

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

January 9, 2017

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; John R. Mertens, Chairman; Michael J. Dorsey, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; David Lewis, Parliamentarian; Clara M. Lovett, Historian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and approximately 20 Residents.

ABSENT:

Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer.

CALL TO ORDER

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

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

The Council heard questions and concerns from the audience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. White made the following announcements:

The Council's 2016 Annual Report will be distributed to residents at the end of January. It will include the Proposed Budget for fiscal 2018.

The Council meetings scheduled for February 13 and March 13 will include public hearings on the Proposed Village Budget for fiscal 2018.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

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

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

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Mertens presented the financial summaries for the period ending December 31, 2016.

Ms. White introduced the Proposed Budget for fiscal 2018. The Budget is based on a proposed tax rate of 4 cents per \$100 assessed property value, which would maintain the current rate.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from Community Advisory Committee: Mr. Lewis reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on January 4. His report is attached and is incorporated into these minutes. The next meeting of the committee will be Wednesday, February 8, at 5:30 p.m.

Report on the December 13 meeting with officials of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission on the County-owned property at 5320 Willard Avenue bordering Willard Avenue Park: Ms. Durbin and Mr. Dorsey reported on the meeting. A brief discussion followed. (See January Newsletter for details). Suggestions for public use of the property may be presented at future Council meetings.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on the "Village" Effort: Connie Row gave an update on the status of the Friendship Heights Neighbors Network consisting of residents who volunteer their services. She last spoke to the Council in September. Pazit Aviv, County Coordinator of the volunteer networks, also spoke on the "Village" concept as adopted County-wide. Questions and concerns from the audience and Council were addressed.

The Council approved by unanimous consent Mr. Lewis' motion to draft and send a letter supporting applications from the Friendship Heights Neighbors Network for grants available from the County.

Discussion of strategic planning process: Ms. Lovett suggested formation of an ad-hoc committee to develop an approach to strategic planning.

The Council agreed to a work session on an approach to strategic planning, which would include the Council, Community Advisory Committee and staff, at a date and time to be announced.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/vote on landscape maintenance contracts: Mr. Mertens reported that two proposals for landscape maintenance were received: The proposal for exterior maintenance from the current contractor, GreenSweep, resembles last year's at a price fixed for the next three years. The proposal for interior maintenance from current contractor Interior Garden Designs is also priced the same as last year's. Both contractors have done good work.

The Council approved by unanimous consent GreenSweep's proposal for exterior maintenance and the award of a contract for the next three years.

The Council approved by unanimous consent the proposal from Interior Garden Designs and the award of a contract for interior plant maintenance.

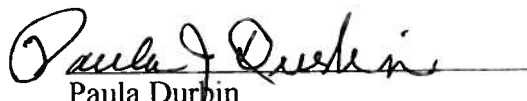
Vote on request for tree removal at 4620 North Park Condominiums: Mr. Mertens noted receipt of a letter from the landscaper for the building at 4620 North Park requesting permission to remove a dead willow oak tree from the property.

The Council approved by unanimous consent the request to remove the dead willow oak from the property at 4620 North Park Avenue.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Mertens adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Durbin
Secretary