

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

VILLAGE COUNCIL

MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*
MICHAEL J. DORSEY, *Chairman*
JOHN R. MERTENS, *Vice Chairman*
PAULA DURBIN, *Secretary*
KATHLEEN COOPER, *Treasurer*
CAROLINA ZUMARÁN-JONES, *Parliamentarian*
ALEXANDRA KIELTY, *Historian*
JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

December 11, 2017

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Michael J. Dorsey, Chairman; John R. Mertens, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; Carolina Zumaran-Jones, Parliamentarian; Alexandra Kielty, Historian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and approximately 15 residents.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Dorsey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. White invited residents to the Village Center on Monday, January 1, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. for the annual New Year's Day Open House.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Durbin recommended approval of the minutes of the Council's public session of November 13.

Ms. Durbin moved to approve the minutes of the Council's public session minutes of November 13. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from Community Advisory Committee: Ms. White reported that the Committee met on December 6. Discussions included (1) the Willard Avenue property; (2) pedestrian safety (crosswalks located in front of Whole Foods and timing of lights); (3) proposed County bike lanes; (4) one resident questioned why the Village staff does not promote non-Village sponsored events and activities. See the Newsletter for information on the January meeting. Minutes will be posted on the Village website.

Report from Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights: Ms. White reported that the CCCFH met on November 15 and December 6. Discussions on November 15 included updates on (1) the proposed development of 5550 Friendship Boulevard, including the developer's withdrawal of the application for construction of 180-foot-high condominium on the site, and (2) 5320 Willard Avenue. The CCCFH's discussions on December 6 included a report on the meeting of November 28 with Casey Anderson, Planning Board Chairman, and the Parks Department regarding the property at 5320 Willard Avenue. See the Newsletter for information on the January meeting. Minutes will be posted on the Village website.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on 5320 Willard Avenue Property: Ms. White reported that on November 28, she, Mike Dorsey, Paula Durbin, and Attorney Norman Knopf, Village Liaison, attended a meeting with Casey Anderson, Planning Board Chairman, and Parks Department staff to discuss the property at 5320 Willard Avenue. Anderson described, *inter alia*, a new County program calling for refreshing, rather than overhauling, existing parks, which is not yet in the budget. He said that when funds are available, the Willard Avenue property would be the first to be refreshed. The County is open to ideas and will eventually require a comprehensive plan for the future use of the property, with community and County input. Public hearings are expected to be scheduled. Meanwhile, while Anderson stated that he is in favor of removing the house on the Willard Avenue property, the County intends to rent it for one or two years. A brief discussion followed.

To expedite the meetings, the Council will offer the County the Village Center as a site and will publicize them.

Update on County bicycle master plan: Mr. Mansfield reported that the Planning Board will hold a public meeting on January 25 to review the County's

master plan for locating bike routes throughout communities. Concerns with the latest version of the plan were submitted to David Anspacher, project manager, as follows: (1) Lack of clarity re the location of the bikeway on Willard Avenue, especially in view of Council Chair Dorsey's photos showing heavy use of the north side of Willard by trucks and commercial vehicles, making a bikeway there impractical and dangerous; (2) the bikeway proposed for Somerset Terrace, a private road controlled by the Somerset House Management Association; (3) the pathway through Page Park misrepresented on the map online as an existing bikeway. Anspacher responded the map will be corrected to reflect removal of the Page Park connection. Questions from the audience followed. The Council recommended the Mayor state its concerns in a letter to be used as testimony for the meeting of January 25.

To reduce the high speed of traffic on Willard Avenue, the Council asked staff to request that the County install radar equipment indicating vehicle speed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/vote on proposal for installation of a water meter and related equipment in Page Park: Mr. Mertens recommended approval of proposal from Acker & Sons, Inc. for installation of a water meter and related equipment in Page Park. No other proposals were received.

The proposal from Acker & Sons, Inc. in the amount of \$7,900 for installation of water meter and related equipment in Page Park was approved by unanimous consent as a Capital Improvements Expense.


Discussion/vote on proposal for replacement of fire alarm panel at the Village Center: Mr. Mertens recommended approval of proposal from Tyco Fire & Security for replacement of fire alarm panel at the Village Center.

The proposal from Tyco/Simplex Grinnell in the amount of \$6,496 for replacement of fire alarm panel at the Village Center was approved by unanimous consent. This would be a Capital Improvements Expense.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Durbin
Secretary