

# 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

November 19, 2018

#### ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Michael J. Dorsey, Chairman; John R. Mertens, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; Carolina Zumaran-Jones, Parliamentarian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and 9 residents.

#### CALL TO ORDER

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

A moment of silence was observed to honor Council member Alex Kielty, deceased.

#### COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO AND FROM COUNCIL:

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

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

**Ms. Durbin moved, Ms. White seconded, to approve the minutes of the Council's public session of October 15. The motion carried. (6-0-0)**

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for the period ending October 31, 2018.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Report from the Program Advisory Committee:** Per Ms. White, the Committee met on November 7 and

- (1) Welcomed two high school students as new members;
- (2) Discussed the students' idea for a youth newsletter for the Village and the possibility of a mentorship in journalism using the Village newsletter;
- (3) Signaled the need for an additional member on the Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12, at 5:30 p.m.

**Report from the Community Advisory Committee:** Per Ms. White, the Committee met on November 14 and discussed the following:

- (1) Dockless bikes and electric scooters in the Village, which will be on the Council's agenda in December;
- (2) Homeless individuals in the Village;
- (3) Possible solicitation of proposals for shuttle bus services;
- (4) Ideas that resonated with residents at the forum for candidates running for Montgomery County Executive;
- (5) The GEICO property as it might relate to a future revision of the Sector Plan.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, December 5, at 5:30 p.m.

**Report from Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights:** Per Ms. White, the Committee met on October 17

- (1) To hear Gwen Wright, Director of the County Planning Department, speak on "the Missing Middle," referring to the need for developers to work toward walkable communities, including by constructing duplexes and smaller apartment buildings (six floors or under).
- (2) To discuss the Regency Westbard project.
- (3) To comment on plans for the Capital Crescent Crossing Trail, whose survey Ms. White will provide upon request.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, November 28, at 8:00 p.m. at the little house in Westmoreland Hills in Bethesda. Minutes will be posted on the Village website.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Discussion/vote on proposals to remove the ash tree dying from an infestation and located inside Page Park near the border with the Conservation Area:**

**Mr. Mertens moved, Ms. Cooper seconded, to approve the proposal from Adirondack Tree Experts to remove the dying ash tree in Page Park at a cost of \$6,500. The motion carried. (6-0-0)**

**Update on Village bulletin board/signage:** Mr. Mansfield reported receiving two signage designs. At a joint meeting, the Capital Improvements and Communications Committees had selected one to recommend the Council pursue, pending modification of certain features and approval of pricing. In connection

with Mr. Dorsey's request for specifications, the Council agreed to consult its legal counsel for guidance.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion of Village Council vacancy:**

**Ms. Cooper moved, Mr. Mertens seconded to proceed with filling the Council vacancy created by the loss of Council member Kielty as follows: Announce the vacancy in December newsletter; invite interested residents to apply by December 31, the deadline for receipt all materials; review applications in January; and, if members decide to proceed, hold interviews, also in January. A special public meeting may be called to vote on a nominee and the Village Council's recommendation would be referred to the County Council for final approval. The motion carried. 6-0-0**

**Discussion/vote on proposal to repair leak at Village Center:**

**Mr. Mertens moved, Ms. White seconded, to approve the proposal from Triad Basement Waterproofing, Inc. to repair a leak at the Village Center at a cost of \$7,870. The motion carried. 6-0-0**

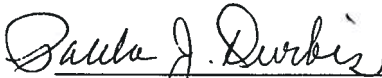
**Discussion/vote on proposal to repair brick sidewalk on Friendship Boulevard:**

**Mr. Mertens moved, Ms. Cooper seconded, to approve the proposal from Chamberlain Contractors, Inc. to repair a section of brick sidewalk on Friendship Boulevard by Willoughby Park at a cost of \$5,700. The motion carried. 6-0-0**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Paula Durbin