safety, save energy, and reduce glare and “light pollution” that confuses wildlife and drastically reduces the number of stars that we can see. Other nearby jurisdictions, including New Castle County, have adopted lighting ordinances and even our existing Zoning Ordinance has some lighting restrictions. The plan is to take a working ordinance from another county and adapt it to Cecil County. Most likely, existing lighting will not be affected but new lighting would come under the ordinance.

Those serving on the subcommittee are: Eileen Butler – Environmentalist; Tony DiGiacomo – Cecil County Planner; Ellen Mercurio – Landscape Architect; Dan Whitehurst – Builder; Linda Tipton - Delmarva Power; George Kaplan – Astronomer; Ken Wiggins – Planning Commission member (chair).