

# VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

## VILLAGE COUNCIL

MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*  
MICHAEL MEZEY, *Chairman*  
CAROLINA ZUMARAN-JONES, *Vice Chairman*  
PAULA DURBIN, *Secretary*  
KATHLEEN G. COOPER, *Treasurer*  
BRUCE R. PIRNIE, *Parliamentarian*  
MICHAEL J. DORSEY  
JULIAN P. MANSFIELD, *Village Manager*

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## APPROVED MINUTES

### PUBLIC SESSION

## FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

October 15, 2019

### ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Michael Mezey, Chairman; Carolina Zumaran-Jones, Vice Chairman; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; Bruce Pirnie, Parliamentarian; Michael Dorsey, Council member; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; and approximately 15 residents.

### ABSENT:

Paula Durbin, Secretary and Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager.

### CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mezey 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 made the following announcements:

The annual Fall Festival celebration takes place at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, at the Village Center.

A shredding truck will return to the Village on Thursday, October 24, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. The truck will park on Friendship Boulevard by the Village Center.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is Saturday, October 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Residents can drop off expired or unwanted prescription drugs at the Village Center.

The Council will hold a public work session on aging in place on Monday, October 28.

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, due to the Veterans Day holiday.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

**Mr. Mezey moved, Ms. Cooper seconded, to approve the minutes of the Council's public session of September 9. The motion carried. (6-0-0)**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for period ending September 30, 2019.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Report from the Program Advisory Committee:** Ms. White reported that the Program Advisory Committee met on September 18 and discussed the following:

- (1) Trip and program ideas;
- (2) A report from Anne O'Neil, Program Director, on the new Saturday programs. She stated that the Saturday DVD series is well attended by a variety of residents; and
- (3) The artisan craft fair is scheduled for November 1 and 2 at the Center. See the November newsletter for more details.

**Report from the Citizens Coordinating Committee of Friendship Heights:**

Ms. White reported that the Citizens Coordinating Committee met on September 17 and discussed the following:

- (1) The summary of updates on the Capital Crescent Trail (a report is available from Melanie upon request); and
- (2) The CCCFH website updates and revisions;
- (3) The changes to Dalecarlia Parkway route to Sibley Hospital; and
- (4) Norman Knopf's update on status of the property at 5320 Willard Avenue, which is on the Council's agenda.

A meeting for the new Montgomery County Pedestrian Master Plan for pedestrian safety is scheduled for October 16 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Bethesda Chevy Chase Regional Services Center. The next CCCFH meeting will be October 16 at 8:00 p.m., at the Somerset Town Hall.

**Report from the Community Advisory Committee:** Ms. White reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on October 10 and discussed the following:

- (1) The grassy strips in the Village;
- (2) The Center maintenance personnel;
- (3) Regarding the MVA bus, wait time longer than usual. The MVA staff does not know when the issue would be resolved.
- (4) Mosquitoes in Page Park;
- (5) An update on Mazza Gallerie; and
- (4) The broken crosswalk on Willard Avenue, which has been referred to the County.

The next meeting will be November 6 at 5:30 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Discussion of Village infrastructure:** Mr. Dorsey presented his observations of infrastructure issues. Council asked the staff and Capital Improvements Committee to address the matter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Presentation by Village shuttle bus contractor:** Mr. Art Miesemer, RMA representative, presented a concept to provide two new buses. The buses would be smaller than our current “main” bus. A brief discussion followed.

**Mr. Pirnie moved, Ms. White seconded, to approve the RMA Champion bus concept for the two new Village shuttle buses. The motion carried. (6-0-0)**

**The Council asked the staff to use the RMA concept to solicit bids for two transport buses.**

**Discussion/vote on proposal for Village snow removal contract:** Mr. Mansfield reported that two bids for snow removal were received, both running through winter of 2022. Mulheron, the current contractor, has always done good work. Its prices are unchanged from the previous three years. A bid from BrightView Landscaping would cost significantly more for the same services. Staff recommended that the Council approve the three-year proposal submitted by Mulheron.

**Ms. Cooper moved, Ms. Zumaran-Jones seconded, to approve the three-year proposal (through the winter of 2022) from Mulheron for Village snow removal. The motion carried. (6-0-0)**

**Discussion/updates on the status of property at 5320 Willard Avenue:** Mr. Knopf reported on current status of developing a park on the property.

He stated that the County has a big demand for parks and limited funding. Very active efforts by the communities to be serviced are required. After a brief discussion:

**Mr. Dorsey moved, Ms. Cooper seconded, that the Council schedule a joint meeting with the Town of Somerset Council, representatives from Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights, and Brookdale, and ask Casey Anderson, Chairman of Parks and Planning, to attend to discuss the status of the park project. The motion carried. (6-0-0)**

**Discussion of 5G small cellular wireless infrastructure installation:** Mr. Mezey reported recent updates on this issue and the role of the Maryland Municipal League on behalf of preserving local government authority.

**Discussion of email contact information for Council members:** Mr. Dorsey stated that several residents have contacted him regarding a more direct way of contacting the Council members for Village concerns. The Council agreed to place this topic for discussion on the November agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business before the Council, Ms. White moved, Ms. Zumaran-Jones seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Paula Durbin