

Berwyn Heights Bulletin

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

NOVEMBER 2015



BHHC Fall Reception

DeFerrari Presents: Capital Streetcars

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Town Wide Cleanup

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND ADOPTION OF
ORD 109 - ELECTIONS
NOVEMBER 18, 2015**

The Town Council plans to adopt amendments to the Town's Election Ordinance.

The updated Ordinance incorporates new State of Maryland and Prince George's County election procedures, redefines responsibilities of Election Judges and Town Clerk, and adds provisions on write-in candidates and mid-term Town Council vacancies.

Public comments and questions are welcome. For more information call (301) 474-5000, or e-mail the Town: contact@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

NEW TOWN TREASURER

Michelle Rodriguez has been hired to fill the Town Treasurer position starting November 2. Ms. Rodriguez has been the Clerk-Treasurer for the Town of Edmonston for the last 8 years and brings a wealth of experience to the job. We welcome Ms. Rodriguez to our Town.

Free Spay-Neuter Program

The City of Greenbelt Animal Shelter continues to provide free spay/neuter services for low income residents in the Four Cities municipalities. Applications for a no-cost spay/neuter voucher can be filled out online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/spayneuter, or obtained at the City of Greenbelt municipal offices: 15 Crescent Road, Suite 200, Tel 301-483-7080.



Bikeways Improvements

Public Works staff has begun to install bicycle racks at parks and public facilities around Town. They will soon be followed by signage and road stripes to guide bicyclists to Metro stations, parks, recreational facilities and commercial centers in the area.



Berwyn Heights' bike-way routes will become part of the larger network of Anacostia trails and heritage sites formerly known as ATHA and re-branded as Maryland Milestones. Maryland Milestones is dedicated to preserving and promoting the historical, artistic, cultural, and natural resources of our Heritage Area, and its website is a great place to find out about events taking place around us.

To learn more visit <http://www.anacostiatrails.org>.

HOLIDAY TRASH SCHEDULE

**TOWN OFFICES CLOSED ON
Veterans Day**

Mon	11/09/15	Trash, Bulk & Yard Waste, North
Tue	11/10/15	Trash, Bulk & Yard Waste, South
Wed	11/11/15	NO PICKUP
Thu	11/12/15	Recycling, Entire Town
Fri	11/13/15	Trash, Entire Town

Thanksgiving

Mon	11/23/15	Trash, Bulk & Yard Waste, North
Tue	11/24/15	Trash, Bulk & Yard Waste, South
Wed	11/25/15	Recycling, Entire Town
Thu	11/26/15	NO PICKUP
Fri	11/27/15	NO PICKUP

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

REFUSE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Monday North Side	Tuesday South Side	Wednesday Entire Town	Thursday Entire Town	Friday
Household Trash	Household Trash	Recycling	Household Trash	NONE
Bulk Trash	Bulk Trash			
Yard Waste	Yard Waste			

Worksession September 8, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison and Maria Robles. Also present was Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Clerk Kerstin Harper, Lynn White, Brad Jewitt, Maurice McFarland and Rod Schwarz.

1. Mayor

Announcements: Several Councilmembers attended Hello Huskies Night at Berwyn Heights Elementary School (BHES) before this meeting. A large crowd of students, parents and teachers enjoyed music, food and companionship. The Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department had one of their trucks on display. The Boys & Girls Club will host a Movie Night on September 26, 7 pm at Sports Park and a Harvest Fest on October 3 at the Town Center. Lynn White, who was appointed to fill the vacancy left by CM Schreiber's resignation, will be sworn in at tomorrow's Town meeting.

Calendar: The Council reviewed the calendar. A Community Garden Fest was added for September 20, an electronics recycling event for October 24, and a Holiday Tree Lighting for December 5th.

Minutes: The August 12 Town meeting minutes were distributed.

Department reports: CM Dennison reported that she was at tonight's Hello Huskies Night, which had a good turnout. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that Lynn White will likely head the Public Works Department, after she is sworn in as Councilmember tomorrow night. MPT Rasmussen reported that he met with TA Cowles to discuss his transition to Administration Department Head. The recruitment of a new Town Treasurer is moving forward and TA Cowles saved the Town \$10,000 per year in Bulletin mailing costs by utilizing USPS Every Door Direct Mail

and negotiating with the current print vendor. CM Robles reported that she met Code Supervisor Glass and reviewed forms and correspondence templates to see if any should be revised. Mr. Glass also provided her with an action plan to implement the new Clean Lot regulations.

Citizen comments: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy received an inquiry on the status of adding new street lights for dark areas in Town, a complaint about trash, a pot hole and faded striping at the 7 Eleven on Greenbelt Road, questions about the timing of mosquito spraying and loose leaf pickup and a suggestion to make the 8900 block of 58th Avenue one-side parking. CM Robles received a complaint about tall grass at a Cunningham Drive rental property.

Brad Jewitt, Natasha Drive, shared his concerns about the process for filling the most recent Council vacancy, noting that he had sent the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem an advance email. He also contacted the Ethics Commission about his concerns but they concluded they did not have jurisdiction. His concern is that the filling of the vacancy caused by CM Schreiber's resignation did not leave an opportunity for residents to apply. The Council at its August 24 worksession appointed one of four candidates that had applied for the earlier vacancy left by Mayor Calvo's resignation in June. He understands that CM Schreiber's departure occurred in late August leaving only the September 9 Town meeting to swear in a new Councilmember and still comply with a Charter-mandated 45 day deadline for filling a vacancy. However, he believes that CM Schreiber might have been asked to postpone his resignation on paper to give the Council more time, advertise the new vacancy, and select from a fresh pool of candidates. Another option might have been to inform residents in a special mailing about the new vacancy and the Council to call a special meeting to review applicants and select a candidate within the 45 day time period. He might have applied if given the opportunity.

Mr. Jewitt further stated that the Town Charter is silent on how a vacancy should be filled. While the Council did not do anything unlawful, the manner in which the vacancy was filled did not comport with the principles of good governance, where the public should always be informed and permitted to participate. Mr. Jewitt suggested the Council consult with the Town attorney to clarify the process, possibly in a Council Rule or an Ordinance, to spell out the details.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that CM Schreiber's resignation was unexpected. It would have been better if the resignation could have been delayed to allow more time for candidate selection. But the timing was such that it left only one Town meeting within the 45 day time frame to select and swear in a new Councilmember. Nonetheless, clarification of the process of filling a vacancy in the Town's code is needed. She will ask the Council to consider adding a provision on filling vacancies to the Election Ordinance, which is currently under review. Mr. Jewitt is welcome to submit recommendations as to the content of such a provision. The Town Attorney will be consulted as part of this process. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy thanked Mr. Jewitt for sharing his concerns.

Nothing was discussed under **2. Parks and Recreation, 3. Public Safety, and 4. Public Works.**

5. Code Compliance (discussed out of order)

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that the Town Council tonight will sit in a judicial capacity to address the code appeals that have been filed in the last couple of months. She asked Code Supervisor Glass to join the Council at the table to outline the circumstances of each case.

Code appeal - 8917 57th Avenue: The owner of the property in question, Maurice McFarland, was present to appeal \$300 in Clean Lot fines for untagged and inoperable vehicle violations. Code Supervisor Glass said the record of abandoned vehicle-related violations at this property goes back to 2010 and re-

sulted in 29 door hangers and certified letters being sent to the owner. The current case dates to July 2, 2015, when the Code Department sent a certified letter to Mr. McFarland notifying him that he will be fined for storing two abandoned vehicles and motor vehicle parts in his driveway per Section 4 E and F of Ordinance 107, if the violation is not remedied within 7 days. A July 10 property check turned up the same vehicles still parked in the driveway, and a \$200 fine was imposed, \$100 per vehicle. A July 15 checkup found another untagged vehicle parked in the driveway, for which a \$100 fine was also imposed per Ordinance Section 6 E, which calls for an immediate fine if the violation is a repeat violation, or one of multiple Clean Lot violations. On July 20, the Code Department received a letter from Mr. McFarland requesting an appeal.

In response to questions from the Council, Code Supervisor Glass and TA Cowles replied that the Code Department cannot be certain that all prior violations at this property were resolved and fines paid, as there was turnover in the code supervisor position and a gap in record-keeping. Further, it could not be determined whether any liens had been filed for this property. The Council noted that absence of background documentation on this case, such as photos of the inoperable vehicles and copies of the certified letters sent to the owner, would have been helpful. They should be provided for future appeals.

Mr. McFarland stated his case. He said that he collects vintage cars and repairs cars as a hobby. Friends and acquaintances frequently drop cars off at this home for repairs. On July 2, one of the vehicles then parked in his driveway, a blue Chevy Camaro, was incorrectly cited for having expired tags. The vehicle is registered. The other vehicle was misidentified as a green Nissan Frontier, but it is in fact brown. He covered the vehicle with a tarp after he received the second citation. The immediate fine imposed on July 15

for an untagged red Pontiac Sunfire occurred shortly after the vehicle was dropped off at his property for repairs. He felt he should have been given some time to comply before a fine was imposed. After receiving this citation, he covered the Sunfire.

The Council asked to see pictures of the expired tags on the Chevy Camaro. Supervisor Glass went to his office to retrieve them. The Council then gave Mr. McFarland permission to fetch registration papers for the Camaro from his home. The code appeal was tabled until their return.

Code Appeal - 8612 60th Place:

The owner of the rental property Rod Schwarz was present to appeal a \$200 fine for an incomplete rental license application. The application lacked a list of tenants and their contact information, insurance information, complete Housing Disclosure Forms and complete Tenants' Rights and Responsibilities forms.

TA Cowles said that the owner had previous rental license violations, including failure to obtain a rental license from August 2013 to July 2014 due to a failed rental inspection, and renting without a valid license from August 2014 to March 2015. Mr. Schwarz objected that the rules of evidence should preclude these facts from being considered in this case. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy agreed and asked to focus only on the current case. TA Cowles said that a new rental license application packet was sent to Mr. Schwarz on May 29, 2015 with the application due by June 30. The application was received late on July 8 and was incomplete. The Town sent the owner a letter on July 15 informing him that a fine has been imposed and detailing the missing information. Mr. Schwarz requested an appeal on July 17 and sent a formal letter to that end on July 24. Mr. Schwarz supplied most of the missing information by August 20, but a list of tenants and contact information was still missing on September 4. The rental home was inspected and passed inspection on August 3. A license was then issued for the com-

ing year.

In response to Council questions, TA Cowles and Supervisor Glass said the Town was not sure how many tenants were actually renting a room and continued to ask for this information. It was pointed out that Mr. Schwarz operated the rental for at least 8 years and should have been aware of what documents were required.

Mr. Schwarz stated his case. He said that he has not memorized the Rental Housing Ordinance and relies on the Code Department to tell him what he needs. He also expressed his frustration in communicating with the Code Department, which has supplied contradictory information, such as a July 17 email notifying him of the imposition of a \$300 fine, and later a \$200 fine. If the fine represents \$100 fines for each missing piece of information, he finds it excessive. He thinks the rental license application package should be considered one document and not a collection of multiple documents, with each missing one carrying a fine.

Further, Mr. Schwarz maintained the wording of the application is confusing when it asks how many rooms are rented. He is renting his whole house, or 6 rooms including the living room, not all of which are occupied by a tenant. In July, only 3 tenants were on the lease and about to move out. One of the 3 was on vacation. During the summer, his rooms turn over as students move out and in. His lease runs from August 1 to July 31, and he had a new group of 3 students move in on August 1, whose contact information he did not have when he applied for the rental license. In late August, two more new tenants were added to the lease, and he supplied their documentation by email.

In deliberations, the Council noted that Mr. Schwarz made some effort to comply and provided updated tenant information by August 20. However, as of last Friday the Town still had not received all required information for the 5 tenants now living in the house. MPT Rasmussen moved and CM Dennison seconded to re-

duce the fine to \$100, provided all required information is supplied by the end of this week. The motion passed 4 to 0. TA Cowles will provide a written form of the decision to Mr. Schwarz. Mr. Schwarz was informed that he may appeal the Council's decision to the District Court within 10 days, in which case the Town has to issue a municipal infraction.

The Council took a 5 minute break.

Code appeal 8917 57th Avenue, continued: Mr. McFarland supplied papers apparently showing that the Camaro registration has not yet expired. Code Supervisor Glass provided photos of the Nissan Frontier and the Pontiac Sunfire without tags. He also said that the VIN number on the registration has been altered. The Council concluded that it cannot make a determination on whether the registration papers match up with the Chevy Camaro without further investigation.

In deliberations, the Council agreed to uphold the fines for the Nissan Frontier and the Sunfire, but to issue no fine for the Camaro, leaving this issue for a possible police investigation. MPT Rasmussen moved and CM Dennison seconded to uphold \$200 in fines. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Code Appeal 8519 63rd Avenue: The appellant, Daniel Johnson, was not present. Code Supervisor Glass explained that Mr. Johnson, the property owner, requested an appeal of an \$800 fine for failure to supply all required information for a rental license renewal that was received on February 6, 2015. On February 10, a \$400 fine was imposed for each missing document: 1) tenant contact information; 2) property insurance information; 3) Rental Housing Disclosure form; and 4) a floor plan of the residence. On March 11, an additional \$200 fine was imposed for continued failure to supply the missing information. Mr. Johnson then requested an appeal. An appeal was not scheduled until July 20, as the Code Department was without a Code Supervisor at the time. This appeal date was postponed at Mr.

Johnson's request. On March 28, an additional \$200 fine was imposed for continued failure to supply missing information. As of September 8, insurance policy information and the floor plan are still missing.

In deliberations, the Council noted that once an appeal has been requested the violation enforcement process is stayed. Therefore, the March 28 fine of \$200 should not have been issued. MPT Rasmussen moved and CM Dennison seconded to reduce the cumulative fines to \$600. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Ordinance 134 - Commercial Clean Lot fine schedule: TA Cowles said that in May the Council amended the Commercial Clean Lot Ordinance, which requires adoption of a fee and fine schedule. Under the old Ordinance, there was no fine schedule. Fine amounts were at the discretion of the Code Director. The average fine amount was \$200 with a limit of \$1,000.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that the fines appear high relative to the residential Clean Lot fine schedule. She would like to see two schedules side by side for a better comparison. She also said that the Commercial District Management Authority (CDMA) should be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed fines. For these reasons, the Council agreed to postpone introduction of the Commercial Clean Lot fine schedule to the October Town meeting.

1. Mayor (continued)

Legislative dinner: The Council confirmed the date for the Town's annual legislative dinner for November 30 to be held at Sir Walter Raleigh's.

MML fall conference attendance: CM Robles confirmed her attendance. CM White will have to check if she can take those days off from work.

Four Cities thank you letter: TA Cowles said that Greenbelt drafted a letter on behalf of the Four Cities to thank the County Council for being responsive to citizens concerns and reducing the permit fees for farmers markets. Councilmembers are re-

quested to review the letter, offer comments, or approve it as is. MPT Rasmussen moved and CM Dennison seconded to authorize Mayor Kulpa-Eddy to sign the letter as is. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Nothing was discussed under **2. Public Safety** and **3. Public Works**.

Ordinance 109 amendments: Clerk Harper explained that this draft of the amended Ordinance merges all amendments made to date into the old Ordinance, where an old struck-through section is followed by a new, or substantially revised section all in caps. In addition, there are several new provisions, highlighted in yellow, the Council has not yet reviewed. They include several definitions in Section 3, and a table specifying the contents of the Statement of Election Results for both machine vote and paper ballot vote.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that she would prefer to introduce the Ordinance at this week's Town meeting without the newest additions, since the Council has not yet discussed them. However, they will be discussed at the next worksession on September 21. MPT Rasmussen said that the Council may want to add a section on the vacancy appointment process, as suggested by Mr. Jewitt. The question was raised whether the Election Ordinance, the Town Charter or the Council Rules would be the best way to address the issue. TA Cowles was asked to consult the Town attorney for advice. It was agreed to introduce the Ordinance without the latest changes.

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

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Town Meeting September 9, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen, Councilmembers Patricia Dennison, Maria Robles, and Lynn White. Also pre-

sent were Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, Chief of Police Kenneth Antolik, Clerk Kerstin Harper and citizens.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Swearing-in of Councilmember Lynn White

Rita Robinson representing the Clerk of the Circuit Court swore in Councilmember Lynn White.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that Councilmember Schreiber resigned unexpectedly on August 21, which started the clock on selecting a new Councilmember within 45 days as mandated by the Town Charter. The Council discussed the vacancy at the August 24 worksession and went into executive session to make a selection. Lynn White was appointed from a pool of well qualified candidates who applied 2 months earlier for the vacancy left by Mayor Calvo's resignation. This allowed the swearing-in to take place at today's Town meeting prior to the 45-day deadline. Mayor Kulpa Eddy welcomed Ms. White on the Town Council.

2. Minutes

Clerk Harper read a summary of the August 12 Town meeting minutes. On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Rasmussen, the minutes were approved 5 to 0.

3. Treasurer's Report

TA Cowles gave the Treasurer's report for the month of August.

4. Mayor's Report

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that the Town is currently looking for a new Town Treasurer and is in the process of accepting applications. It expects to have a new treasurer in place within two months. With CM White on board, she will take on the Public Works Department. The other Councilmembers will continue to head the departments they were assigned after Ms. Robles was appointed to fill former Mayor Calvo's seat. The *Safe Routes to School* sidewalks project, which is funded with a grant from SHA, has been delayed by inadequate qualifications of a subcontractor. TA Cowles

pushed to find out what the reasons for the delay were and helped get the project back on track. The Town expects to have this project finished before winter.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy announced that WMATA is planning to make changes to some of the local bus routes. No changes are proposed for the R12/ R11, which comes through Town on Edmonston Road. However, several Greenbelt routes that serve Beltway Plaza are affected. Residents can weigh in at a September 17 hearing. Christmas in April applications are now available. This charitable organization helps low income residents make minor repairs to their homes. Applications are due on November 1.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy then asked to commence the showing of the Four Cities video that was produced to promote Greenbelt Station as the site of the future FBI headquarters. The video will be shared with the developers and the General Services Administration (GSA), the federal agency making the selection.

5. Department Reports

Administration: MPT Rasmussen said that he is pleased to be the new head of the Administration Department. He noted that he was accidentally recorded signing checks, which was broadcast on the Town's cable access channel. Some residents commented on it. In other news, the emergency generators project is moving forward after the Town renewed County building permits that had expired while the project went through another round of bidding. Construction is expected to begin at the end of September. The Town is still recruiting for a new Treasurer but the position is filled by capable temporary staff. TA Cowles was able to renegotiate the printing and delivery of the Town Bulletin which will result in annual savings of \$10,000. The demolition of condemned properties on 58th Avenue and Cunningham Drive is approaching. The property owners have been served final notice and utilities have to be completely shut off.

MPT Rasmussen welcomed CM White and commented on the appointment process. He said that the Town Charter gives minimal guidance on how a Council vacancy is to be filled, saying only that the Council shall appoint a qualified candidate within 45 days of a resignation. As Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained, CM Schreiber's resignation was sudden and did not leave the Council much time to fill the vacancy. Therefore, it was decided to fill the vacancy from the previous pool applicants rather than restarting the recruitment process. Last night, the Council heard from a resident who expressed concern that the public was not given the opportunity to apply for this opening. While the Council respects his opinion, it believes that its decision was sound and that it was not practical, under the circumstances, to renew the search.

Code Compliance: CM Robles welcomed Ms. White on the Council. She then reported that the Council recently revised the Clean Lot Ordinances. New provisions aim to curb invasive species, particularly bamboo, clarify how inoperable vehicles may be stored, and ensure proper maintenance of accessory structures. In addition, there are changes in the enforcement process, which resulted in a new notification and fine schedule for violations. The Code Department is planning an educational campaign to familiarize residents with the new regulations.

CM Robles gave an overview of Code Department activities, including clean lot fines applied, rental properties licensed, and dumpster and POD permits approved. Further, the Council heard 3 code appeals at the last worksession, which resulted in fines being reduced in all cases.

Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs: CM Dennison reported that several Councilmembers, including herself, attended last night's Hello Huskies back to school event. She then announced upcoming Town events.

Public Health and Safety: Chief Antolik reported that the first day of school went smoothly but he cau-

tioned residents to obey the speed limits and stop signs. He then gave the police activities report for August. There were 10 Part I offenses, all of them larcenies. This is higher than the 5 year average of 5.6. Year-to-date, there were 51 Part I offenses, also more than the 5 year average of 46.6. In addition, the officers issued 180 citations and 210 speed camera tickets, all on Greenbelt Road. In response to Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, Chief Antolik said that larceny is defined as theft from a vehicle. He urged residents to lock their cars and not leave valuables inside.

Public Works: CM White thanked the Council for appointing her to the Council and said that she will give her best to help govern the Town. She continued with the Public Works report, saying that a new bike rack was installed and landscaping done at the school for reopening. Marvin Plummer was named employee of the month for his work on the school grounds. DPW staff also installed more durable crosswalk markers at the school and took online training through the LGIT academy. An old trash truck was listed for sale at a surplus auction website and other assets were identified for auctions. Staff will continue to work on the installation of bicycle infrastructure and signage related to an ATHA bikeway project, and solicits bids for energy efficiency projects related to the Maryland Smart Energy Communities grant.

6. Committee Reports

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness: Co-chair Ron Shane reminded residents that NW/EP will host the first ever nighttime mass casualty drill this Saturday at Berwyn Heights Elementary School. The event is co-hosted with the cities of Greenbelt and Laurel who will bring in their own equipment. The drill will practice emergency protocols and coordination with other first responders. Residents are invited to participate or just come out to watch. Beyond that, NW/EP will help the police patrol on Halloween. The next meeting is on October 7.

In response to questions, Mr. Shane said residents have been informed of the event through the Bulletin and that a light tower will be brought in by the City of Laurel. Residents should not be alarmed by flashing red and blue lights which are part of the drill.

7. Unfinished Business

There was none.

8. New Business

Ordinance 109, Town Council Elections - 1st Reading & Introduction of Amendments: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that the revision of this Ordinance was triggered by write-in candidacies that occurred in the last election due to a shortage of candidates running for Town Council. In the absence of a formal protocol for write-in candidacies, the Council adopted several rules that will now be incorporated as Ordinance amendments. The amendments also incorporate new State election laws, spell out the pre-election process and clarify the duties of the Board of Election Supervisors and Town Clerk. In response to citizen concerns another section on filling mid-term vacancies may also be added, depending on the recommendations of the Town Attorney. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy announced that a hearing on the Ordinance will be held at the October and/ or November Town meetings with the hope of enacting the revised Ordinance prior to the start of the 2016 election season. Residents are invited to comment.

Clerk Harper read the introductory language for the amended Ordinance 109. MPT Rasmussen moved to introduce it and CM Dennison seconded. The motion passed in a 5 to 0 vote.

9. Citizens Discussion

Ron Shane, 57th Avenue, said he thinks the revising and refining of the Clean Lot Ordinance was unnecessary because Prince George's County code already has property maintenance standards (Sections 13, 27 of County zoning code) that could be applied to the Town. Regardless, property maintenance

codes are the primary tools for ensuring quality of life in the community. One important standard, as far as he is concerned, is preventing commercial vehicles from being parked in the Town because they don't belong in a residential neighborhood and bring down property values. He distributed photos of examples of commercial vehicles parked in driveways.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy thanked Mr. Shane for the input but noted that the Town has a different approach to regulating commercial vehicles than the County. She also noted that Councilmembers are participating in the zoning rewrite effort the County is undertaking at this time. The Town wants make sure the future zoning code will produce standards that are compatible with how the Town wants the community to look.

Mike Attick, 62nd Avenue, said that the Volunteer Fire Department and the NW/EP might like to stage emergency drills in the condemned houses when they will be torn down. He hopes the Town might consider the request, or forward it to the proper authority. Further, Mr. Attick expressed reservations about the way CM White was selected. Some residents feel slighted that they learned about the appointment of a new Councilmember in the Bulletin after all was done. He asked if any of the candidates who had applied for the first vacancy were informed of the second vacancy and given a chance to express their interest.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said she believes they were not notified. The Council made the selection quickly because of time constraints and followed precedent when filling the second vacancy from the same candidate pool as the first vacancy. The Council is planning to formalize the process in an Ordinance, Council Rule or the Charter, so that all will know what to expect should another vacancy occur.

Mr. Attick also commented on the painting of a crosswalk at 62nd Avenue and Quebec Street, commended officers for enforcing the stop sign violations at the same location, and

asked where the future emergency generators will be installed. NW/EP is contemplating placing another shed in the rear of the Town Center to store supplies. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that the two generators will be placed on a pad behind the Town office. She does not know if there is enough room to accommodate another shed in the back.

Mr. Attick asked if the police would consider having an officer participate in dog walker training program, which aims to establish a line of communication with residents who regularly walk their dogs and may notice suspicious activities. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said she has discussed the program with the Chief.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk

Draft Minutes Worksession

September 21, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy, Mayor Pro Tem (MPT) Chris Rasmussen, Councilmembers (CMs) Patricia Dennison, Maria Robles and Lynn White. Also present was Town Administrator (TA) Jessica Cowles, and Clerk Kerstin Harper.

1. Mayor

Announcements: CM Dennison's mother turned 90 years old today. Pope Francis will arrive for a visit to Washington tomorrow. Federal employees are encouraged to telework.

Calendar: The date for a fire training workshop at the Volunteer Fire Department was added for October 10. Registration can be made online with Eventbright. December 11 and 18 were identified as possible dates for the employee holiday lunch.

Minutes: On a motion by CM Dennison and second by MPT Rasmussen, the August 24 worksession minutes were approved.

Department reports: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that she attended another zoning rewrite workshop. The rewrite will replace Prince George's County's current zoning code with a simplified and easier to use system. Workshop participants voted on a series of questions to gauge preferences on particular zoning issues. She was surprised that a majority of those present were opposed to community gardens and urban farms. The Town may want to follow this issue to make sure that any new zoning rules do not conflict with the community garden and farming activities already taking place in Berwyn Heights. The first draft module establishing new zoning classes and their associated uses will come out next month. Development and subdivision regulations will be drafted by next spring and processes for dealing with zoning issues next summer. A comprehensive package should be available a year from now.

CM Robles reported the Code and Administration Department is working on a mailer highlighting the most important changes in the recently amended Clean Lot Ordinance and listing fall community events. She continues to talk with Code staff to fully understand Code Department operations and plans to learn the capabilities of the *Comcate* code tracking system. CM Dennison reported that she and two other Councilmembers attended the community garden fest last Sunday, as well as the very well attended Ice Cream Social. Ice cream supplies ran out twice.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that the police have been busy following up on several thefts, and briefly reported on the NW/EP mass casualty drill at the Elementary School. Unfortunately, the Volunteer Fire Department was called away to a major accident on the Beltway and could not participate. CERT volunteers from three cities took care of the 'victims' by themselves.

Citizen comments: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy received a couple comments about rusty brown water coming out of faucets and laundry hoses. She

also received a comment from a resident who is waiting to have a rental license issued to him after going through an application and inspection process last spring. CM White commended Public Works for all their help with the community garden.

Four Cities agenda items: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked Councilmembers for any items they would like to discuss at the October 22 Four Cities meeting in Greenbelt. The following topics were proposed: update on pedestrian bridge repairs; update on the North County animal shelter; and Four Cities video dissemination and marketing plan.

MPT Rasmussen said he would like to know to whom the video is being distributed and what is being done to influence the decision to locate the FBI headquarters at the Greenbelt Metro station. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy thought there may not be that much opportunity left to influence GSA's decision making process. The video has been provided to the developer, who uses it as part of a promotional package. CM White suggested the State delegates be given a copy of the video as they may have some say in the process. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy agreed that the FBI headquarters should be raised with the delegates and believes they will provide the final copy of the video to them when it is available.

Nothing was discussed under **2. Public Works.**

3. Administration

Ordinance 109 revisions: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said this version includes several changes that were not in the introduced version, including clarification on write-in candidates and a new provision on filling Council vacancies, triggered by concerns expressed by a resident at the last worksession about the most recent Town Council appointment.

Clerk Harper explained the latest changes made to the Ordinance. The Council made several changes:

Section 3 - Definitions: Newly defined terms include *Public*

Outreach, Town Clerk, Voting Machine, Voting Machine Vendor, Write-in Candidate, and Write-in Vote. The term *Voter Rolls* was deleted as it is used as an alternative to *Voter Registration List*.

Section 6 F - Write in Candidates: This provision lists the privileges granted to write-in candidates. The privilege of having one's name published in the Bulletin prior to the election was added. This contrasts with the privilege of a regular Town Council candidate to have a brief biography published in the Bulletin for free. The reference to paid candidate advertisements was deleted.

Section 7 C - Statement of Election Results: A table specifying the contents of the Statement of Election Results for machine voting and for paper ballot voting was removed. The detailed content of the Statement is to be included in the election manual instead.

Section 8 - Filling Mid-Term Town Council vacancies: This section was added to clarify the process of filling vacancies occurring in mid-term, based on the Town Charter and the methods for filling vacancies used by the Council in the past. Subsection 8-D addresses the filling of vacancies from the same candidate pool when two vacancies occur in a short interval.

TA Cowles said Town Attorney Shay advises that the process for filling vacancies does not have to be done by amending the Charter but can be dealt with in an Ordinance. He further advises that the 45 day time frame for filling a vacancy relates to the Council's appointment decision. The swearing-in can take place later than 45 days after the occurrence of the vacancy, which would leave more time for selection process. Whether a swearing-in must occur at a Town meeting or not has yet to be found out.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said the

time line for the swearing-in should be addressed the Ordinance because an appointee is not a member of the Council until he or she is sworn in. MPT Rasmussen recommended using the more precise term *appointment* rather than *selection* when referring to the Council's appointment decision, or else define the term *selection*. Clerk Harper was asked to send an electronic version of the Ordinance to the Council for additional editing.

Bikeway route: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said the Council is requested to review the bikeway routes in connection with a grant-funded bikeway improvement project that is in the process of being implemented. Clerk Harper explained that all streets identified as a bicycle route will be marked with 'sharrows,' road markings that indicate shared automobile-bicycle use. Director Lockley recommended using a vendor to apply the sharrows at a cost of \$50 per sharrow, or approximately \$6,000. To reduce the cost, the Council may want to revisit whether 63rd Avenue between Pontiac Street and Greenbelt Road should be part of the project. This section of the route leads to Greenbelt Middle School and does not fit with the overall purpose of the grant of supporting bicycle tourism.

In response to questions, Clerk Harper said that Berwyn Heights' bikeways are designed to be part of the Anacostia Trails system, which connects cities and towns with parks, recreational facilities and public transportation. The East Coast Greenway will also come through town. It will follow a different route but will not be marked with sharrows.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said not many bicyclists use 63rd Avenue. However, there are students who walk to school. If sharrows were added, students would likely have to look out for bicyclists, too. She prefers not marking 63rd Avenue and using the money for some other bikeway amenity. There were no objections. MPT Rasmussen moved and CM Robles seconded to drop 63rd Avenue from the project. The motion

passed 5 to 0.

Bulletin cover: The Council approved the following items for the October Bulletin cover: Halloween theme, announcements for Harvest Fest, Trunk or Treat and Fire Extinguishing Workshop.

Update on Council priority projects: TA Cowles gave an update on the status of FY 2015 priority projects. The priority 1 sidewalks project is almost complete, with the contractor following up on problems identified in the punch list, and the DPW yard to be wrapped up by the end of the week. The Town continues to work with DPIE to obtain a new, revised permit for emergency generators, expected to be completed within two weeks. Then the contractor will be able to pull the electrical permits and begin construction of the generator pads. The Safe Routes to School project is awaiting SHA's written approval of the grant awards package. When received, the Town will sign the contract and construction can begin. The demolition of two condemned properties will take place once Pepco and Washington Gas turn off their utilities. WSSC has shut off the water.

With respect to FY 2016 priority projects, TA Cowles has received four proposals from human resources consultants for a study of the Town's personnel functions and is doing background checks on the two low bidders. Consultants for redesigning the Town website have been identified and recommendations will likely be presented in November. Preliminary research has been conducted to identify consultants and determine the scope and cost of the Urban Forest Initiative. An economic development study will probably not be tackled until next spring. MPT Rasmussen suggested it may be better to wait with launching this project until it is known whether the FBI headquarters comes to Greenbelt. Another wild card is the County's zoning rewrite, which may affect economic developments prospects along the Route 193 corridor.

Urban Forest initiative: MPT Ras-

mussen said the Town has an Urban Forest Ordinance on the books that empowers a Shade Tree Board to manage trees. However, the Board has been defunct for many years, and a new vision needs to be developed for implementation of the Town's Tree City, USA designation. He believes this should encompass a more systematic management of trees on Town property and, in to a limited extent, on private property. This may include a permit process for removing trees above a certain size. Related policies would be codified in a revised Urban Forest Ordinance, with a reconstituted Shade Tree Board overseeing implementation. A consultant is proposed to lead the Council, Green Team and residents through the visioning and planning process. The Council is requested to give direction on how to proceed and whether an action plan for implementing the Urban Forest initiative is desirable.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said she thinks an action plan is needed and that MPT Rasmussen and TA Cowles should continue to work on it. An action plan would also be useful for giving input on upcoming State legislation regarding Pepco's tree trim-

ming activities. MPT Rasmussen said another threat to mature trees is disease and invasive plants, which also calls for a comprehensive approach to managing the urban tree canopy. The Council agreed for MPT Rasmussen and TA Cowles to develop an action plan.

4. Code Compliance

Ordinance 134 fine schedule: TA Cowles said the Council amended *Ordinance 134 - Commercial Clean Lot* in May and now needs to set fees and fines conforming to the revised Ordinance. Most fines are \$200 for a first violation and \$400 for a repeat violation. The exception is violations that constitute an immediate treat, which must be corrected more quickly and carry higher fines. Violations posing an imminent threat are fined at \$400 and \$800 respectively, and hazards are fined at \$300 and \$600 respectively. Any violations related to inoperable, junked vehicles or vehicle parts also carry a \$300 fine and repeat violations a \$600 fine, as they are a particular nuisance for adjacent property owners.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that most fines are in line with fines charged in the old Ordinance 134, except those

posing a particular safety risk and a nuisance to neighbors. In response to CM Robles, TA Cowles said that the revised Ordinance relies on standards for commercial properties set forth in Prince George's County zoning law. With no further comments, the Council agreed to introduce the resolution at the next Town meeting.

Nothing was discussed under 5. **Parks and Recreation, and 6. Public Safety.**

7. Executive Session (9:30 p.m. - 9:54 p.m.)

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that the Council will review the performance evaluations for department directors in closed session. She asked Clerk Harper to check whether the town administrator is supposed to be present when his or her evaluation is discussed. She believes the recently adopted *Ordinance 121 - Executive Powers & Duties* may permit the town administrator to be present. (Clerk Harper advised that Ordinance 121, nor any other formal policy, directly addresses the issue of the town administrator's presence for her evaluation)

On a motion by CM Dennison and second by CM Robles, the Council went into executive to discuss the evaluations. With matters discussed CM Dennison moved and CM Robles seconded to end the executive session.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Kerstin Harper, Town Clerk



A Hearty Thanks to all the Good Folks who Advertise in the Berwyn Heights Bulletin this Month:

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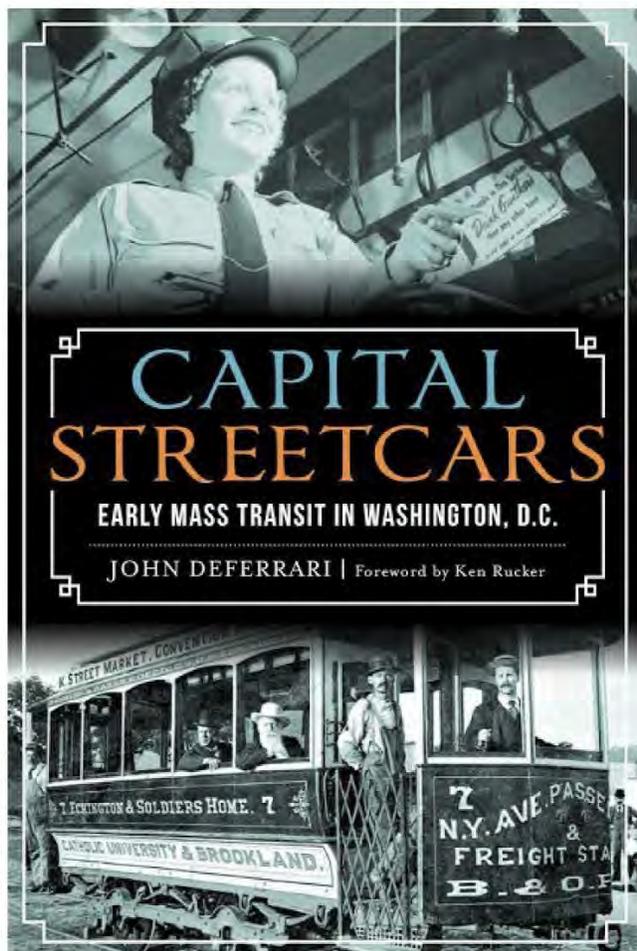


The Berwyn Heights Historical Committee

Fall Wine & Cheese Event
Sunday, November 8, 2015

2:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Town Center (5700 Berwyn Rd, Berwyn Heights MD 20740)



John DeFerrari, author of the blog Streets of Washington, and of two previous books, *Lost Washington* and *Historic Restaurants of Washington DC* will give a presentation and sign his new book, *Capital Streetcars: Early Mass Transit in Washington, D.C.* (\$21.99)

We invite those who are interested in working on events and projects to our monthly meetings. **You don't have to be a historian or researcher to join us!** — just a Town resident who wants to have fun giving back to their community! The BHHC meets at the Town Office on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING
November 24.



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

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





Berwyn Heights GreenBee



The **GreenBee** is your monthly guide to tips and resources from the Green Team! **If you'd like to share your ideas—or join our email list—please email us at bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com**. Our next meeting will be **Thursday, November 19 at 7:00 p.m.** at the Town Center—all residents are welcome to attend!



Town Clean Up Day!

Saturday, November 7, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Free pizza & drinks will be provided to all volunteers at 12:00 Noon!

Students can earn community service hours!

Come beautify our town and help the environment by volunteering on Saturday, November 7 from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to help clean up litter around town! Not so sure it's for you? Here are some reasons to join:

- Your community needs you! Trash is quite visible in our small town. A litter doesn't degrade quickly; an aluminum can takes hundreds of years to degrade and a plastic bottle more than a thousand. If we don't dispose of trash properly it will still be here for our great-great grandchildren.
- It's a great excuse to get some fresh air and exercise while doing something positive for our town.
- You'll feel good—picking up litter is surprisingly rewarding. It's satisfying to see a clean, rubbish free space.
- You'll help discourage further littering. Studies show people are less likely to litter in areas that are well-kept.

You'll see your neighbors and maybe make some new friends, and your efforts will make a BIG difference.

Registration will begin at 10 a.m. at the Town Center. Participants should wear pants, long sleeves, and closed-toe shoes. We will provide instructions and distribute clean-up supplies, (safety vests, rubber gloves, trash bags, and pickers).

For more information contact Tim Tormoen at totormoen@yahoo.com.

Community Garden Celebration Highlights

We're glad that many community members were able to make it to our September community garden celebration! In addition to yoga for gardeners, crafts for kids and other activities, attendees voted for various awards for the garden plots—see below for the list of winners!

Most Pollinators Seen in the Garden: Trinity Tomsic/Therese Forbes, Plot 30

Most Colorful Garden: Joanna Shaulis, Plot 13

Most Creative Garden: Helen Anastasi, Plot 27

Best use of Garden Space: Lannie Lam, Plot 14

Most Unusual Plants: Lannie Lam, Plot 14



Recreation Council *Events and Updates*

Town Clean-Up Day Help beautify our town!

The Berwyn Heights Recreation Council is seeking volunteers to help clean up litter around town and at Indian Creek.

Saturday, November 7, 2015 from 10 AM-12noon, event begins and ends at the Town Center.



Participants should wear pants, long sleeves, and closed-toe shoes. We will provide instructions and distribute clean-up supplies, (safety vests, rubber gloves, trash bags, and pickers). **Free pizza/drinks will be provided to all volunteers from 12-12:30 PM!**

Why join? Your community needs you! Trash is quite visible in our small town. A not-so-fun fact, litter doesn't degrade quickly; a can takes hundreds of years to degrade and a plastic bottle more than a thousand. If we do not dispose of trash properly it will still be here for our great-great grandchildren. Your efforts will make a BIG difference. **Students can earn hours for community service!**

ALSO, have you heard? Staples offers free recycling of small electronic appliances (computers, printers, cell phones, etc.) and shredding for 99 cents a pound.



Holiday Party and Tree Lighting

Join us in the wonderful traditions of making holiday crafts, singing carols, lighting the tree, and visiting with Santa, while Phil Ventura entertains us with his accordion.

Saturday, December 5, 2015, 6:00–8:00 PM at Berwyn Heights Senior

Center. This event is free and includes fun for the whole family☺

- 6–7 PM Crafts
- 6:30 PM visit with Santa Claus
- 7:15 PM Tree Lighting

Apple cider, hot chocolate & holiday treats will be served! **ALSO, please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy for the Marine TOYS FOR TOTS Foundation. Donations will also be accepted at the Town Office leading up to the event!**

For more information on any of our FREE events please contact:

Tim Tormoen, totormoen@yahoo.com.

Next meeting will be held November 3, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Town Center.

curbside leaf collection }



**Curbside leaf collection begins Monday, November 2
and ends Wednesday, December 30, holidays excluded.**

The leaf collection program is one of the biggest challenges for your Public Works Department. It means staying ahead of Mother Nature's blend of falling leaves in large volumes, rain washing leaves into the streets and possible blankets of snow covering leaf rows. Early season snow severely hampers our leaf collection effort.

Residents who prefer to rake and bag their leaves for pickup may do so using brown paper lawn bags only. Bagged leaves will be picked on yard waste collection days.

Reminders . . .

- Please rake your leaves to the curb or to an existing sidewalk, but not into the street.
- Do not mix loose leaves with sticks, rocks, trash or debris, as they can damage the leaf vacuum machine.
- Do not mix loose leaves with brush or branches. They are collected and disposed separately on yard waste collection days.
- Do not park cars in front of or near leaf piles, as this hampers access by the leaf machine and makes it difficult to collect the leaves.
- Please be advised that the leaf crew may not return to your address until two weeks later if your leaves are not set out in advance and in the proper format.

Questions or Comments . . .

For additional information regarding the curbside leaf collection program please contact the Department of Public Works at 301-474-6897 Monday - Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or via e-mail at publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA



****THANK YOU!****

The Walkathon was a sensational success! Thank you to the entire Berwyn Heights community for your generous support and contributions! The donations are still trickling in and we will post a final tally soon.

The students had a wonderful day walking to the lake and back. The money raised will enable the PTA to provide lots of extra opportunities for our students.

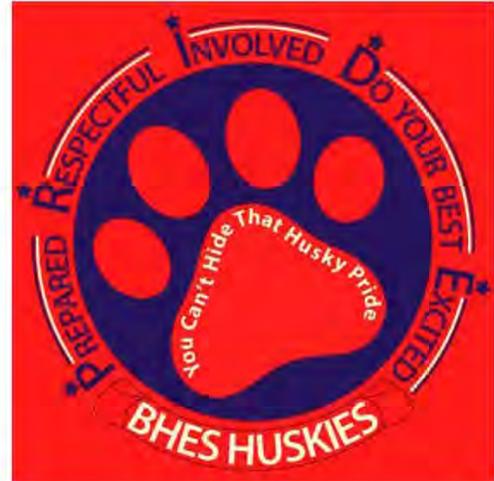
Thank you to BHES' awesome kids who make it all worthwhile!

Thank you to all the parents who took time out to walk with us!

Thank you to the teachers and administrators who allow us to disrupt an entire school day every year.

Huge thank you to the local businesses who contributed. A full listing of the businesses who supported the Walkathon will be included in next month's bulletin.

Thank you to the volunteers without whom the Walkathon would never happen: first and foremost, event chair Kristen Buker, as well as Georgina Stark, Zainab Kamara, Becky Lower, Cathy Groen, Sibylle Stosch-Most, Nadeen Ashkar, and Craig Ostovitz.



Upcoming Events

Monday, November 2

No School –
Grading/Teacher Planning

Tuesday, November 10

PTA Meeting in the library
6:45pm

Wednesday, November 11

No School –
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Friday, November 13

First Quarter Report Cards
Released

Wednesday, November 25-

Friday November 27

No School –
Thanksgiving



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN THE PTA!

Membership is \$12/person or \$20/family. Visit the PTA web site at www.BHESPTA.org.

Like us on Facebook (search for **Berwyn Heights ES PTA**)!

Follow us on Twitter **@BHES_PTA**.

Email **president@bhespta.org**



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:

Sept 1st- Truck 14 responded to the 8600 Blk of Cipriano Springs Ct in Greenbelt for the townhouse on fire.

Sept 5th- Squad 14 extricated two trapped patients from an accident at Greenbelt Rd and Kenilworth Ave in Berwyn Heights.

Sept 14th- Squad 14, Truck 14, Ambo 14B & Chief 14B (Keirnan) extricated three trapped patients from an accident on the Greenbelt Rd / Kenilworth Ave overpass in Greenbelt.

Sept 22nd - Truck 14 operated in the 9000 Blk of 48th Place in College Park for the working house fire on the 2nd floor of the home.

Sept 25th- Truck 14 operated in the 3800 Blk of Kenilworth Ave for an electrical fire in a warehouse.

Sept 26th- Squad 14, Ambo 14B & Chief 14B extricated a trapped patient after the vehicle crashed into a tree on Walker Dr/Capitol Dr (near TGI Friday's) in Greenbelt.

Oct 3rd- Squad 14 & Ambulance 14B extricated several patients after a crash Kenilworth Ave/ Pontiac St in Berwyn Heights.

Oct 9th- Squad 14 extricated a trapped driver from an overturned vehicle in after a crash at University Blvd/Baltimore Ave in College Park.

Oct 11th- Squad 14 operated on a house fire in the 11600 Blk of Old Baltimore Pike in Beltsville. The volunteer crew searched and assisted in extinguishing the fire that fully involved the 2nd floor of the house. Ambo 14 remained staffed at the station.

Oct 12th- Squad 14 & Chief 14 (McCoy) were alerted to the 2000 Blk of Powhatan Rd in Hyattsville on the Fire Task Force to assist units on scene of a working house fire.

Oct 12th- Squad 14 & Chief 14 (McCoy) extricated several trapped patients from a multi-vehicle accident on the OL of I-495 / I-95 split in College Park.

Kitchen Safety on Thanksgiving (and year round!)

Thanksgiving Day is one of our Department's busiest days of the year, as we usually respond to dozens of cooking-related emergencies. Give our volunteer firefighters a break and follow these simple fire safety tips while preparing your family's meal:

- **Oven Fire? Keep the oven door closed!** This will contain the harmful smoke and help prevent the fire from spreading to the rest of the kitchen.
- Keep a small ABC Fire Extinguisher handy to help knock down stovetop fires that may ignite.
- Don't leave cooking food unattended! This is the leading cause of kitchen fires.
- Keep anything that can catch fire - potholders, oven mitts, wooden utensils, paper or plastic bags, food packaging, or towels- away from your stovetop.
- Stay alert! To prevent cooking fires, you have to be alert. You won't be if you are sleepy, have been drinking alcohol, or have taken medicine that makes you drowsy.
- Replace old or worn oven mitts to prevent burns.



**COOKING
#1 CAUSE OF
HOME FIRES**

**PUT A LID
ON STOVETOP
FIRES**

Fund Drive 2015 still in Progress!!!!

The Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department would like to remind our neighbors that our annual 2015 Fund Drive mailers have been mailed out to each address in Town. Each household and business in Berwyn Heights will receive a Fund Drive packet that includes instructions on how to donate to support your town's volunteer fire department. **There will be no door-to-door or phone solicitors collecting on behalf of BHVFD for the Fund Drive this year. Starting this year:** You can donate online! Visit us at BHVFD14.org and click on the "Donate" button to support BHVFD using PayPal (that takes a %). Also remember us on Amazon Smile!

Station 14 Call Volume: Sept. 2015

Rescue Squads:	179
Ladder Truck:	35
Technical Rescue Support Unit:	4
Ambulance:	163
Total Station Runs for September:	379

**REMEMBER: OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FUNDRAISER SALES STARTS AFTER THANKSGIVING!
SEE DETAILS IN DECEMBER BULLETIN & OUR WEBSITE BHVFD14.ORG**



BERWYN HEIGHTS SENIORS CLUB

“Celebrating more than 30 Years in Berwyn Heights”

The best therapy in the world is time out with your friends. The Senior Center is open from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. Drop in and meet your neighbors, have a good laugh or two, and a cup of coffee or a soda.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

- November 2 Gayle Hillery
- November 5 Marilyn Dillon
- November 13 Zyrnie Eley
- November 14 Ray Smith
- November 26 Judith Gardiner

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| November 3 | Bingo | 12:30 P.M. |
| November 4 | Wii Bowling | 10:30 A.M. |
| November 5 | Pool Night | 7:00 P.M. |
| November 10 | Meeting & Bingo | 11:00 A.M. |
| November 11 | Wii Bowling | 10:30 A.M. |
| November 12 | Pool Night | 7:00 P.M. |
| November 14 | Pot Luck & Movie | 5:00 P.M. |
| November 17 | Bingo | 12:30 P.M. |
| November 18 | Wii Bowling | 10:30 A.M. |
| November 19 | Pool Night | 7:30 P.M. |
| November 24 | Meeting, Pot Luck,
Bingo | 11:00 A.M. |
| November 25 | Wii Bowling | 10:30 A.M. |
| November 26 | Pool Night | 7:00 P.M. |

Other Happenings

November 24 (Tuesday) — We are hosting the Maintenance Department for lunch.

November 26 (Thursday) — Pool Night. It **may be** cancelled due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

December 8 (Tuesday) — Xmas Party!

December (to be announced) — Trip to Brookside Gardens.

For information on these and other events/trips, please call the Senior Center at 301-474-0018

Wii BOWLING LEAGUE

Wednesdays at 10:30 A.M.

Come watch or join.

You will have FUN and LAUGHS.



Come break a rack on Thursday nights at 7:00 P.M.



REDSKIN FANS ALERT

WE ARE WATCHING ALL 1:00 P.M. GAMES ON THE BIG TV. COME JOIN US!



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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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IN-TOWN REFERENCES

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- 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!**





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 Theresa Beck at 301-237-2829 (beck_theresa@yahoo.com) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881

Berwyn Heights Playgroup

For Preschoolers and Younger



Come join us for a play date and get to know other parents in the community while our children play!

Mondays 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Indoors at Town Center if Cold or Rainy

Playground Rotation: 1st & 3rd Monday of month - Indian Creek Playground
2nd & 4th Monday of month - Pop's Park

Please contact Jaime Sampson (Sampson.jaime@gmail.com) for more information and to be added to the group's listserv.



Shauna Aurich

REALTOR

Direct: 301-343-7370

**“Working hard so
you don’t have to”**

Did you know?

Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday celebrated in the United States as a day of giving thanks for the blessings of the harvest and the preceding year. Several other places around the world observe similar celebrations. Although it has its historical roots in religious and cultural traditions, it has long been celebrated in a secular manner as well. Thanksgiving is a holiday that all in America can celebrate with family & friends. Wishing you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving.

Did you also know ...

I am thankful for all those who have trusted in me to help them with their real estate needs. While I have been in the real estate business for over 10 years, I have lived in Berwyn Heights my entire life and I’m here for you and only a phone call away. I can help you buy or sell homes and make your real estate experience so easy that you will have more time for family & friends all year long!

If you would like to know the value of your home or looking to purchase a new home please call me.



SHAUNA AURICH
Long & Foster Realtors
301-343-7370 - Direct
301-441-9511 - Office
Shauna@LNF.com - Email

Current Listings:

- 7316 Edmonston Rd, College Park
- 7305 Baylor Ave, College Park
- 8405 58th Ave., Berwyn Heights



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





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 Email sharonells@Lnf.com • www.sharonmccraney.com



November is the month to remind us to be thankful for the many positive things happening in our lives.

Join the Tiny House revolution: Big living in small spaces. Whether your home is small, cluttered or you're thinking of "right sizing", here are some tips to join the revolution!

- Ditch small appliances in your kitchen, (blender/toaster/micro wave- yes even the micro wave) How often do you use these?
- Clean out 1 closet a weekend & donate or take items for recycling at a local consignment shop.
- Start in 1 bedroom and take everything out, then get rid of unnecessary items, put back 75% or less.

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS
- NATIONWIDE WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- HELP WITH STAGING
- 18 YR R.E. EXPERIENCE/TOWN RES.
- LICENSED IN MD & DC

*****LISTED or SOLD by SHARON THIS MONTH*****

Under Contract-5909 Natasha Dr- 4 BR, 2 BA rambler.
 Available- 5803 Berwyn Rd- 3BR, 2.5BA rambler w/ FP \$294,900.
 New Listing-5717 Pontiac St- 4BR 2 BA rambler \$277,500.
 New Listing-6030 Westchester Park Dr- 2Br 1 BA 2nd fl condo \$129,900.
 Reduced-5613 Osage St- 4 BR, 2 BA split foyer \$289,900.

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



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MHIC #84145

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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.

Berwyn Heights Residents. If you need your grass cut. Call for free estimate. After 4:30pm. Jeff 301-474-5803.

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 cleanout, 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.

Childcare: Miss Debbie, the Mary Poppins childcare provider of 29 years in B.H. is ISO another family. Will play, read, color, do puzzles but no heavy housework as your child is more important. Will also watch children on weekends and evenings. Call (301)345-7622.

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 angelazo1@hotmail.com.

Loving, Licensed Child Care: (CDA) credentialed in BH. M-F 6:30 AM to 5:30 PM. Ura Daley, 301-313-9131.

Piano Lessons: In your home! Former PGCPs music teacher, experienced private teacher. \$27 per half-hour lesson. Call Ms. Liz: 240-601-2825.



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Boys & Girls Club

President: Shinita Hemby 202-531-6066

Soccer Commissioner: Jason

Papanikolas 240-338-5191

Baseball Commissioner: Ronnie

Compton 301-345-2661

Tee Ball Commissioner: Jim Hudson
301-982-2052

Basketball Commissioner:

Kristen Buker 240-965-7055

Cheerleading Commissioner: Kristen
Buker 240-965-7055

Ball Hockey Commissioner: Kevin

Conover 301-441-1569

Track Commissioner: Jeff Osmond

301-474-2737

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness/CERT

Co-Chair Ron Shane 240-965-7022

Co-Chair Joan Hayden 301-474-5037

Historical Committee

Kerstin Harper 301-474-5000

Kerstin.harper59@gmail.com

Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

Playgroup

Jaime Sampson

sampson.jaime@gmail.com

Quilter's Club

Lois Williams 301-345-6214

Recreation Council

Tim Tormoen

tormoen@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

Theresa Beck 301-237-2829

beck_theresa@yahoo.com

JOIN THE BERWYN HEIGHTS

YAHOO GROUP

And stay on top of everything...

<https://groups.yahoo.com/group/berwynheightsmd>



POLICE BEAT

Includes crimes and accidents that occurred during the month of **September 2015**. 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.

09/05/2015 at 8:50 pm, Cpl. Roberson responded to the area of Greenbelt Road at 60th. Avenue for a report of property damage.

09/07/2015 at 11:33 pm, Sgt. Moroney impounded a 2003 Saturn from the 8900 block of Edmonston Road. The vehicle left the roadway and bottomed out, causing a small fire to the vehicle. The driver fled the scene.

09/08/2015 at 8:49 am, Pfc. Krouse impounded a 2010 Volkswagon from the location of Pontiac Street at 63rd Avenue. The tags had a pick up order from MSP.

09/08/2015 at 4:00 pm, Pvt. Ramirez responded to the 5900 block of Greenbelt Road for a report of theft of a wallet from a 2009 Hyundai. Victim stated that she was at the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road and later noticed that her wallet was missing from her car.

09/09/2015 at 12:13 pm, Pvt. Ramirez responded to the 5800 block of Ruatan Street for a report of a 16 y/o, w/m being disorderly and maliciously destroying his home.

09/10/2015 at 9:32 am, Pvt. Ramirez responded to the 5700 block of Nevada Street for a report of a theft of a bicycle. The bicycle is described as a 'Mongoose' men's bike, black and yellow in color.

09/11/2015 at 7:00 pm, Cpl. Roberson responded to the 5700 block of Berwyn Road for a report of a scam. Suspect called a 68 y/o, w/f, about unpaid back taxes.

09/12/2015 at 8:15 pm, Sgt. Moroney responded to the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road for an attempted robbery complaint. An unknown black male assaulted a 49 y/o, h/m next to an ATM machine.

09/13/2015 at 8:00 am, Pfc. Ignowski impounded a 2000 Nissan from the location of Greenbelt Road near 60th. Avenue. The vehicle was disabled after an accident.

09/17/2015 at 9:56 pm, Pvt. Holloway responded to the 5700 Block of Quebec Street for a report of a burglary. The perpetrator broke the glass window from the kitchen door. It is unknown at this time what items were taken.

09/19/2015 at 1:00 pm, responded to the 8500 block of 60th. Place for a misuse of a 911 call. Caller called 911 to complaint about his former girlfriend.

09/20/2015 at 10:35 am, Pfc. Ignowski impounded a 2001 Jeep from the parking lot of the 7-11 on Greenbelt Road. The vehicle was left abandoned.

09/21/2015 at 7:20 am, Pfc. Ignowski responded to the 5900 block of Osage Street for a report of vandalism to a 2001 BMW. Victim stated that a former friend may have vandalized his car.

09/23/2015 at 10:35 am, Pvt. Ramirez impounded a Honda that was parked where WSSC was doing construction and impeding the work. The vehicle was towed from the 5600 block of Ruatan Street.

09/24/2015 at 9:12 am, Pvt. Ramirez responded to the 8900 block of 60th. Avenue for a report of theft from a Chevy Truck. Tools were taken from the truck.

09/24/2015 at 6:01 pm, Pvt. Hollowell responded to the 6200 block of Ruatan Street for a damaged property report.

09/24/2015 at 10:40 pm, Pvt. Hollowell impounded a 2015 Acura from the 8800 block of Cunningham Drive. The driver of the vehicle was 16 years of age and unlicensed.

Advertising Rates		
For the		
Berwyn Heights 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



OUTAGES & EMERGENCIES

English Speaking

(877) 737-2662
Downed Wires, Burning Wires or Life-Threatening Situations

(877) 737-2662
Power Outages, or 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/>

After Business Hours:

NON-EMERGENCY POLICE DISPATCH PHONE NUMBER

301-352-1200

Tell the P.G. County Dispatcher the nature of your problem; specify that the on-duty Berwyn Heights Police officer respond to your call.

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

CODE NEWS: WOOD STORAGE

As fall and winter season is approaching, residents may plan to store fire wood in their yards. Ordinance 107 - Clean Lot permits the storage of fire wood, but requires that it be done in a manner that prevents rodent and insect infestations. Wood should be stacked at least 6 inches above the ground. Please contact the Code Compliance Department with any questions at 301-513-9331.



CLEAN LOT VIOLATIONS	SEPT.
High Grass/ Vegetation	25
Tree Parts/ Yard Waste	6
Animals	1
Trash/ Litter	34
Refuse Collection	16
Vehicles	21
Miscellaneous	36
Commercial	3
Total Clean Lot Violations	177
Abatements	0
Permits	
Building	7
Dumpster/ PODs	4
Violations	7
Rentals	
New Rentals	1
Lost Rentals	2
Total Rentals	199
Inspections	21
Re-inspections	1
Fines	4
Vacant Homes	
New Vacant Homes	3
Lost Vacant Homes	0
Total Vacant Properties	34

BERWYN



LAWN CARE^{CO}

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301-580-1264

BerwynLawnCare@gmail.com

Since 1988, we have been privileged to serve many local communities. Now residing in Berwyn Heights, we offer the following services for both Residential & Commercial:

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- * DESIGN & INSTALL
- * PLANTING & SEEDING
- * YARD CLEAN-UPS
- * HEDGE TRIMMING
- * LEAF REMOVAL
- * GUTTER CLEANING & MORE



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- Treatment for Grinding
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6201 Greenbelt Road, Suite U-5
Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
DrLinchuck.com**



Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee



BE PREPARED AND STAY SAFE THIS WINTER: WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT SNOW

If you shovel your own snow, have your tools and supplies handy: **shovels, snow blowers, and rock salt should be ready before the season.** If you hire someone to do the job for you, make those arrangements early.

Per Prince George's County Code, you are required to **remove snow and ice from sidewalks adjacent to your property within 48 hours** after snow has fallen or ice has formed.

If you know of a neighbor who is unable to shovel snow or remove ice from their sidewalks, please do the neighborly thing and try to help out.

If you have a driveway, park in it. This protects your car from being splashed by salt spray, becoming plowed in, or being struck by a skidding vehicle. The more cars off the street, the better the job Public Works can do clearing the streets.

When shoveling, **do not throw snow into the road** - it will only be re-deposited when the snowplow comes around again. Also, a patch of snow or ice on a clear road can be a hazard.

Be Careful!

Remember, snow shoveling is hard work.

- **Don't overexert yourself** and strain muscles that aren't used to strenuous exercise.
- If you have a history of heart trouble, do not shovel without a doctor's permission.
- Lift with your legs bent, not your back. Your shoulders, torso and thighs can do the work for you.
- Also, be aware of cold injury, hypothermia (loss of body heat), and the effects of frostbite.

And don't forget... please help our firefighters by clearing the fire hydrant in your yard/public right-of-way near your home. **Clear a 3 foot radius around fire hydrants.**



Download the 'Maryland Prepares' Mobile App

Be Prepared, Be Informed

The **MARYLAND Prepares** mobile app, created by the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, provides important information and tools to help Maryland residents be more informed and prepared for emergency situations. The free app is available for iPhone® and Android™ devices.



Join us the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Town Office



VETERANS DAY

November 2015

Town of Berwyn Heights Monthly Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 7:00 PM Worksession	3 7:30 PM Rec. Council Meeting Town Office	4 7:30 PM. NW/EP Meeting Town Office	5	6	7 10:00— 12:00 Town Wide CleanUp
8 2:00 PM BHHC Veterans Day Reception Town Center 	9 	10 	11 Veterans Day Town Offices Closed	12	13	14
15	16 7:00 PM Worksession	17 	18 8:00 PM Town Meeting	19 7:00 PM Green Team Meeting Town Center	20	21
22	23 	24 7:30 PM BHHC Meeting Town Office	25	26 Thanksgiving Town Offices Closed—No Trash Pickup	27 Thanksgiving Holiday Town Offices Closed	28
29	30 	Dec. 1 7:30 PM Rec. Council Meeting Town Office	2 7:30 PM. NW/EP Meeting Town Office	3 7:00 PM. Rec. Council Meeting Town Office	4	5 6:00 PM Tree Lighting Town Center
	THE STREET SWEEPER WILL NOT VISIT BERWYN HEIGHTS DURING NOVEMBER. PLEASE DON'T LITTER OUR STREETS.			Recycling Collection Yard Waste North South	 North South Bulk Pick-up 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@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Public Works Department (301) 474-6897
 Email: publicworks@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 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

Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 jkulpaeddy@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Mayor — Public Safety/Health

Christopher Rasmussen (612) 432-0710 crasmussen@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Mayor Pro Tem — Administration

Patti Dennison (301) 404-2759 pdennison@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Councilmember — Parks and Recreation, Education and Civic Affairs

Maria Robles (301) 455-9299 mrobles@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Councilmember — Code Compliance

Lynn White (240) 351-7813 lwhite@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 Councilmember — Public Works

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@town.berwyn-heights.md.us
 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.berwyn-heights.com>; Follow us on Twitter @BerwynHeightsMD

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

Or email: yodoi@town.berwyn-heights.md.us

Submission deadline is the 15th of the month by 12:00 noon!

Helen Van Doren, Design & Layout