

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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*

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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

September 12, 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; and approximately 50 Residents.

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:

She thanked the Willoughby Board of Directors and staff for allowing the Council to meet at the Willoughby during the Village Center renovations.

The Community Advisory Committee would meet on Wednesday, September 14 at 5:30 p.m. at 4620 North Park.

Due to the holidays, next month's Council meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, at the Village Center.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Durbin recommended approval of the minutes of the Council's public session of July 11.

Ms. Durbin moved, Mr. Lewis seconded, to approve the minutes of the Council meeting of July 11. The motion carried. (7-0-0)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summaries for the periods ending July 31 and August 31, 2016.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from Community Advisory Committee: Mr. Lewis reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on July 19. His document is attached and is incorporated into these minutes. The next meeting was scheduled for September 14 at 5:30 p.m. at 4620 North Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion /update on Village Center renovations: Art Robinson, the supervising architect with Walton Madden Cooper Robinson Pones discussed the status of the Village Center renovation. He noted that the project is moving ahead and that the Center would reopen by October 1 and then addressed questions from the audience.

Ms. Durbin reported that her nomination to the Board of Directors of the Bethesda Fire Department was approved by the Board on September 1; that the chairman of had recently announced the designation of Firehouse Six for assignment of an ambulance; and that the Firehouse would hold its annual open house on September 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., with many exciting activities planned, especially for children.

Ms. Cooper asked the Council to reconsider the decision made at the July meeting, not to become a member of the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights. She suggested that after the designated Council members have attended a few meetings, the Council might reconsider its decision.

Ms. Cooper moved, Ms. Durbin seconded, that at its January 2017 meeting the Council, reconsider membership on the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights. The motion carried. (7-0-0)

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation by Village resident, Connie Row on efforts to introduce the “Village” concept of volunteers supporting neighbors in Friendship Heights. Ms. Row shared information on “Village” organizations already operating in local communities; and offered an update on the effort that she is spearheading to launch an organization serving the residents of Friendship Heights; and addressed questions. Her attached report is incorporated into these minutes. Members of the Council and staff will meet with Ms. Row for further discussion.

Discussion/vote on renewal of membership to Maryland Municipal League: Mr. Mertens reported receipt of the invoice for annual dues in the amount of \$7,992.58 for renewing the membership of the Village Council in the Maryland Municipal League for 2016-2017.

The Council approved by unanimous consent the renewal of its membership in the Maryland Municipal League and payment of the invoice for dues.

Update from Council member Clara Lovett on status of Village archives: Ms. Lovett reported that the Village archives comprise documents covering 40 years that must be reviewed, organized and preserved or purged. She announced that an article on the archives would be scheduled for the October newsletter.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Mertens moved, Mr. Lewis seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Durbin
Secretary