

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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VILLAGE COUNCIL

MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*

JOHN R. MERTENS, *Chairman*

MICHAEL J. DORSEY, *Vice Chairman*

PAULA DURBIN, *Secretary*

KATHLEEN COOPER, *Treasurer*

DAVID LEWIS, *Parliamentarian*

CLARA M. LOVETT, *Historian*

JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

LESLIE STRATHMANN, *Village Manager 1987-1996*



APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2016

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; John R. Mertens, Chairman; Michael J. Dorsey, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; David Lewis, Parliamentarian; Clara M. Lovett, Historian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Mertens called the Village Council Meeting to order.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

The Council heard questions and concerns from members of the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. White made the following announcements:

Please join us for our Fall Festival celebration on Tuesday, October 25, at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Center. Check the October newsletter for details.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is Saturday, October 22, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Drop off your expired or unwanted prescription drugs at the Village Center.

The shredding truck returns to the Village on Thursday, October 27, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The Village will host a U.S. Senate Candidate's forum on Sunday, October 30, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Village Center.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Durbin recommended approval of the minutes of the Council's public session of September 12.

Ms. Durbin moved to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of September 12. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for the period ending September 30.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from Community Advisory Committee: Mr. Lewis reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on September 14 and October 13. His report is attached and is incorporated into these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion of County-owned property at 5320 Willard Avenue near Willard Avenue Park: Michelle Grace, Assistant Division Chief, Facilities Management Division of the Montgomery County Department of Parks, spoke about the use of the house on the property. James Poore, the Division Chief, was also present.

There were many comments from the Council and the audience expressing a desire to have the property available to the public as a part of Willard Avenue Park. Ms. Grace said she would express those concerns to the appropriate people at her agency.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation by Nat Finkelstein, Bethesda Fire Department Board member, on status of Bethesda Fire Station 6: Mr. Finkelstein described alternative plans being considered for re-development of the fire station. He asked for Council support of a "floating zone" on the site. The Council indicated that it would take the matter under advisement.

Discussion/vote on Village snow removal contract: Mr. Mansfield said that the only bid received for snow removal was from Mulheron Tree Experts, Inc., the current contractor. The proposal is for a three year period. A second proposal came in well past the deadline and was disqualified.

The Council approved, by unanimous consent, the proposal from Mulheron Tree Experts, Inc. to provide snow removal services to the Village for the next three years.

Discussion of possible upgrades to Page Park; review of arborist recommendation on replacing birch trees and status of beech tree with wall:
Mr. Mansfield said that the arborist recommended replacing the birch trees with a grouping of oak trees. He also reported that the arborist felt that the beech tree is nearing the end of its life and may not last more than a year.

Ms. Durbin spoke of her suggestions for upgrading the park. Staff was asked to determine the feasibility and cost of bringing water service and electricity to the park and also installing a sprinkler system.

POST AGENDA:

Parcel 6 was discussed and the CAC's draft strategic goals were designated for consideration at a future Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Mertens adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Durbin
Secretary