

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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4433 SOUTH PARK AVENUE
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20815

Phone: 301-656-2797
Fax: 301-907-3922
Email: info@friendshipheightsmd.gov
Website: www.friendshipheightsmd.gov



Approved Minutes

Friendship Heights Village Council Parks and Grounds Committee Tuesday, January 6, 2026

Parks and Grounds Committee members present: Martha Solt; Victor Basile; Roy Schaeffer.

Others present: Julian Mansfield; Jason Goldstein; Jim Wilson, Project Manager; Al Muller; Charles Schwartz.

At 4:30 p.m., Ms. Solt called the meeting of the Friendship Heights Village Council Parks and Grounds Committee to order. The meeting was held virtually via Google Meet.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Basile moved, Mr. Schaeffer seconded, to approve the minutes of the October 17 Parks and Grounds Committee meeting. The motion was approved unanimously (3-0).

Page Park Update

Ms. Solt asked Mr. Wilson for an update. Mr. Wilson indicated the revised stormwater management plans should be submitted imminently. The delay is due to a change of requirement that was originally waived for the need for a geotechnical report and information associated with the filtration of the bioretention facilities. Once this requirement was reinstated, the plans had to be revised and resubmitted, which will add about three weeks to the timeline for approval. Mr. Wilson will review the updated plans from the engineers and will confirm if the Village can proceed to advertise for bids for the site and civil work, which will include construction of the new ramp and bioretention facilities.

Mr. Wilson reported that the Village had to apply for a demolition permit with the County for the removal of the pergola in Page Park. The demolition permit was required due to the building permit application that was processed for the installation of the pergola. The County has just approved the demolition permit, so we can now proceed with the removal of the pergola. Managed Homes submitted a proposal to remove the pergola for a cost of \$7,547. Mr. Wilson recommended that the Village approve the proposal so that the work can proceed as soon as

possible. The Committee agreed with this recommendation by consensus. It was agreed that the Village Manager will notify the building managers regarding the pergola removal when it is scheduled.

Ms. Solt inquired about the revised timeline. Mr. Wilson indicated he will have a better sense once we get the plans together and issue the invitation for bids. Ms. Solt inquired about possibly placing butterfly gardens in the bioretention structures, per a request from the Climate Change and Environment Committee. Mr. Wilson responded that there are specific types of plantings you can have in the structures. He will share the planting plan to determine if any other items can be planted there.

Mr. Schaeffer asked if we should have an ADA attorney review the revised plans to ensure ADA compliance, and when the estimated park opening date would be. Mr. Wilson indicated it is not necessary to engage an ADA attorney. The engineers who are reviewing everything are well-versed in what is required for ADA compliance. He said the best guess for park opening is probably the end of May.

Red House Update

Mr. Wilson reported that Managed Homes has begun the construction and renovation work inside the Red House. They are targeting a completion date of early April. Mr. Mansfield indicated there was a noise complaint from the house next door about the construction work. Mr. Wilson will follow up with the contractor to ensure the work does not begin before 8 a.m., per the Village's noise ordinance, and he will check with the neighbor about the noise complaint. Mr. Wilson clarified that Managed Homes will complete their work before the tenant begins their renovation work in the kitchen. He also indicated the tenant has expressed a desire for more expensive finishes in the bathroom than what was included in the approved change order from Managed Homes. Mr. Wilson recommended that the excess cost of any such upgrades be paid by the tenant to the Village in advance, since the Village would have to pay Managed Homes as a change order for the difference in cost from what was approved. The Committee agreed by consensus with this recommendation.

(Mr. Wilson left the meeting)

Maintenance and Inspection Procedures for Property and Parks

Mr. Mansfield discussed instituting a regular maintenance schedule for inspecting Village parks, grounds, and properties. He indicated the staff could do monthly inspections of the parks, and that individual items can always be identified and addressed in between inspections as needed. The Village already conducts an annual inspection of the sidewalks to identify and remove trip hazards, as well as an inspection of trees by the Village arborist. The landscape maintenance contractor inspects and recommends maintenance for shrubs and other plantings in the parks. Mr. Mansfield also indicated he will develop a schedule for inspecting Village streetlights on a regular basis.

Dr. Muller suggested that the maintenance schedule include inspections of Village storm drains. Bobby Pestronk suggested that the maintenance schedule include the front of the pink house on Willard Avenue and having Pepco treat for mosquitoes in the Pepco vaults.

No other actions were taken by the Parks and Grounds Committee. Mr. Schaeffer moved, Mr. Basile seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Martha Solt 3/6/2026

Martha Solt, Parks and Grounds Committee Chair