

Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896 ♦ Sixth Oldest Municipality in Prince George's County

DECEMBER 2016



Tree Lighting

DECEMBER 3 — Page 3

CHARTER AMENDMENT, BOUNDARIES

DECEMBER 14 — PAGE 2



Inside
this
edition:

2

**HOLIDAY
TRASH
SCHEDULE**

2

**CURBSIDE
LEAF PICKUP
ENDS**

2

**HOLIDAY
DECORATING
CONTEST**



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

**Charter Amendment
December 14, 8:00 pm
Council Chambers**

The proposed Charter Amendment would follow the recommendation of the Town Attorney and strike the legal description of the Town's boundaries, and retain Section 201 of the Charter pertaining to recording of the Town's boundaries. The legal description of the Town's boundaries is not needed in the Charter when it is on file with the appropriate State and County authorities. The legal description of the Town's boundaries is already on file with the appropriate State and County authorities.

For more information, please contact
Town Administrator Cowles at jcowles@berwynheightsmd.gov

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE**Christmas**

Mon	12/26/16	NO PICKUP
Tue	12/27/16	Trash & Bulk, Entire Town
Wed	12/28/16	Recycling, Yard Waste, Entire Town
Thu	12/29/16	Trash & Bulk, Entire Town
Fri	12/30/16	NO PICKUP

New Year's

Mon	01/02/16	NO PICKUP
Tue	01/03/16	Trash & Bulk, Entire Town
Wed	01/04/16	Recycling, Yard Waste, Entire Town
Thu	01/05/16	Trash & Bulk, Entire Town
Fri	01/06/16	NO PICKUP

**Please Do NOT Leave Trash
at the Curb over Weekend**

Holiday Decorating Contest

Light up the holidays and get ready for the **Annual Holiday Decorating Contest**.

The Town awards prizes for **Best Decorated House**, **Best Yard** and **Best Overall**.

**Judging
December 20 – 31**



**CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION
ENDS DECEMBER 29**

Please bag your leaves after January 1.



	PAGE
As You Like It Heating & Air Conditioning	14
Shauna Aurich, Long & Foster Real Estate	24
Berwyn Lawn Care	25
Cameron Brothers Home Improvements	14
Emmell Land & Tree Care	20
Kristen Buker, Exit First Realty	18
Richard K. Gehring, Home Improvements	14
Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney-at-Law	20
Holy Redeemer	20
Angela Lazo, House Cleaning	25
Aaron Linchuck, D.D.S.	26
Sharon McCraney, Long & Foster Realty	14
Bob Neri, Century 21, Trademark Realty	20
VFD Christmas Tree Sales	12

Recreation Council News & Updates

Kick off the Holiday Season Saturday, December 3rd at the Annual Tree Lighting & Christmas Party!

Hosted by the Recreation Council at the Berwyn Heights Senior Center (next to the Town Office on 57th Ave) from 6-8pm.

Join us for an evening of holiday arts & crafts, a visit from Santa Claus at 6:30pm, music by Phil Ventura, and Christmas caroling and the annual town tree lighting at 7:30pm. Hot cocoa, cider & treats will be served. The US Marines will be there to collect any Toys for Tots donations, and Mayor Cheryl Jewitt will also be on hand to say a few words. **This event is FREE & is fun for the whole family!**



We ask that you please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to the annual Toys for Tots drive sponsored by the US Marine Corps Reserve. Donations can be made during the Holiday party or from now until December 16th at the Town Office.

Upcoming Events:



Regifting Party—Saturday, January 21st, 2-4pm

Not too crazy about Aunt Louise's Handmade Leg Warmers? Already have 2 toasters? Join your neighbors in a fun exchange of unwanted gifts (and probably some laughs too!).



Valentine's Party— February (date TBD)

Cookie decorating, kids' valentine's cards & more!

We would like to say a special "Thank You" to all that came out November 12th to help "Keep Berwyn Heights Beautiful" at the Town Wide Clean Up!

And Thank You to the **Domino's Store #4658**
for donating pizzas for our volunteers!

8904 62nd Avenue, Ste. B
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
(301) 474-3030





Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee



HOLIDAY SAFETY



Shopping Tips

Do not buy more than you can carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend with you or ask a store employee to help you carry your packages to the car. If you plan to continue shopping, move your car to another parking spot, just in case someone noticed you placing all those packages in your car.

Wait until asked before taking out your credit card or checkbook. An enterprising thief would love to shoulder surf to get your account information.

Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. Check the back seat and around the car before getting in.

Do not leave packages visible in your car windows. Lock them in the trunk or, if possible, take them directly home.

Before shopping online, secure your personal computers by updating your security software. Everyone's computer should have anti-virus, anti-spyware, and anti-spam software, as well as a good firewall installed.

Keep your personal information private and your password secure. Do not respond to requests to "verify" your password or credit card information unless you initiated the contact. Legitimate businesses will not contact you in this manner.

Beware of "bargains" from companies with whom you are unfamiliar—if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

Use secure websites for purchases. Look for the icon of a locked padlock at the bottom of the screen or "https" in the URL address.

Shop with companies you know and trust. Check for background information if you plan to buy from a new or unfamiliar company.

And when the holidays are over... don't leave boxes for expensive items by the curb for everyone to see!

Going out of town?

Ask someone to pick up your mail or stop your mail

Put lights on a timer

Avoid posting your whereabouts on social media

Keep valuables out of sight

Leave your curtains in their normal position

Including alcohol in your celebrations?

Don't drink and drive!

SoberRide provides a free cab ride home up to a \$30 fare. Callers are financially responsible for anything over \$30. You must be 21 or older to use the SoberRide service.

CALL 1-800-200-8294 (TAXI)

For more information including dates and hours of operation, please visit:
<http://www.wrap.org/soberride/>



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM NWEPC!

Join us the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Town Center's Love Room



Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Co. 14



Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60th Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
In Case of Emergency Call 911!

Recent Working Incidents

Oct 23rd- Squad 14B & Chief 14B (Kerinan) extricated a Maryland State Trooper who was trapped in his cruiser after being struck by another vehicle on IL of I-495 at Rt 1. Members of BHVFD wish the Trooper a speedy recovery.

Oct 23- Truck 14 responded to the University of Maryland South Campus Dining Hall for a fire on the roof. Crews extinguished a fire in the roof-top elevator motor room.

Oct 26th- Squad 14B was alerted to the 5300Blk of Vamum St in Bladensburg to assist units with a working House Fire.

Nov 4th- Squad 14B was alerted to Columbia Park Rd in Cheverly to assist units with a pedestrian struck by a train.

Nov 5th- Truck 14 operated in the 8400Blk of Greenbelt Rd in Lanham for a working Apartment Fire, fire in the basement

Santa on a Fire Truck!

BHVFD volunteers will once again be escorting Santa around Town on **Saturday December 24th, 2016**, from approximately 7pm until around 9pm. We try our best to ensure Santa visits all streets in Berwyn Heights, College Park Estates, and Westchester Park, **but we will still be responding to emergency calls during this time** which may affect our rounds. Just listen for our sirens on Christmas Eve!



Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect. Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.

Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles and keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.

VOLUNTEER TODAY!!

Volunteering in the fire department is a unique experience that can be as rewarding and educational as you choose to make it. Motivation, dedication and professionalism are qualities that successful volunteers must possess. Members of the Berwyn Heights VFD not only possess these qualities, but are continuously seeking to further their knowledge and skills as well. BHVFD is always seeking motivated volunteers to join our Department for positions of **Firefighter, EMS, Administrative, and Ladies Auxillary**. For more information visit our website www.BHVFD14.org and click the "Contact Us." You can get a station tour and a ride along before you decide to join! **Ages 16 and up, no experience needed!**

Station 14 Call Volume: Oct 2016	
Rescue Squads:	112
Ladder Truck:	112
Technical Rescue Support Unit:	9
Ambulance:	211
Total Station Runs for October 2016:	444

REMEMBER: OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER SALE IS IN FULL SWING

Sale Hours: M-F 5:00pm to 9:00pm Sat/Sun 9:00am to 9:00pm



Worksession

October 3, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Mayor Cheryl Jewitt, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Chris Rasmussen and Gerald Shields. CM Patricia Dennison was absent. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Treasurer Michelle Rodriguez, Clerk Kerstin Harper, and citizens.

1. Announcements

Mayor Jewitt thanked TA Cowles, the Police and Public Works Department for monitoring Indian Creek for flooding during the recent heavy rains. She also thanked the Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee for moving the trailer to the Town Office, in case it was needed.

2. Councilmember

Mayor Jewitt swore in Gerald Shields, Nevada Street, as Councilmember. He fills the vacancy left by Maria Robles' resignation in August.

3. Minutes

On a motion by MPT Kulpa-Eddy and second by CM Rasmussen, the September 20 special meeting minutes were approved 4 to 0. The September 14 Town meeting minutes were distributed.

4. Department Reports

Mayor Jewitt reported that there were no thefts from cars during the last month. MPT Kulpa-Eddy reported that County Councilmember Danielle Glaros hosted a meeting of municipal elected officials in Berwyn Heights on September 21, attended by Prince George's County Public Schools CEO Kevin Maxwell and School Board Member Lupi Grady, among others. Changes to the Head Start program, the Dual Enrollment Program allowing high school students to take classes at the Prince George's County Community College, and the new after-Labor Day school start date were discussed.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy also reported that several new laws went into effect on October 1: An Open Meeting Act amendment requires an agenda for public body meetings to be posted at least 24 hours before the meeting; and motorists will be required to carry proof of insurance coverage with them or in their vehicle. Further, the registration deadline for voting in the presidential election is October 18. Prince George's County Government, in

partnership with the City of Hyattsville is making rain barrels available to County residents for \$75 through October 23; these are essentially free with a raincheck rebate from Prince George's County. County Councilmember Danielle Glaros has introduced legislation to exclude bee-keeping from the definition of "Agriculture" in the current zoning rewrite effort, which would allow beekeeping within residential areas. She also sponsored legislation to mandate healthy choices in school and municipal vending machines.

CM Rasmussen announced that the Council will begin reviewing revisions to the Ordinance 120 – Rental Housing at the October 17 worksession proposed by Code Supervisor Glass and Town Administrator Cowles. The amendments will bring the Ordinance into compliance with current rental housing regulations and propose changes to the process of overseeing and licensing rental homes in Berwyn Heights. Further, CM Rasmussen reminded residents that they must get a Town permit for any home remodeling that requires a County permit. The types of improvements requiring a County permit are posted on the Department of Permits, Inspections and Enforcement's (DPIE) website. For example, installation of solar panels and egress windows require permits, as do most home additions. Code Supervisor Glass can answer questions about building permits or refer residents to the proper authorities.

Mayor Jewitt reported that Public Works Director Cox will attend an informational meeting about snow removal in Prince George's County. She then asked CM Shields, whom she appointed to head the Parks, Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs (PRECA) Department, to give a report. CM Shields said that he will focus on improving civic engagement in Town affairs. He suggested that installing a speaker phone in the Council chamber may be a way to do this; another would be to post Council meeting agenda packets on the website. TA Cowles said that her staff is currently receiving and evaluating bids for a new telephone system that would include phone service in the Council chamber. Clerk Harper is working on implementing streaming Council meetings to the new website, which can be integrated with a meeting agenda and background documents.

Citizen Comments: CM Rasmussen received comments about motorists often going through stop signs at Cunningham Drive and Osage Street, and about Ber-

wyn Heights Realtor Sharon McCraney acting as a corporate sponsor for the Ice Cream Social. CM Rasmussen suggested the Council may want to think about developing a policy of accepting corporate sponsorship that is open to all businesses. MPT Kulpa-Eddy received a comment about tree trunks being left at the road side by Pepco contractor Asplundh. TA Cowles said that they will be removed although there is not exact timeframe.

Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, asked if the new Open Meetings requirements will result in posting the Town meeting agenda packet to the website. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said, currently, there is only a worksession agenda packet that goes out to the Council and subscribed residents. All agendas are posted on the Town office front door prior to the meeting. Mr. Attick noted that children are climbing on the tree trunks left by the road along Quebec Street and may get hurt.

Joan Hayden, Seminole Street, congratulated Gerald Shields on being appointed to the Council. She then clarified issues she raised via telephone at the recent Town meeting: The intersection at Berwyn Road and Charlton Avenue may require a stop sign on Berwyn Road so that drivers take care not to cut off traffic entering Berwyn Road from Charlton Avenue. Requests for assistance directed to an officer on patrol should be addressed by the officer rather than being referred to the Chief for action. The Town may want to consider making wheeled recycling containers available to residents. She looks forward to having a telephone in the Council chamber for residents to call in.

5. Action Items

There were none.

6. Discussion Items

Town meeting changes: Mayor Jewitt said that she would like to change the format of the monthly Town meeting to promote better interaction between the Town government and the residents. Her proposed changes include:

- Department directors giving department reports in person and answering questions;
- Chairs of Town committees giving committee reports in person or providing it in writing;
- Stopping the reading of minutes;
- Starting the Town meeting at an earlier time.

In response to questions, Mayor Jewitt explained that Councilmembers would continue to make announcements and report on what they were doing in the previous month. Directors would provide the inside perspective from their departments. She also suggested that TA Cowles be seated at the dais and report on the Administration Department, while Treasurer Rodriguez would give the Treasurer's report from the podium. The changes would be implemented on a trial basis starting in November, but could be retracted or modified if not proven satisfactory.

In discussion, Councilmembers raised concerns about department directors merely reciting statistics about the work performed in the departments. Dispensing with the reading of minutes would require publicly posting the minutes prior to the Town meeting. The Council may want to discuss more broadly the purpose of the Town meeting and what type of information should be presented at them.

TA Cowles said that the presentation of department reports at a public meeting is a valuable professional development opportunity for directors. Clerk Harper said that she does not object to dispensing with the reading of minutes. However, the reading and approval of minutes is set forth in Council Rule 2, which lays out the Town Meeting agenda format. Mr. Attick commented that it would be beneficial for residents to have the department directors at the Town meeting, as they would learn who they are and may be able to talk with them after the meeting.

PGC zoning rewrite: MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that she would like the Council to submit comments on the draft Prince George's County zoning rewrite. The rewrite of the 50-year old zoning ordinance began in 2015 and Module 1 and Module 2 have been released. Comments on all of the modules are due by November 3 in order to be considered for incorporation into a draft comprehensive zoning plan.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy reviewed issues in the new zoning ordinance that have the potential to impact Berwyn Heights as a starting point for Council discussion. In Module 1, which defines new zones and associated uses, it is proposed to

- Prohibit beekeeping in residential zones;
- Allow the keeping of poultry on lots at least ½ acre in size;
- Allow construction of accessory

dwelling (e.g., in-law suites) if at least 1 off-street parking space is provided;

- Allow multi-family dwellings in commercial and industrial zones;
- Allow nightclubs, indoor shooting ranges, pawn shops and tattoo parlors in commercial and industrial zones;
- Allow vehicle salvage yards only in heavy industrial zones, not in light industrial zones.

Module 2 lays out the design standards for development in different zones, as well as requirements for adequate public facilities. The Council may want to review the *Neighborhood Compatibility Standards*, which seek to ensure that a transition area is maintained between single family residential and non-residential zones. A new *Neighborhood Commercial Zone* will allow for greater community input on design standards. Module 3, establishing the procedures for approving new development, curtails input from municipalities compared to current zoning law with the intent to make the permit approval more transparent and predictable. Excepting a Neighborhood Pre-Application meeting, in which developers must present their plans to residents and businesses in the area, there are no opportunities for municipalities to modify plans or stop approval.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that she will draft a letter for the next worksession and hopes that Councilmembers will have a look at the zoning documents so that they can agree on a few top concerns to focus on.

Employee handbook: TA Cowles said that the old personnel manual dates from 1999 and was so out-of-date as to require the drafting of an entirely new employee handbook. The new handbook complies with the latest legal requirements and addresses technological changes in the workplace, such as email and the internet. With the assistance of McGrath Consultants, and after multiple review sessions with senior staff, she is satisfied with the proposed handbook. The Council is requested to provide any additional input so that the handbook can be adopted at the October or November Town meeting.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that she has some stylistic changes and some questions about privacy issues. She thinks employees cannot be required to provide a personal cell phone number or prohibited

use of social media. CM Rasmussen asked whether there should be any provisions about giving paid leave for other than Christian high holy days. He also suggested that a 6-months period before a new employee can take annual leave is too long. TA Cowles said that she will consult the Town Attorney about legal requirements. A new employee can take unpaid annual leave before the 6-months introductory period is over, and they may take paid leave for medical or family emergencies. Mayor Jewitt said she likes a provision allowing an exit interview to be held when an employee leaves the service of the Town. This may yield valuable insights and information.

Employee Pay plan: TA Cowles summed up the proposed position classification pay plan. The pay schedules have been revised based on Council input at the last worksession. The rates are pegged to a recalculated market position point that excludes outliers from the sample. For each position, a pay range has been established which moves employees from a minimum rate when they are hired to a mid-point and then to a maximum pay based on performance and years of service. For difficult-to-fill positions a new hire may be paid above the minimum rate.

Currently some employees are paid below the minimum rate for their position. In order to bring all employees to the minimum pay rate, it is recommended to pay all employees a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) but to forgo merit increases. The COLA could be retroactive to July 1, 2016, and would cost \$31,000, which is in the FY 2017 budget. An additional raise for those employees not at the minimum rate could go into effect on January 1, 2017. These pay raises would cost an additional \$13,000. This money can be taken from the Health Reimbursement Account (HRA), which is no longer needed after the adoption of a new health insurance plan.

In discussions, the following points were made: The availability of HRA funds is a one-time revenue source. In future years, there may not always be enough revenue to cover such pay increases. In an economic downturn, some employees may have to be dismissed. The new employee handbook clearly states Town employees are at-will. The Town Council always has the opportunity to fine tune pay increases during the budget process. Dismissal of employees should be considered only as a last resort. Department Directors have agreed to forgo merit increases until next year because the per-

formance evaluation system is being replaced with a better one. They have explained the situation to their employees. In the future, performance evaluations will be taking place continuously throughout the year, with the final evaluation representing a summation of the foregoing. No formal rules are being suspended by postponing evaluations and merit increases. The setting and accomplishing of goals for individual employees will be a part of next year's evaluations, with goals being discussed and set in this fiscal year.

The Council agreed to adopt the employee handbook and pay plan by resolution at the October Town meeting. The actual dollar amounts may be approved at a later worksession.

1. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the calendar. It was noted that the October 10 strategic planning workshop is open to the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Town Meeting October 12, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Cheryl Jewitt, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, Chris Rasmussen, and Gerald Shields. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Chief of Police Kenneth Antolik, Officers Krouse and Ramirez, Treasurer Michelle Rodriguez, Clerk Kerstin Harper and citizens.

Mayor Jewitt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the September 14 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by CM Dennison and second by CM Shields, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

2. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Rodriguez gave the Treasurer's report for the month of September. In response to MPT Kulpa-Eddy, she explained that the general fund checking account for this fiscal year shows a decline because the money for various reserves was moved into separate accounts.

3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Jewitt reported that she will attend the Maryland Municipal League (MML) fall conference with CM Shields to work toward her local governance certificate. All Councilmembers and senior staff participated in a strategic planning workshop at the University of Maryland on October 10. A debriefing is on the agenda for the next worksession.

Mayor Jewitt announced she requested that some changes be made to the Town meeting. Starting with the November Town meeting, TA Cowles will sit on the dais with the Town Council and report for the Administration Department. Treasurer Rodriguez will give the Treasurer's report from the podium. Department directors will be asked to give reports for their departments in person. Later, a conference phone will be installed in the chambers so that residents can call in with questions and comments. An earlier start time for the Town meeting is also being considered.

Mayor Jewitt yielded some of her time to TA Cowles to make an announcement. TA Cowles said that she learned today that WSSC has agreed to repave all streets that were dug up for the water main replacement project in their entirety at no expense to the Town. This will save the Town around \$200,000. She and Interim Public Works Director Kenny Hall repeatedly discussed the street repaving with WSSC, but until now WSSC intended to repave only that half of a street where the water mains were replaced. Construction will begin at the end of this year or early next year.

4. Department Reports

Administration: MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that street repairs beyond those to be repaved by WSSC will occupy a significant amount of time of the Town Council and staff in the near future, and will require a communications effort to keep residents well informed. The strategic planning workshop attended by Council and senior staff sought to identify a vision and long-range goals for the Town government, and will be followed up upon with a half day workshop in November. The Administration Department was working on drafting a new employee handbook that is to be adopted later in the meeting.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy continued that the general election is coming up on November 8 with polls open from 7 am to 8 pm. Voting takes place at the BHES cafeteria. The U.S. President, U.S. Senator and U.S. Representatives are on the

ballot, as are State and County referenda. Among the County ballot questions is a constitutional amendment that would change the composition of the County Council by adding 2 at-large seats for a total of 11 seats. Sitting County Councilmembers elected to represent a single district would be eligible to run for an at-large seat, in effect extending term limits by 2 terms.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that the Prince George's Planning Department has released Module 3 in the ongoing rewrite of the County's 50-year old zoning ordinance. Module 3 deals with zoning processes and subdivision regulations. One aspect of Module 3 is granting developers the right to build a new development within the new zoning framework without having to get approval from the municipality, excepting an initial neighborhood meeting. Municipalities have expressed concern that their role in the development approval process is not clear.

Module 2 defines design standards for each zone. It has a section on Neighborhood Compatibility Standards to ensure that a transition area is maintained between a residential neighborhood and any commercial zone. Berwyn Heights will closely examine whether those standards, ranging from building heights and setbacks to exterior lighting, are adequate for Berwyn Heights residents.

Module 1 defines the permitted uses in each zone, which largely overlap with current zones and uses. One new use that will be allowed by right is the addition of a secondary or accessory dwelling on an existing property. Any residents wishing to comment on Module 3 or other aspects of the draft zoning ordinance may send them to TA Cowles, so that they can be added to a letter being drafted in which the Town will lay out its position.

Lastly, WMATA will hold a public hearing on October 20, 12:00 noon– 9:00 p.m. at its downtown headquarters regarding restricted operating hours for the Metro system to make needed repairs to its infrastructure.

Code Compliance: CM Rasmussen said that Pepco's contractor Asplundh is in Town pruning and removing trees in accordance with a removal plan approved by the Town. He thanked TA Cowles and the Public Works Department for working with Pepco, SavATree and the Councilmembers to produce an acceptable tree removal plan. Thanks to their efforts, tree removals were reduced from about 80 to about 60 mature trees. He also thanked the Green Team for composing a letter

that was published in the Bulletin to notify presidents that they can deny tree Pepco removals on their property. He estimates that another couple of dozen trees were saved as a result. He regards this as an object lesson in working together to achieve a result all parties can accept.

Next, the Code Compliance Department will focus on *Ordinance 120 – Rental Housing*. The Ordinance needs to be revised to bring it into compliance with the most recent federal and state regulations. Code Supervisor Glass and TA Cowles have been working on a draft that the Council plans to discuss at the next worksession.

Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs: CM Shields reported that he contacted the chairs of every Town organization to introduce himself and learn about their concerns. He also had a citizen request that Councilmembers speak clearly into their microphones because it is sometimes difficult to hear what is being said.

Public Health and Safety: Chief Antolik announced that the police department received a \$2,000 grant towards the purchase of body cameras. He then gave the police activities report. There were 13 Part I offenses, 11 of which were thefts from cars. The police are investigating a suspect. The 5-year average for September is 8. Year-to-date, Part I offenses total 48, as opposed to the 5-year average of 49.6. The police issued 183 state and municipal citations and 88 speed camera tickets, 8 on Pontiac Street.

Officer Ramirez announced that the Police will again be participating in Trunk or Treat on October 15, a safe alternative to Trick-or-Treating for younger children. Residents are encouraged to participate and bring a decorated car. The Police and NW/EP will again have all hands on deck for patrolling the streets on October 31, Halloween night. Trick-or-treat hours are 6 – 9 pm. Homeowners who do not want to participate should turn their lights off. Residents are asked to drive carefully. No warnings will be given for traffic violations. Officer Ramirez concluded with a list of safety tips for trick-or-treaters.

Public Works: CM Dennison reported that the Public Works Department has hired Tracy Jones as a part-time administrative assistant. In the next weeks, the DPW crew will perform landscaping work around the Town Center while continuing regular trash collection and maintenance work.

5. Committee Reports

Education Advisory Committee: No report.

Green Team: Diana Agonoy, Cunningham Drive, reported that the Green Team hosted their 3rd annual community garden party in September. She then presented a certificate of appreciation to Mayor Jewitt, for the Town's continued support of the community garden. Public Works helps with all types of maintenance chores. The Green Team is working on its *Sustainable Maryland Certified* re-certification due in June 2017. The next meeting is on October 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Historical Committee: Town Clerk and BHHC Chair Harper reported that the Committee held elections at its last meeting. She was re-elected chair, Debby Steele-Snyder Vice Chair, and Richard Ahrens Secretary. Several members attended the opening reception of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Center in Hyattsville last week, Mayor Jewitt and many other elected officials were present. The BHHC will hold its fall reception on November 13, 2:00 p.m. There will be a showing of a highlights reel of oral histories and a display of photo albums. Attendees will be asked to contribute information about the organizations, events and people shown in the albums, as well as bring their own photos of earlier times that can be scanned at the event. In response to MPT Kulpa-Eddy, Ms. Harper said that Berwyn Heights and other big donors to the Heritage Center will be honored with a plaque.

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness: NW/EP Co-chair Mike Attick reported that the NW/EP committee is seeking new volunteers and new trainees for the Town's CERT team. It is the goal to train as many residents as possible to be prepared for an emergency. The next CERT training class will be held on November 4 – 5, 8 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. To enroll, residents should contact Mr. Attick at mikeattick@verizon.net. The next meeting will be held on November 3.

Recreation Council: Diana Agonoy, Cunningham Drive, reported for the Recreation Council. She said the Recreation Council also needs new volunteers to help with organizing events. For Trunk-or-Treat, Recreation Council members will decorate, serve refreshments and award prizes for best decorated cars and best costumes. On November 12, 10:00 a.m., the Recreation Council and the Green Team will hold a Town-wide

cleanup. Meeting point is the Town Center. Participants will be provided instructions and equipment and served a free lunch.

6. Unfinished Business

There was none.

7. New Business

Resolution 03-2016 – Adoption of Employee Handbook: TA Cowles said that a new employee handbook was drafted over the last couple of months with the assistance of McGrath Consultants and extensive input from senior staff. The Council has also offered comments over the last week, and all issues have been resolved, except the appeals process for disciplinary action.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy explained her concerns with the disciplinary process outlined on page 48 of the employee handbook. Here it is stated that, although both the Town and the employees can terminate employment at will, the Town may use progressive discipline to correct unsatisfactory behavior in the workplace, which ranges from verbal warnings for minor issues to suspension and ultimately termination for severe and repeated offenses, at the discretion of the Town Administrator.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said, when the Council adopted *Ordinance 121 – Executive Powers & Duties*, it intended to delegate day-to-day management of the departments to the Town Administrator and the directors but retain the Council as the Chief Executive Officers (CEO) with ultimate authority for hiring and firing. She would therefore propose adding a provision that allows any employee to appeal a serious disciplinary action, such as suspension without pay or termination, to the Town Council, while leaving minor infractions for the Town Administrator and directors to resolve.

CM Rasmussen said that he disagrees in principle with MPT Kulpa-Eddy's proposal. He thinks establishing a secondary appeal that allows employees disciplined by the Town Administrator to appeal that decision to the Town Council may put the Town Council at odds with the Town Administrator by second guessing or overturning her decision. Instead, he would suggest that, in cases where an employee is appealing a serious disciplinary action, the Town Administrator advise and consult with the Town Council in advance of a disciplinary action. He further believes that Ordinance 121 sets the Town Administrator up as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to

manage day-to-day operation, which includes most staffing decisions.

Mayor Jewitt said she agrees with CM Rasmussen to leave the language in the handbook as is. Employees reporting to department directors should be able to appeal the decision to the Town Administrator, but that that decision should be final. The Town Administrator would remain free to consult with the Town Council or the Town Attorney regarding a difficult decision.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that Section 10 N of Ordinance 121 gives all employees, regardless of rank, the right to appeal disciplinary actions or other matters to the Town Council. If this Town Council disagrees with the policy adopted by a previous Town Council, it should amend the Ordinance. Otherwise, the Town would open itself up to law suits. Having participated in the writing of Ordinance 121 and in disciplinary appeals, she is certain that this is what the previous Council intended and what employees took it mean.

After further discussion, the Council agreed to adopt the language of Ordinance 121 into the employee handbook, reading in part: "...When an employee is appealing a department director's disciplinary action, the decision of the Town Administrator may be appealed to the Town Council. When an employee is appealing the Town Administrator's disciplinary action, the decision of the Town Council is final." Having been moved and seconded, the motion passed 5 to 0.

Clerk Harper read Resolution 03-2016 adopting the employee handbook. CM Dennison moved the Resolution. MPT Kulpa-Eddy seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0.

8. Citizens Discussion

Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, asked how much money the Town has received so far to compensate it for the impacts of the Greenbelt Station development. TA Cowles said the Town has received around \$400,000 of \$1,000,000, some of which was used for sidewalks construction. The money is disbursed when new permits for the development are pulled.

Mr. Attick asked whether the employees will be able to review the employee handbook before it is published. TA Cowles said they have been given copies and will have a chance to discuss it during an upcoming training session, where changes in the job descriptions and performance evaluations will also be discussed. Mr. Attick said he thinks the Town Council should always have the

final say in any matter, whether it be employees, money, or equipment because Councilmembers are the guardians of the Town. CM Shields asked whether Mr. Attick supports the changes to the handbook made tonight. Mr. Attick said he did. He further noted that the street sweeper came a week later than announced in the Bulletin.

Eddy Daffron, Seminole Street, said that there are some places in Town where street lights should be added.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



Executive Session (6:00 p.m. – 7:02 p.m.)

Present were Mayor Cheryl Jewitt, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmember (CMs) Patricia Dennison, Chris Rasmussen, and Gerald Shields. On a motion by CM Rasmussen and second by CM Dennison, the Council went into executive session to discuss the Town Administrator's performance evaluation and Councilmembers roles and expectations. CM Rasmussen moved and CM Dennison seconded to end the executive session.

Regular Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Present were Mayor Cheryl Jewitt, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, Chris Rasmussen and Gerald Shields. Also present were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Clerk Kerstin Harper, and citizens.

1. Announcements

Town offices will be closed October 31, 2:00-4:00 p.m. for a staff meeting.

2. Minutes

On a motion by CM Dennison and second by CM Shields, the September 19 worksession minutes were approved 5 to 0. On a motion by MPT Kulpa-Eddy and second by CM Dennison, the October 3 worksession minutes were adopted 5 to 0.

3. Department Reports

Mayor Jewitt thanked the Police, Public Works and Volunteer Fire Department for their participation in Trunk-or-treat.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy announced the upcoming Four Cities meeting in Greenbelt, early voting starting on October 27, and Election Day taking place on Tuesday, November 8. CM Rasmussen announced that the beginning of the in-depth review of Ordinance 120 – Rental Housing will be postponed to the next worksession. He, Code Supervisor Glass and TA Cowles will meet this week to discuss the proposed changes. He, TA Cowles and Code Supervisor Glass also checked on a fence that had been called in as a non-conforming use. While the fence is unusual, having been erected on top of deck that is 2 feet above the ground, it is in compliance with County zoning law. The Code Department plans to follow up on the matter with the County because it essentially circumvents the 6' height limitation on fences.

CM Shields reported that he attended the MML fall conference where he participated in an orientation for new Councilmembers and learned about the requirements for becoming an MML banner city. He also spoke with the heads of various Town organizations. The Berwyn Heights Playgroup currently has 8 member families, which includes a number of families from outside of the Town. The Recreation Council hosted a successful ice cream social attended by over 100 guests. The Recreation Council continues to seek volunteers to help organize such events in the future.

Citizen Comments: Mayor Jewitt received a complaint about party noise coming from the Town Center. Apparently, the doors to the outside staircase were left open. The police stopped by to check on the party. MPT Kulpa-Eddy received a question on when loose leaf vacuuming would begin in Town. It will begin on November 1 and goes through the end of December.

4. Action Items

PGC zoning rewrite, Berwyn Heights letter of comment: MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that she attempted to draft a letter summarizing Berwyn Heights' comments on Modules 1- 3 of a revised Prince George's County zoning ordinance. However, she concluded there is not enough information to know how the proposed zoning changes will impact Berwyn Heights and hence to make pertinent comments. She has therefore requested clarification on various new zoning provisions and for a meeting with Park & Planning staff engaged in the rewrite to answer questions from the Council and residents.

For example, in Module 1, which sets forth the new zoning categories and land uses, information is lacking about how an area transitions from the old to the new zones. A map showing the proposed new zones and their uses is therefore requested. Also requested is information about what happens when 1) a business located in Town, such as the scrap yard, no longer conforms to the uses proposed for the new zone; 2) how new *neighborhood compatibility standards* would be implemented; and 3) how a *neighborhood commercial zone* might be applied to Berwyn Heights. The letter also expresses concerns about the lack of influence municipalities would seem have on proposed new developments in their jurisdictions, and joins Greenbelt in proposing Beltway Plaza as a test project for the new zoning ordinance.

Mayor Jewitt asked if this type of letter is better sent jointly with the Four Cities Coalition. MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that both the Four Cities and Berwyn Heights should send letters of comment.

Berwyn Heights may want to raise some concerns that are specific to Berwyn Heights. TA Cowles noted that Director Cox reviewed the zoning modules and had similar concerns as MPT Kulpa-Eddy. CM Rasmussen said he had a couple of minor grammatical corrections. He very much appreciates MPT Kulpa-Eddy's efforts to track the zoning rewrite and determine what it means for Berwyn Heights. No other corrections to the letter were offered by the Council.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy moved to send the letter to the Park & Planning rewrite team, including the proposed grammatical corrections. CM Dennison seconded. The motion passed 5 to 0. TA Cowles will format letter for official correspondence and share it with the Four Cities as the basis for discussing a Four Cities response.

Position classification pay plan: TA Cowles said, with the adoption of the employee handbook, the Council has completed phase 1 of human resources reforms drafted with the assistance of McGrath Consultants. Phase 2 proposes to implement a new pay plan for FY 2017 based on McGrath's compensation study of comparable jobs in the region. The new pay plan comprises pay grades A – Q and establishes a minimum-maximum range as well as a position point for each pay grade. Newly hired employees would normally start at the minimum pay, then move to the position point and maximum pay based on per-

formance and length of service. The position point serves as a guidepost for evaluators as to how much an employee should be paid after a few years of satisfactory performance.

Phase 3 of the personnel reforms proposes a 3% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all employees, retroactive to July 1, 2016. The annualized cost of the 3% COLA is \$31,000, of which \$4,300 go to social security and pension benefits. The cost of the COLA in the Public Safety Taxing District budget is approximately \$2,000, with \$270 going to social security and pension benefits. The COLA can be sustained in FY 2018 by moving some capital expenditures from the operational to the capital budget, and tapping into a \$50,000 reserve of Town contributions to 401k plans that remained unused after the Town joined the Maryland State Retirement System.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy expressed concerns about being able to sustain the pay increases beyond FY 2018. CM Rasmussen noted that an additional \$35,000 in funds set aside in a Health Reimbursement Account would also be available because the Town switched to a new health insurance system. In short, the Town has \$83,000 in extra funds for the COLA, as well as for bringing all employees up to the minimum pay of the new pay plan proposed in phase 4.

TA Cowles said that the Town already appropriates between \$29,000 and \$32,000 each year for salary increases. This is a recurring expense and, this year, would fund the COLA. An unbudgeted expense of \$13,000 is proposed to bring those employees, who remain below the minimum salary range of the new pay plan, to the minimum by January 1, 2017. She recommends doing this for equity reasons. If it is not done, new hires would be paid at a higher rate than some current employees.

After some further discussion about the Town's ability to afford the increases in the long run, CM Dennison moved and CM Rasmussen seconded to approve the new pay plan. The motion passed 5 to 0.

CM Rasmussen moved, and CM Dennison seconded to approve a 3% COLA retroactive to July 1, 2016. The motion passed 4 to 1, with CM Shields opposed. The Council postponed a decision on spending \$13,000 to bring all employees up to the minimum salary range until TA Cowles can provide more detailed projections of the annualized cost of this measure.

Four Cities agenda: The following items were proposed for the Four Cities agenda: restoration of Highway User Revenues (HUR); 2) Improve communications between utilities; 3) Zoning rewrite letter of comment.

5. Discussion Items

Legislative dinner agenda: Based on previous legislative dinners, Berwyn Heights will give an update on the State of the Town and include an overview of the strategic planning exercise. Other items approved for discussion included: 1) SHA Greenbelt Road improvements proposed in the Greenbelt Station Sector Plan; 2) status of stormwater management engineering study; 3) urban tree legislation; and 4) possibly regulating short-term rentals (e.g., Airbnb).

Charter amendment on boundaries: MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that the Town in 2005 annexed several properties along Branchville Road, which is not yet reflected in the Charter description of the Town's boundaries. She has been pushing to get this done before a decision on the FBI headquarters is made. TA Cowles said that the annexations are fully legal, having been approved by the Town Council and the State of Maryland in 2005. Changing the Charter description is more of a procedural issue. She will meet with the land use attorney and engineer, who helped the Town with the annexations, to go over the requirements for redefining the boundary.

Ordinance 120 – Rental Housing: CM Rasmussen said that the review of a revised Ordinance 120 was postponed to the next worksession so that he, Code Supervisor Glass and TA Cowles have more time to discuss the proposed changes.

Strategic planning workshop debriefing: TA Cowles said that the University of Maryland consultants who conducted the strategic planning workshop provided a summary of the results, including a consolidated draft "vision and mission" statement and list of strategic issues for discussion at a follow-up workshop that is yet to be scheduled.

CM Rasmussen said he thought that employees should not have participated in the workshop, and probably contributed to employee safety being identified as the top strategic issue. In his opinion, this is a narrow area of concern and not of the same order as other strategic issues, such as the revitalization of the Route 193 corridor and improving relations with the business district. However, he finds the summary document pro-

vided by the consultants useful as the basis for completing a strategic plan.

Mayor Jewitt said, while security cameras and employee safety may not be strategic issues, a larger universe of safety-related concerns was identified that merits that designation. Among those issues are building safety, street lighting, policing strategies, sidewalks, traffic safety, emergency response and more. A second set of concerns centered on infrastructure - that is: roads, utilities, buildings, and grounds - which may eventually be addressed with a capital improvement plan.

MPT Kulpa-Eddy said that the list of issues and concerns from which participants were asked to select strategic goals were too numerous to compare and probably should have been narrowed down before being voted on. She also asked that employees be allowed to participate in the follow-up workshop

because they will be largely responsible for implementing the strategic plan. CM Rasmussen responded that employees might be consulted before or after a strategic planning session to bring their expertise and knowledge of day-to-day operations to bear on the Council's vision. Overall, he thought their concerns tend to be more parochial and focused on their role within the government rather than the wellbeing of the community.

The Council briefly discussed the consolidated vision and mission statements. There was agreement that the vision statement is somewhat generic and should emphasize Berwyn Heights' unique features, such as community spirit and park-like setting. The mission statement was deemed to be wordy but acceptable.

Trunk or Treat safety protocol: Mayor Jewitt said that she and CM Dennison

attended the Trunk-or-Treat Halloween celebration held in the BHES/ Community Center parking lot. It was very well attended and the marshmallow roasting over an open fire was a highlight. However, the fire pit lacks safety precautions. While the Volunteer Fire Department was present, there were no water buckets or fire blankets nearby. Small children in costumes sometimes got too close to the flames and adults needed to be present to supervise the activity at all times. It was agreed that TA Cowles should reach out to the M-NCPPC community center staff, who host the bonfire, and ask them to help make the event safer.

6. Town Council Schedule

The Council reviewed the calendar. No changes were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department Christmas Tree Fundraiser Sale!

The Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad is once again holding our Annual Christmas Trees Fundraiser Sale in the rear parking lot of the Firehouse. This is one of our most important fundraisers of the year, and we would like to thank everyone in advance for your support!

*We accept cash and checks. **Live in Town? We will deliver your tree for FREE!***

Sale hours:

Monday – Friday 5:00pm to 9:00pm

Saturday & Sunday 9:00am to 9:00pm

Tree prices:

5-6ft Fraser Fir - \$35

6-7ft Fraser Fir - \$45

7-8ft Fraser Fir - \$55

**Be sure to get your tree early!
we usually sell out a week or two
before Christmas even though
we order more trees every year!**



Santa on a Fire Truck- Christmas Eve 7pm-9pm



BHVFD volunteers will once again be escorting Santa around Town on **Saturday December 24th, 2016**, from approximately 7pm until around 9pm. We try our best to ensure Santa visits all streets in Berwyn Heights, College Park Estates, and Westchester Park, **but we will still be responding to emergency calls during this time** which may affect our rounds. Just listen for our sirens on Christmas Eve!



Berwyn Heights Boys & Girls Club



Bugle—December 2016



Wishing you and your family
a Safe Winter &
the Happiest of Holidays.

*-The Berwyn Heights
Boys & Girls Club*

We are always looking to expand and introduce new programs, and would love to hear YOUR ideas! The Berwyn Heights Boys & Girls Club lives on tradition and has strived to keep kids active and learning for decades through the dedication of neighborhood parents and volunteers. What programs and offerings would you like to see?

Visit us on our website, on Facebook, or email us at

info@berwynheightsbgc.org

Spring will be here before you know it. Spring Registration opens the first Saturday of February. Stay tuned!

www.BerwynHeightsBGC.org

Follow us on Facebook!

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Wishing you a Happy Holiday Season! Enjoy time with family, friends & taking a break. I'll be enjoying the season too & checking my "list" twice. Here for you working-maybe a little break along the way! Gearing up for 2017, new listings ready to go. Are you on my list?

My 2016 Year end Reflections:

*10 Highlights-accomplishments, best memories.

*10 Disappointments- Failures, missed opportunities.

*3 Game Changers-Unexpected events that shifted my priorities.

*3 Things I focused on-What to put the most of my time into.

*3 Things forgotten- What I didn't get around to.

*Reflection-How all of this helps me go forward in to 2017.

How about You? Your reflections, accomplishments & how you'll move into 2017?

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
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LISTED or SOLD by SHARON THIS MONTH

SOLD- 6215 Quebec Pl-3BR 2BA Rambler.....\$290's.

UNDER CONTRACT-4905 Iroquois St 3BR 2BA 2story..\$299K

REDUCED-7409 Wellesley Dr 4BR 1full 2 1/2BA split..\$325K.

UNDER CONTRACT- 5922 Natasha Dr 3BR 2 1/2 BA Rambler.

UNDER CONTRACT- 8504 60th Av-3BR 2 BA Rambler..\$330's.

UNDER CONTRACT-3294 Robt C Weaver Wy NE WDC...\$520's.

If your property is currently listed with another broker, this is not a solicitation of that listing.



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*References gladly supplied upon request



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Berwyn Heights GreenBee



*The GreenBee is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team!
Email us your ideas at bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com*

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, Jan. 19, 7:00 p.m.** at the Town Center, in the G. Love Room. All residents are welcome to attend!

Winter for the Dogs



Winter is coming...
Snow... Ice... Shoveling...

... and SALT, right??? Well, maybe not!

Dog owners AND non-dog owners, read this first!



For Dog Owners

*This helpful advice is reprinted from
www.dogsnatrallymagazine.com*

Salt can get lodged in between your dog's pads where it can heat up to around 170 degrees! That's hot enough to cause burns. And the pain will cause your dog to lick his paws, which adds more moisture to his feet ... and now the salt is on his lips and tongue too.

Rock salt can also irritate his gastrointestinal system ... and even trigger seizures when eaten in large quantities (think about how much dogs lick their irritated paws after walking in salt).

It's always a good idea after walking your dog to immediately clean his paws with plenty of lukewarm water, then dry them. Some dogs take a while to get used to booties but they're another solution to keep paws safe.



Visit the Green Team
Facebook page

[https://www.facebook.com/
BerwynHeightsGreenTeam](https://www.facebook.com/BerwynHeightsGreenTeam)

For All Residents

Please consider helping out our neighborhood dogs by using "dog safe" products as de-icers instead of rock salt.

Here are some safe shopping tips from www.dogsnatrallymagazine.com

- Don't look for a low cost product. The safe ice melt products use more expensive chemicals and are worth the extra expense.
- Look for a product without any warning labels on it. If a product is not safe for you or your children, it's not safe for your pets.
- Look for a salt and chloride free product.

BULLETIN BOARD

House Cleaning: Berwyn Heights resident since 2000 - with 25 years professional house cleaning experience and takes pride in the work done looking for new clients. References in Town and out of town are available. Please give me a call and let me help tackle the house cleaning for you. Free estimates. Please call (301) 474-3024.

Want adventure and achievement? Join Boy Scout Troop 740. We meet at Holy Redeemer's Fealy Hall every Tuesday evening. For details, call scoutmaster Loren Lavoy at 301-651-4928.

Licensed Family Daycare: Opening for infant to 12 years old. Before and after care for BH Elementary School available. Vouchers are accepted. Meals are provided. Openings are Monday-Friday from 6 AM to 6 PM. Please contact Karuna at 301-345-2939.

BH Republican Club meets once a month, usually on the last Monday, at the Senior Center and welcomes all residents to participate. Follow us on Twitter: twitter.com/BHeightsGOP and Like Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/BHMDGOP.

STRESSED!!! Are you a Senior, a relative or friend of a Senior? Are you, or they, worried about staying home long-term? If you'd like some direction or assistance, without alienating your loved one, I CAN HELP YOU. Sealani Weiner, Geriatric Care Manager. Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker in MD & DC, Certified Care Manager AND Berwyn Heights resident. 240-965-7274.

Tutor: Learning Specialist with vast experience helping children with learning challenges. For a free consultation call or email Kathy Brosh, 301-474-2002, kathybrosh@gmail.com. References available.

Piano Lessons in your home. Former PGCPs music teacher, experienced private instructor. Students with special needs welcome. Ms. Liz 240-601-2825.

House Cleaning: Help with shopping, cooking, etc. 40-year resident of Berwyn Heights. Very reliable and reasonable rates. Please call DJ at 301-345-1746

Pet Services: Experienced dog walker and pet sitter available. Will happily help you with your pets. Call Katelyn, 301-233-2588.

Lawn Mowing and Trimming, yard raking and cleanup, basement clean-out, painting, plumbing, general handyman. Reasonable rates and flexible schedule. Call Phil at 202-718-8530. Berwyn Heights references available.

Meals-on-Wheels needs your HELP! This 35-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12:00 if available.

Need Yard Help? Shawn and Jeremy have helped Berwyn Heights residents with mowing, raking, mulching, and more for several years. Call 301-474-2002.

Berwyn Heights Cleaning: Cleaning your home like my own. Residential & commercial. References available in Berwyn Heights. Over 10 years professional experience. Providing my own materials and rational price. 240-645-5140 or angelalazoi@hotmail.com.

Get Out More! Let me help you free up your time by helping you in different ways. If you have children, I babysit age 3 and up. Do your kids need help in school? I tutor in different subjects. Don't have time to exercise your lovable pet? I enjoy dog walking/sitting. Please call Greta at 301-982-7115. References upon request.

Sale-Pro-Form Air Walker Exercise Machine. Similar to a Nordic-Track. Excellent condition. Cash and Carry. Live in Berwyn Heights. \$75.00 or best offer. [240-460-4722](tel:240-460-4722).

Tutor Needed: For basic computer skills. 301-520-8811.

Loving, Licensed Child Care: (CDA)

credentialed in BH. M-F 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Ura Daley, 301-313-9131.

Moving? All The Way Moving. LLC licensed and insured company giving FREE wardrobe boxes along with low prices. ★Studio or small 1 bedroom \$195-\$260. ★Large 1 bedroom or 2 bedroom \$260-\$375. ★3 bedroom or a house \$763-\$1090. Prices shown are general. Please contact us for a free quote today. Call 202-820-0771

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HELP IS HERE. Do you need help grocery shopping, bill paying, pick up prescriptions, post office run, general household management, shopping and more...look no further...for \$20 per hour have your own personal concierge. Reliable, Dependable, Fast, and more importantly, TRUSTWORTHY. Call Jackie at 202-669-6297. I'll be there tomorrow.

FOR SALE. Men's Golf Shoes. Almost like new. Size 13M; Record Albums and more. Good Condition. Variety of music., \$1 each; 27-inch color Sylvania stereo TV, \$25, and a 14-inch color Zenith TV, \$10. Call 240-460-4722.

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**(Don't forget
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batteries!)**



Berwyn Heights Elem School PTA

wishes our community

Happy Holidays

THANK YOU!

PTA Membership Drive
Monday, December 5 through
Friday, December 16

Our PTA membership needs a boost! Please help us educate and enlighten tomorrow's leaders!

The class with the highest level of PTA membership will get EXTRA RECESS during the week leading up to Winter Break!

More information coming

School Gardens

Thanksgiving is a holiday that commemorates a harvest festival celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. In November, BHES students celebrated the true meaning of giving thanks for their hard work in growing a cornucopia of wonderful vegetables with a tasty harvest party!

Thanks to Therese Forbes and Diana Agonoy for hosting this fantastic event!

The PTA would like to extend our thanks to the following local businesses for their generous donations to our Walkathon:

- Alpha Point Medical
- Greenbelt Road Shell
- Rising Sun Motors
- Bob Neri, Century 21
- Martha's Jams
- Berwyn Lawn Care

Kindergarten Open House
Friday, January 13th 10-11:30am

Will your child be ready for Kindergarten next year? Please join us on Friday, January 13th to learn everything you need to know about Berwyn Heights Elementary!

- Tour the school
- Meet the principal
- Learn about our curriculum, including our Mandarin program
- Learn about our active PTA and meet some members

Contact president @bhespta.org for more details.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 6
PTA Meeting in the
Library @ 6:45pm

Wednesday, December 7
2-Hour Early Dismissal
(Professional
Development)

**Friday, December 23 -
Monday, January 2**
No School –
Winter Break

Tuesday, January 3
PTA Meeting in the
Library @ 6:45pm

Friday, January 13
Kindergarten Open House
10-11:30am

**KEEP UPDATED ABOUT
PTA NEWS AND EVENTS!**

* Follow us on Twitter @BHES_PTA

* Visit the PTA web site www.BHESPTA.org

* Like us on Facebook **Berwyn Heights ES PTA**



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Dreaming of spending this holiday in your new home? It is a great time to Buy or Sell Real Estate.

Renting? You may very likely pay less for a mortgage than you currently are for rent.

Contact me today I will be happy to help you.

I grew up here in Berwyn Heights and I am now raising my family here. I first earned my Real Estate license over 13 years ago and I have served the Real Estate Community and our community since then.

I have served as

- **Berwyn Heights Citizen of the Year 2013**
- **Berwyn Heights Boys and Girls Club Woman of the Year**
- **Past Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA President (2 years)**
- **Past Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA Vice President (4 years)**
- **Past Berwyn Heights Recreation Council Co-Chair (4 + years)**

It would be an honor to assist you, your friends and family with their Real Estate needs.

If you are not in the Real Estate market but know someone who is,

I Love Referrals.

This is not intended as a solicitation if your home is listed with a Broker.

BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

Next to the Town Office on 57th Avenue — Open Monday thru Friday, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M. — Phone 301-474-0018

Now that Winter is here, come to the Center, get a hot cup of coffee, a soda, or a bottle of water and, of course, something to eat. You can always count on something to eat when you are with the Seniors!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

December 5	Joan Ahrens
December 7	Dan Woodard
December 8	Kitty Hanlon
December 16	Kay Angell
December 26	Alan Sinclair

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

BINGO — Every Tuesday at 12:30 P.M.

WII BOWLING — Every Wednesday at 10:30 A.M.

POOL — Every Thursday at 7:00 P.M.

POTLUCK & MOVIE — Second Saturday

(December 10 at 5:00 P.M.)

MEETING— Second Tuesday (December 13)

at 11:00 A.M. This is the Christmas Party
and Pot Luck.

Upcoming Events

December 3—6:30 to
7:15 PM. Santa will
be at the Senior Cen-
ter to talk to all the
kids.



December 5:
Annual Trip to
Brookside Gar-
dens to see the
Garden Railway
and, of course,

go out to eat. You can always be sure there
will be good food when the Seniors get to-
gether.

REDSKIN FOOTBALL Come watch the
game on Sunday, December 11, and share a
pot luck late lunch. Game time is 1:00 P.M.

HAVE A NICE HOLIDAY!

SOMETHING NEW CONTINUES

On the Second Monday in Decem-
ber, the 12th, from 12:00 Noon to
2:00 P.M., representatives from the
Prince George's County Library Sys-
tem will be here to do crafts, make
greeting cards, play cards, etc.

WHY NOT JOIN US!

**REMEMBER—YOU DON'T STOP HAVING FUN
WHEN YOU GET OLD; YOU GET OLD WHEN YOU
STOP HAVING FUN!**

Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney

301-908-9427 (cell)
tgentile301@yahoo.com
www.thomasgentile.com



Berwyn Heights Resident
Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA
Over 38 years experience
Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts,
General Practice
Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents



HOLY REDEEMER Catholic Church

Weekend Masses:

Saturday Vigil 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 n.
Sacrament of Reconciliation - Saturday 3:30 p.m.

4902 Berwyn Road • College Park MD 20740
Tel: 301-474-3920 • Web Site: holy-redeemer.org
Email: parish@holy-redeemer.org



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The New Year Too!**



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and
Limb Up.**



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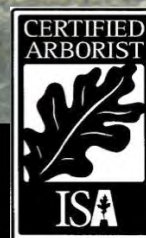
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I.S.A. Certified Arborist MA-5571A

IN-TOWN REFERENCES

- Landscape Clean-Ups
- Leaf Removal
- Routine Lawn Mowing and Edging
- Aerating, Seeding, Fertilization
- Tree Care and Ornamental Pruning
- Tree Risk Assessment Consultation
- Tree and Stump Removal, Cabling/Bracing, Root De-compaction and Invigoration
- Lightning Protection Systems

EMERGENCY TREE WORK

**Let Us Handle Your Landscape
and Tree Care Needs!**





POLICE BEAT

Includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of **October**

2016. It is not a complete listing of every crime and/or accident that occurred in the Town. Incidents are listed from beginning of the month to the end of the month, starting with the first report taken during the period within a specified category.

10/03/2016 at 9:40 am, a 35 Y/O, A/F, came into the BHPD and stated that someone removed her bicycle from the back yard of her house at the 7700 Block of Edmonston Road.

10/14/2016 at 9:38 am, Cpl. Ignowski responded to the 7600 block of Charlton Avenue for a report of theft from a 2005 Honda. The vehicle registration card was taken.

10/14/2016 at 9:50 am, Cpl. Ignowski responded to the 7600 block of Charlton Avenue for a report of theft from a 2014 Toyota. A purse along with miscellaneous items was taken.

10/18/2016 at 6:09 pm, Cpl. Krouse responded to the 6200 block of Ruatan

Street for a report of a burglary. Suspect entered the domicile and removed money.

10/20/2016 at 4:35 pm, Cpl. Krouse responded to the 5800 block of Quebec Street for a report of a theft of a political campaign sign.

10/22/2016 at 8:27 am, Cpl. Ignowski responded to the 6000 block of Osage Street for an unattended death investigation. Decedent, a 69 Y/O, W/F, was found unresponsive and lying on the floor. Investigation revealed no foul play involved.

10/24/2016 at 9:45 am, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 5700 block of Nevada Street for a property damage report. A 2013 Mini Cooper suffered damages to the left quarter panel of the vehicle.

10/24/2016 at 9:07 am, Cpl. Ignowski responded to the 8000 block of Cunningham Drive for a property damage report. A 2010 Honda suffered damages to the paint and exterior left side of the car.

10/24/2016 at 3:15 pm, Cpl. Roberson responded to the 5800 block of Ruatan Street for a theft complaint. On scene, he was advised by a 19 Y/O, W/M, who stated that he was attempting to purchase a Sony Play Station from subjects he contacted on a sale website. Subjects met the victim outside his residence and grabbed victim's money, then fled.

10/27/2016 at 9:44 am, Pfc. Hollowell responded to the 8400 block of Ballew Avenue for a report of stolen tags from a 1993 Ford Truck.

10/27/2016 at 2:17 pm, Pfc. Ramirez responded to the 8700 block of Edmonston Road for an unwanted telephone calls complaint. Victim, a 30 Y/O, H/F stated that the caller claims that he was holding her brother in-law at gun point. Victim called her brother in-law and later determined that the call was false.

10/28/2016 at 7:40 am, Cpl. Ignowski arrested Mr. Joel Reyes-Cabrera, a 31 Y/O, H/M, resident of Berwyn Heights, for an outstanding warrant. This incident occurred in the 6300 block of Pontiac Street.

10/30/2016 at 9:38 am, Cpl. Ignowski responded to the 6200 block of Quebec Street for a report of an assault. On scene he was advised by a 60 Y/O, W/F, that an acquaintance of hers threw soda liquid in her face.

10/31/2016 at 12:30 pm, Cpl. Ignowski responded to the 8900 block of 57th. Avenue for a report of theft of cable boxes by a former tenant.

Advertising Rates For the BH Bulletin

TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
EIGHTH (1/8) PAGE		
1 Month	\$30.00	\$36.00
6 Months	\$162.00	\$192.00
12 Months	\$230.00	\$336.00
QUARTER (1/4) PAGE		
1 Month	\$50.00	\$72.00
6 Months	\$270.00	\$384.00
12 Months	\$384.00	\$672.00
HALF (1/2) PAGE		
1 Month	\$100.00	\$144.00
6 Months	\$540.00	\$768.00
12 Months	\$768.00	\$1,344.00
FULL PAGE		
1 Month	\$200.00	\$288.00
6 Months	\$1,080.00	\$1,536.00
12 Months	\$1,536.00	\$2,688.00



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Downed Wires, Burning Wires
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(877) 737-2662

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Street Light Outages

(Need Pole Number
and nearest Address)

Hard of Hearing (TTY)

(202) 872-2369

Spanish Speaking

(202) 833-7500

Customers with Emergency Medical Equipment

(202) 833-7500

To Register for Priority List

You can also report and
check on outages online at:

<http://www.pepco.com/>

connect-with-us/contact-us/

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ASSISTANCE
IN A NON-EMERGENCY
SITUATION
AFTER BUSINESS
HOURS, CALL 301-352-
1200.**

Tell the Prince George's
County Police Dispatcher
the nature of your prob-
lem and specify that the
on-duty Berwyn Heights
Police Officer respond to
your call.

Berwyn Heights Historical Committee



Oral Histories Well Received

Our premiere of a "best of" video of interviews with long-time residents was attended by some 30 appreciative guests. Despite technical difficulties, they remained in good humor and participated in a lively discussion that followed. Those present remembered movie nights at the Town Center, Cub Scouts, sledding, hand delivery of the Town's tax bills, local stores, and how Good Luck Road got its name.

Our oral history team plans to resume interviewing residents about the "good old days." Anyone who is interested should contact Chanel Kopecky at chanel.kopecky@gmail.com, or Richard Ahrens at dicka@umd.edu.



Next Meeting: January 24, 7:30 pm in the G. Love Room.



Visit the BHHC website & BLOG at: <http://berwynheightshistory.wordpress.com>

ATHA (Anacostia Trails Heritage Area/ Maryland Milestones): www.anacostiatrials.org



Free Karate Training!!!!

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 6th degree black belt, five-time inductee into the World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame, and member of Shihan John Roseberry's Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization. Open to all ages/all levels.

Berwyn Heights Town Center-5700 Berwyn Rd-2nd Fl.
Year-Round: Mondays and Fridays 5-7 pm

For more information, contact Brett Bentley at 240-678-9103
(Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881

RENTAL HOUSING ORDINANCE REVISION

Ordinance 120 – Rental Housing is in the process of being revised to adopt the latest state and federal regulations and streamline rental licensing processes. The Town Council will discuss the Ordinance at upcoming worksessions. Proposed changes include requiring a rental license and rental license fee for all types of rentals, including owner-occupied and short-term rentals (Airbnb).

Please submit any comments to fglass@berwynheightsmd.gov or jcowles@berwynheightsmd.gov



LEAVES

Loose leaf collection continues through DEC 29.

To facilitate the leaf vacuuming:

- Please rake leaves to the curb but not into the street;
- Do not include large branches, rocks or refuse in piles;
- Do not park in front of leaf piles.

Thank you.

Berwyn Heights Playgroup

For Preschoolers and Younger

Mondays 10:30a—12:00 p

Indoors at Town Center if Cold or Rainy

1st & 3rd Monday of month—Indian Creek

2nd & 4th Monday of month—Pop's Park

Please contact Rachel Cicero at rachelcicero55@gmail.com for more Information and to be added to the group's listserver



CODE NEWS

OCTOBER
ACTIVITY

Clean Lot Violations	
High Grass/ Vegetation	23
Clean Lot	37
Animals	0
Trash/ Litter	1
Non-Hazardous	11
Vehicles	5
Premise Identification	0
Commercial	1
Total Violations	78
Abatements	0
Permits	
Building	3
Dumpster/ PODs	2
Total Permits issued	5
Rentals	
New Rentals	0
Lost Rentals	2
Total Rentals	193
Inspections	9
Re-inspections	1
Fines	0
Rental Licenses Issued	10
Vacant Homes	
Call-a-Bus	7

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Let me assist you with your biggest investment ever...YOUR HOME! I can help you buy a new home or sell your current one.

I can also provide you a free market analysis and have a team of vendors to help with marketing, advertising, repairs, home staging options and more.

As a resident of Berwyn Heights for over 50 years, I know OUR TOWN, and have been in real estate for over 13 years.

Let me be your neighborhood realtor...I look forward to working with you to make your real estate transaction a smooth one.

SHAUNA AURICH

LONG & FOSTER — REALTORS

Cell: 301-343-7370 or Office: 301-441-9511

Email: Shauna@LNF.com

CURRENT LISTINGS:

5614 Fishermens Court, Clinton
3400 Deep Landing Rd., Huntingtown
8422 57th Ave., Berwyn Heights

UNDER CONTRACT:

4902 52nd Place, Hyattsville



If your property is currently listed with another broker, this is not a solicitation of that listing.





Cleaning your home like my own. Residential & commercial. References available in Berwyn Heights. Over 10 years professional experience. Providing my own materials and reasonable price.

Call 240) 645-5140 or email angelalazo1@hotmail.com



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Boys & Girls Club

President: Shinita Hemby 202-531-6066

Vice President: Angela Wolfinger

angela.wolfinger@gmail.com

Registrar: Leslie Wolfinger

leswolfinger@gmail.com

Soccer Commissioner: Jason

Papanikolas 240-338-5191

T- Ball Commissioner:

James Johnson

Basketball Commissioner:

Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond

301-474-2737

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness/CERT

Co-Chair Merrill Weinrich

mweinrich2@verizon.net

Co-Chair Michael Attick

mikeattick@verizon.net

Historical Committee

Kerstin Harper 301-474-5000

Kerstin.harper59@gmail.com

Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

Playgroup

Rachel Cicero

rachelcicero55@gmail.com

Quilter's Club

Lois Williams 301-345-6214

Recreation Council

Susan Jones

violindreams@verizon.net

Theresa Beck

beck_theresa@yahoo.com

Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482

Green Team

Therese Forbes 301-982-7115

therese@celticclans.com

BH Elementary School PTA

Chris McComb

President@BHESPTA.org

Karate Club

Leon Swain 301-728-2881

Brett Bentley 240-678-9103

Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com

BERWYN



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BerwynLawnCare@gmail.com

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Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
DrLinchuck.com**



December 2016

Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 27	28 	29 	30	Dec 1 Street Sweeper	2	3 6:00 PM Tree Lighting
4	5 7:00 PM Worksession Council Chamber	6 7:30 PM Rec. Council Meeting G. Love Room 6:45 PM PTA BHES Library	7 7:00 PM NW-EP Meeting G. Love Room	8	9	10
11	12 	13 	14 8:00 PM Town Meeting, Public Hearing on Charter Amendment Council Chamber	15 7:00 PM Educational Advisory Committee Town Ctr. 2nd Floor 7:00 PM Green Team G. Love Rm.	16 12:30 - 5:00 PM Town Government Closed	17
18 Street Sweeper	19 7:00 PM Worksession Council Chamber	20 	21	22	23 Town Government Closed	24
25 CHRISTMAS 	26 Christmas Holiday Obsv'd Town Govt. Closed—No Trash Pickup	27 	28	29 	30 Town Government Closed	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE



PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE STREET, IF POSSIBLE, DURING THE WEEK THAT THE STREET SWEEPER IS IN TOWN.

Recycling Collection	Refuse Collection
Yard Waste	Bulk Pick-up
North South	North South

BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

TOWN OF BERWYN HEIGHTS
5700 Berwyn Road
Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740-2799

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TOWN INFORMATION

Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire Rescue 9-1-1
Police (Non-Emergency) (301) 352-1200
Police Administrative Office (301) 474-6554
Code Compliance Department (301) 513-9331
Email: code@berwynheightsmd.gov
Public Works Department (301) 474-6897
Email: publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov
Fire Department (301) 474-7866
Senior Center (301) 474-0018
Community Center (Gym) (301) 345-2808
Town Office (301) 474-5000
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Call-a-Bus Reservations (301) 513-9331

Mayor and Council

Cheryl Jewitt (240) 472-6835 cjewitt@berwynheightsmd.gov
Mayor — Public Safety/Health
Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov
Mayor Pro Tem — Administration
Patti Dennison (301) 404-2759 pdennison@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Public Works
Christopher Rasmussen (612) 940-8510 crasmussen@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Code Compliance
Gerald Shields (504) 250-2040 gshields@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Parks & Recreation, Education & Civic Affairs

Regular Trash Collection Schedule

North of Pontiac..... Mondays & Thursdays
South of Pontiac..... Tuesdays & Thursdays

Heavy Trash Day:

Monday for North of Pontiac
Tuesday for South of Pontiac

Recycling Schedule:

Wednesdays for the entire Town.

Town Helpline

Do you have a suggestion or problem or a question on an ordinance, or have a historical question? Want to receive meeting agendas or minutes by email?
Email Town at
contact@berwynheightsmd.gov
Be assured that your communication will be answered promptly

Watch Council Meetings



**On Comcast channel 71
FIOS channel 12**

Most recent meeting: M-S 11:00 A.M.
2nd most recent mtg: M-S 3:00 P.M.
3rd most recent mtg:
Tue, Thu, Fri., Sun.: 8:00 P.M.

Town of Berwyn Heights Website: <http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov>; Follow us on Twitter @BerwynHeightsMD

Questions or advertising rates — call Administration Department at (301) 474-5000.

Or email: yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov

Submission deadline is the 15th of the month

Helen Van Doren, Design & Layout