

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*

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

PUBLIC SESSION

FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

February 10, 2020

ATTENDEES:

Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Michael Mezey, Chairman; Carolina Zumaran-Jones, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathleen Cooper, Treasurer; Bruce Pirnie, Parliamentarian; Julian Mansfield, Village Manager; Robert Shapiro, Assistant Village Manager; and approximately 15 residents.

ABSENT:

Michael Dorsey, Council member

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.

In response to concerns regarding weekday transportation to the Westbard Giant via the Village bus, the Council deferred the issue to the March meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Ms. White made the following announcements:

The first public hearing on the Proposed Village Operating Budget for fiscal 2021 would take place at this February meeting. A second public hearing on the Proposed Budget would be held on March 9.

Pursuant to Maryland Code, General Provisions Article, Section 3-305(b)(7), the Council met with its Attorney in closed session on January 30 at 7:30 p.m. to obtain advice on a legal matter, specifically the covenant between the Chevy Chase Land Company and the Village.

The Mayor, Chairman, Attorney, and staff would meet with Attorney Emily Vaias on Thursday, February 12, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss development of a property in the Village.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Ms. Durbin moved, Ms. Cooper seconded, to approve the minutes of the Council's public session of January 13 and of the closed session of January 30. The motion carried. (6-0-0)

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Cooper presented the financial summary for period ending January 31, 2020, and introduced the Proposed Budget for fiscal 2021, which would maintain the current proposed tax rate of 4 cents per \$100 assessed property value.

Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and tax rate for fiscal 2021:

Mr. Mezey invited written or verbal comments from the public on the Proposed Budget for fiscal 2021. Pursuant to recognition by the Chair, speakers would be limited to three minutes and could not cede time to another individual. A second public hearing will take place on March 9.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Report from the Citizens Coordinating Committee of Friendship Heights:

Ms. White reported that the Citizens Coordinating Committee met on January 15 to discuss Willard Avenue Park, which included an update from Norman Knopf. The next CCCFH will be held February 19 at 8:00 p.m. at the Somerset Town Hall.

Report from the Program Advisory Committee: Ms. White reported that the Program Advisory Committee met on January 22 and discussed new program ideas. These included a walking marathon in the Village for participants of different ages and a tour of the National Museum of Women in the Arts followed by lunch. The Program Advisory Committee will meet next on March 18 at 5:30 p.m.

Report from the Community Advisory Committee: Ms. White reported that the Community Advisory Committee met on February 5 and discussed the following:

- (1) The water main leak on North Park Avenue and repairs;**
- (2) The flashing pedestrian crossing light on Willard Avenue; and**

- (3) The replacement of trees in the Village.
The Community Advisory Committee will meet next on March 4 at 5:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

Report on options for hiring new broker to lease the Village's property at 4602 North Park: As requested by the Council at the January meeting, Ms. Cooper reviewed options for hiring a new broker. After a brief discussion:

Ms. Cooper moved, Ms. Durbin seconded, to authorize staff to contract Brad Riddle of Greater Potomac Realty to represent the Council in the lease of the space at 4602 North Park Avenue. The motion carried. (6-0-0)

Discussion of options for resurfacing pathways in Page Park: Mr. Mansfield stated that, pursuant to the Council's vote in January, staff asked GreenSweep, the Village's contractor for landscape maintenance, for options to consider for resurfacing pathways in the park. After a brief discussion of the four options:

Ms. Cooper moved, Ms. Durbin seconded, to authorize staff to accept GreenSweep's proposal to refresh the paths with woodchips and install metal edging: Per its proposal costing \$1,883, Greensweep would (1) assure woodchips already on the paths are contained there and rake up any overflow; (2) cover approximately 1,100 square feet of pathways with 11 yards of regular woodchips at a depth of approximately two inches; and (3) install metal edging behind the existing brick edges, adjusting and resetting bricks as needed, to hold the woodchips in place. The motion carried. (6-0-0)

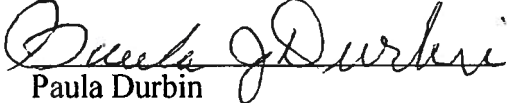
Discussion of retaining landscaping firm to develop comprehensive plan for Page Park: Mr. Pirnie presented his proposal that the Capital Improvements Committee explore retaining a landscaping firm to develop a comprehensive plan for Page Park.

Mr. Pirnie moved, Ms. White seconded, to request the Capital Improvements Committee conduct a fact-finding mission to learn what professional landscaping firms might develop plans for Page Park and at what cost for designs and implementation. The motion failed. (2-4-0)

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,


Paula Durbin