

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 ZUMARAN-JONES, *Parliamentarian*
DAVID LEWIS, *Historian*
JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

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APPROVED MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING June 12, 2017

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Michael J. Dorsey, Chairman; John R. Mertens, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; David Lewis, Historian, Carolina Zumaran-Jones; Parliamentarian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; and approximately 30 residents.

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:30 p.m. Mr. Dorsey 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 annual Independence Day celebration at the Village Center on Tuesday, July 4, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Last Thursday the Village Manager and I attended presentation by Park and Planning staff in Bethesda on the proposed Bicycle Master Plan for the county. In Friendship Heights the plan recommends bike lanes for Wisconsin Avenue, Western Avenue, Willard Avenue, Somerset Terrace, North Park Avenue, and Friendship Boulevard. The overall goal of the proposed plan is to link as many communities as possible with bicycle paths. We will provide updates in our

newsletter as the plan progresses. The County is requesting feedback from residents. For more information, please contact the Village manager for the bicycle plan website and contact information.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Durbin recommended approval of the minutes of the Council's public session of May 15.

Ms. Durbin moved to approve the minutes of the Council's public session of May 15. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summaries for the period ending May 31, 2017.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from Community Advisory Committee: Mr. Lewis reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on June 7 and the discussions included the Village Concept—expanding the Friendship Heights Neighbors Network of social activities into the community and the development of the strategic goals adopted by the Council. The next meeting is Wednesday, July 5 at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Lewis moved, Mr. Mertens seconded that the Community Advisory Committee draft a questionnaire for the development of the strategic plan survey for Council consideration. The motion carried (7-0).

Report from Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights: Ms. White reported that the CCCFH met on May 17. The discussions included a presentation by the Parks Department, accompanied by the police, regarding a permanent solution (bridge, tunnel or traffic device) to hazardous traffic conditions on the Capital Crescent Trail where it crosses Little Falls Parkway. The Department is seeking suggestions from the public. The next meeting is June 21 at 8:00 p.m. at Somerset. Minutes of the meeting will be posted on the Village website.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion/possible vote on Council resolution re: 5550 Friendship Boulevard: Ms. Durbin stated that the draft resolution was reviewed by Norman

Knopf and he agreed that now is the appropriate time for the resolution. Ms. Durbin read the resolution. A brief discussion followed.

Mr. Lewis moved; Ms. White seconded to approve the Resolution of the Friendship Heights Village Council Supporting the Provisions of the Friendship Heights Sector Plan Relating to Parcel 4. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Presentation from developer on possible development at 5550 Friendship Boulevard: Robert Stoddard of RJS Realty Services presented another possible option for 5550 Friendship Boulevard which included demolishing the existing office building. He stated the information presented at the May 16 open house and updates on the project are available on the property website: [5550Friendship Blvd.com](http://5550FriendshipBlvd.com). Questions and concerns from the Council and audience were addressed.

Discussion of future vision for Page Park and development of a plan with a landscape architect: Ms. Durbin reported that on June 16 three crepe myrtle trees will be planted within the stone wall as recommended by the arborist. The trees could be transplanted in another area of the park at a later date. Mr. Mansfield stated that the contract plumber discovered a three quarter inch water line near the old irrigation system box. Staff will schedule WSSC to come out this week to confirm the water source. The next steps would be the installation of a water meter by WSSC and then the Council decision regarding installation of the irrigation system.

Ms. Durbin recommended consulting a landscape designer to prepare a plan to improve the park. She stated three immediate concerns that would be addressed: Options for pathway surfaces (brick, paving or mulch); a small play area; and small low maintenance shrubs. A brief discussion followed.

The Council asked staff to obtain proposals from two landscape designers that were recommended by the arborist for consideration at the July meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion/vote on appointment of standing Council Committees:

Ms. White stated that there are four standing Council Committees: Capital Improvements Committee, Communications Committee, Finance Committee, and Personnel Committee.

Ms. White moved, Ms. Zumaran-Jones seconded to approve the Council Committees and appointments. Ms. White read the names of the proposed Council Committees which are attached and incorporated in these minutes. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Discussion/vote on proposal from Gali Service Industries for increase in maintenance contract to provide raise for maintenance staff:

Ms. Cooper moved, Ms. White seconded to approve the proposal from Gali Service Industries to provide a 3% increase for the maintenance staff. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Discussion/vote on proposal from Securitas for increase in security contract to provide raise for security guards: Mr. Mansfield stated that the proposal from Securitas was not received. The proposal is expected for presentation at the July meeting.

Discussion/vote on Elizabeth Scull award to be presented July 4. Ms. White reported that traditionally on July 4 the Council presents the Elizabeth Scull Outstanding Community Service Award to an individual (or individuals) who has demonstrated significant service within the community and the greater area. This year Ms. White and staff are recommending our three representatives in the Maryland House of Delegates, Marc Korman, Bill Frick, and Ariana Kelly. All three sponsored and helped pass our bond bill in Annapolis that provided \$100,000 from the state for our Village Center renovation. Council members may nominate others for the Scull award.

Ms. Cooper moved, Ms. Zumaran-Jones seconded to approve the recommendations for the Elizabeth Scull Outstanding Community Service Award to be presented July 4. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

Discussion/vote on and community service awards to be presented July 4. For the community service awards, Ms. White nominated Brighton Gardens residents Barbara Turlington and Eleanor Nieman, both of whom have been active on the Community Advisory Committee and regularly attend the Village Council meetings.

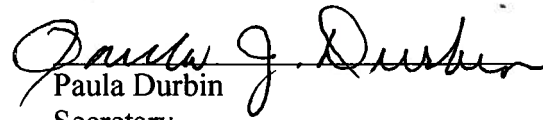
Staff also recommended that our Mayor be acknowledged for her 30 plus years of community service, including her time as newsletter editor, Council member and Mayor.

Ms. White moved, Ms. Cooper seconded to approve the nominees for the Community Service Awards to be presented July 4. The motion was approved by unanimous consent.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Council, Mr. Dorsey adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Durbin
Secretary