



# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

APRIL 2023



*Hello*  
**APRIL**

**April 1: Stormwater Fair 10AM-12PM**

**April 15: Invasive Species Pulling Event 10AM-12PM**

**April 30: Porch Concerts 1-4PM**

Some content inside provided in Spanish and English

Algunos contenidos internos se proporcionan en español e inglés.



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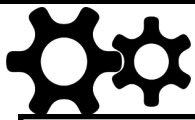
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# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

**Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 8:30am:** The Prince George's Beautification Committee will be holding the County's Arbor Day tree planting and ceremony at Francis Scott Key Elementary School (2301 Scott Key Drive, Capital Heights, MD 20743). Feel free to come join with County agencies, neighbors and students and join in this year's tree planting site. Public Works Director Brad Pudner, who is a member of the Committee will be attending to represent the Town.

## Berwyn Heights Day Preparations

As we prepare for Berwyn Heights Day, Public Works has begun taking inventory of supplies and preparing for the big event.

## Street Sweeping

The next time the Four Cities Streetsweeper will be in town is the week of May 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.

## Recycling Reminder: No plastic bags in recycle bins!

Help us correctly sort our recycling. Please remember that the County recycling facility does not accept any plastic bags. Please do not bag up your recycling. Just place recyclable items loosely in your blue recycling can.

**Viernes 28 de abril, 8:30 am:** El Comité de Embellecimiento de Prince George llevará a cabo la siembra de árboles y ceremonia del Día del Árbol del Condado en la escuela primaria Francis Scott Key (2301 Scott Key Drive, Capital Heights, MD 20743). Unase a este evento, participe y acompañe a agencias del condado, vecinos y estudiantes en el sitio de siembra de árboles de este año. El Director de Obras Públicas Brad Pudner, miembro del Comité, asistirá para representar a la ciudad.

## Preparativos para el Día de Berwyn Heights

Mientras nos alistamos para el Día de Berwyn Heights, Obras Públicas ha comenzado a hacer el inventario de suministros y está preparándose para el gran evento.

## Barrido de Calles

La próxima visita del Barrendero de las Cuatro Ciudades en nuestra ciudad será la semana del 1 al 5 de mayo

## Recordatorio de reciclaje: ¡Las bolsas de plástico NO van a los contenedores de reciclaje!

Ayúdenos a clasificar correctamente los materiales reciclables. Por favor, recuerde que el centro de reciclaje del condado no acepta bolsas de plástico. Por favor no meta en bolsas sus materiales para reciclar. Sólo deposite los artículos reciclables sueltos en su bote azul de reciclaje.

## Advertising Rates for the Berwyn Heights Bulletin

TERM	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT
<b>EIGHTH (1/8) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$30.00	\$36.00
6 Months	\$162.00	\$192.00
12 Months	\$230.00	\$336.00
<b>QUARTER (1/4) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$50.00	\$72.00
6 Months	\$270.00	\$384.00
12 Months	\$384.00	\$672.00
<b>HALF (1/2) PAGE</b>		
1 Month	\$100.00	\$144.00
6 Months	\$540.00	\$768.00
12 Months	\$768.00	\$1,344.00
<b>FULL PAGE</b>		
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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Get alerts when a meeting agenda has been posted at

[www.berwynheightsmd.gov/town-council/pages/watch-council-meetings](http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/town-council/pages/watch-council-meetings)

## Worksession Minutes February 6, 2023 | 7:00 pm

### Call to Order

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:05PM. Also present were Mayor Pro Tempore Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. The staff present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen.

### Approval of the Agenda

CM Hemby moved to approve the agenda. CM Menjivar seconded. In discussion, MPT Brittan-Powell asked to amend the agenda to include the items he sent by email to Council in the afternoon, highlighting the Stormwater and Floodgate programs, and an item regarding Black History Month. CM Papanikolas stated that he didn't have an objection to the addition, but wondered if the informative items could be covered in MPT Brittan-Powell's departmental report, leaving the only additions to the agenda to be the Stormwater and Floodgate programs, to be added under Administration. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy voiced her concerns that adding significant items at the last minute does not give residents time to decide on their participation in a meeting based on already published content.

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to amend the agenda to add the Stormwater and Floodgate programs under Administration. CM Papanikolas seconded. The motion passed 3:2 with MPT Brittan-Powell, CM Menjivar, and CM Papanikolas in favor with Mayor Kulpa-Eddy and CM Hemby opposed.

### 1. Mayor

#### a. Announcements

There were no announcements.

#### b. Calendar

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that Berwyn Heights will host the Four Cities Coalition meeting on July 27, 2023. She also asked Council if there were any concerns about Berwyn Heights signing on to a Four Cities letter to WMATA regarding concerns about increased fares and decreased services along the Green Line. There were no objections. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the upcoming PGCM meeting on February 23, 2023. CM Papanikolas asked about planned attendance at the next Rec Council meeting to avoid a quorum situation. TC Friesen reviewed that there is a disclaimer in the Bulletin that a quorum may be present at Community Organization meetings but that no action will be taken by Council at any community meetings.

#### c. Budget Discussion: Enhancement/Capital Improvements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy introduced that budget discussions will occur at most meetings between now and May. ITM Jones shared a document that had some of the enhancements requested by Department Directors. He briefly reviewed those requests and stated he asked Directors to tell him what they need to succeed and that then they will have

a discussion on the ability to accommodate those requests. MPT Brittan-Powell shared an extensive list of wants that have been requested by the community over the years, mostly in the areas of PRECA and from the Walkable Bikeable Berwyn Heights task-force. CM Papanikolas reminded the Council that for potential road projects it is evaluated if sidewalks would be cost effective in that area. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that the bus bench on Edmonston and Pontiac that was lost in a car accident should be replaced, and to determine if the insurance would cover the cost. There was brief discussion on if there are ways to encourage the two ballfields (Sports Park and Pontiac Field), owned by Park and Planning and PGCPs, to be renovated, with CM Papanikolas noting that it is likely time for the Use Agreement for the Pontiac Field to be renegotiated. ITM Jones stated that he will work with Department Directors to be reasonable in their requests and determine what is feasible for the Town. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for Councilmembers to work with Directors of the Departments with which they liaison. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if Council needed to consider a Charter Amendment regarding the ability to move funds between departments during a fiscal year. Council reviewed the upcoming budget calendar. CM Papanikolas asked about working on the ARPA budget. CM Hemby asked about the purpose of the Vehicle Reserve Fund and was informed that its purpose is to fund vehicles for all the departments, based on the anticipated life of a vehicle. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about when salaries will be discussed, with discussion of departmental increases instead of across the board increases. CM Papanikolas suggested asking for the pay tables of neighboring communities of similar sizes, such as Edmonston, Brentwood, and North Brentwood.

#### d. Vehicle Reserve Fund: Staff Report

ITM Jones reviewed for Council that the Vehicle Reserve Fund is much smaller than expected and shared about the reconciliation on the account done by Town Treasurer Lightfield. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that the Treasurer's Report has consistently stated that there has been around \$400,000 in the account, but that expenditures were not being consistently recorded and the Town has not been backfilling the account. She shared that she believes that the reserve policy change in March of 2022 may have inadvertently changed something with how the account operated. She also reviewed that the money that was in the account for the new trash truck did not disappear but was returned to the general fund (savings) account. There was discussion on if this would be an audit finding. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that Ordinance 185D will be modified to reflect the money for the trash truck will be coming from the General Fund checking account. CM Papanikolas briefly explained the type of accounting around the Vehicle Reserve Fund and how this reconciliation is different than other reconciliations. ITM Jones stated he will try to get a more detailed presentation for the Council from TT

Lightfield.

#### e. Town Manager Search: Staff Report

ITM Jones stated that the search for a consultant to conduct the Town Manager search has begun. There was discussion on the variety of places to post the RFP for a consultant. Council discussed the value of having an outside consultant vs doing the search internally. MPT Brittan-Powell shared that there is community concern that this should be done by a committee of Town residents as opposed to a consultant and reiterated that this option should be given consideration. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that they will have a voice in the process, as a committee composed of residents has participated in the interviews for Town Managers in the past and that is the plan for this search. CM Papanikolas stated that the Council has only looked to the leadership of Town Organizations in the past to staff this committee and that bears reevaluating. CM Hemby also expressed that the resident panel for interviews should be representative of the Town, not just the leadership of Town Organizations.

#### f. A/V Installation Update: Verbal Staff Report

TC Friesen gave an update on the AV system, stating that the update installation is complete, but that staff are now in the process of learning how to use the new system.

#### g. Resident Comments

There were no resident comments.

#### 2. Public Works

CM Menjivar thanked the crews down at Public Works for a successful leaf collection season.

#### 3. Administration

MPT Brittan-Powell mentioned an addition to the Town calendar: on February 25th at 2:00PM, a group of African American residents are hosting a Black History Day for the Town. He shared that he is impressed with the preliminary membership of the group, which spans the generations. He asked about the status of the Council training on parliamentary process. TC Friesen stated that they have a parliamentarian available once Council has chosen a date. He also asked about the status for community feedback on the budget. CM Papanikolas stated that he hasn't had any time to work on that. MPT Brittan-Powell asked for a more rigorous, on-going accounting of the Town's ARPA spending. He also asked Mayor Kulpa-Eddy about the status of the Police Station project. She replied that she is working on a report and will have a presentation soon. MPT Brittan-Powell reviewed conversations on affordable housing that were held during the Four Cities meeting. He stated that there is a disproportionate cost to law enforcement owned units as opposed to owner-occupied homes, as well as increased Code Compliance issues. He also asked

for an update on the progress of having conversation with WSSC regarding sewage backup on Cunningham.

a. Flood gate Grant program (amended agenda item)

Council took a break between 8:40-8:45pm to review the documents that MPT Brittan-Powell distributed at the meeting. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked how there are 22 "Town identified" homes listed as she's not seen this list despite repeatedly asking for it. She asked who identified those specific homes. The list was not created as a result of the flood survey, but rather CM Menjivar visited some of the homes with MPT Brittan-Powell and they compiled the list. MPT Brittan-Powell shared that he gave ITM Jones the list of homes. Council discussed some fine tuning on the application for the program and ITM Jones will send it to the Town Attorney for review.

b. Stormwater Mitigation Program (amended agenda item)

MPT Brittan-Powell stated that the program does not currently allow renters to apply but Rockville's program does by having the landlord sign a release allowing the tenants to complete the work. There was discussion on liability and responsibility if permits are not obtained or if a renter does not comply with Code. CM Papanikolas stated that many questions could likely be answered by reviewing Rockville's landlord/tenant release agreement. ITM Jones asked if Council needed to vote on an application. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy would like to bring this back at another worksession to have answers to the questions. CM Papanikolas requested that all feedback be shared by Monday, the 13th in order for this to be a part of the agenda on the 21st of February.

4. Code Compliance

CM Hemby stated that she has received several complaints regarding neighbor-to-neighbor disturbances. She asked that residents communicate with their neighbors about parties and generally be considerate when hosting events. She asked that if residents are unable to communicate with neighbors to contact Code Compliance or to call 911 if necessary. She reviewed the status of the student volunteer program and asked Council to consider a \$5,000 scholarship to be given to the student with the greatest number of volunteer hours. MPT Brittan-Powell asked her to confirm that the possibility of a scholarship wouldn't negate the volunteer hours required by schools and encouraged conversation with Greenbelt which has a similar program.

5. Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs

CM Papanikolas stated that February is Black History Month and that the theme this year is "Black Resistance". He shared about a podcast he has been listening to that highlights stories of resistance that are less commonly known, and there are many opportunities to learn and explore the histo-

ry of Black Resistance. CM Hemby expressed appreciation for CM Papanikolas for looking beyond slavery as there are many facets to the history of African Americans.

a. Additional Community Committee Members Discussion

CM Papanikolas stated that there are two community organizations that are looking to add to their official membership. BHHC would like to add Brittney Jacoby and the Green Team would like to add Tom Capon. There was a brief review of their biographies. Their confirmation will be added to the February 8 Town Meeting agenda.

MPT Brittan-Powell asked about the possibility of re-funding the PRECA administrative position. There was discussion about that and possibility of funding it through APRA for the next couple of years.

6. Public Safety

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed attending the PGCMA meeting on January 19th and highlighted a few items including a presentation on increasing employment for disabled residents of the County and rent stabilization. At the Four Cities meeting on January 26th there was discussion about a regional ban on plastic bags and she would like the Green Team to reevaluate the proposal. Lastly, she mentioned attending the Prince George's State Attorney's Office "Municipal Retreat" on January 27th where there was a discussion on county-wide crime trends and legislative priorities. She also highlighted a new Senior Property Tax Credit that will begin to roll out in April. This program will have both web and paper application processes. She reviewed the requirements, especially that applications will need to be received by October 1, for Seniors to be considered for that tax year.

7. Adjournment

CM Hemby moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Papanikolas seconded. After no discussion the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:29PM.

## Town Meeting Minutes : February 8, 2022 | 7:00 pm

Call to order:

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar, and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Also present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen. Residents of Berwyn Heights were present as were Heather McComas and Sean Patrick Hughes from Crown Castle.

Pledge of Allegiance

1. Announcements

\* Black History Month Proclamation

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read the Black History Month Proclamation.

CM Papanikolas shared about the upcoming resident-lead Black History Month event on February 25, 2023, at 2PM in the Town Center.

2. Approval of Agenda

CM Hemby moved to approve the agenda. CM Menjivar seconded. In discussion CM Papanikolas moved to amend the agenda to allow Ethan Sweep, Community Liaison to Congressman Glenn Ivey, to give a short presentation and to allow Chief Antolik to make introductions of the new police officer. He proposed adding these items before the Crown Castle presentation. CM Hemby seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

3. Public Hearing Ordinance 185D: An Ordinance to Amend the FY2023 Budget to pay for the trash truck ordered in FY2022.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the purpose of this Ordinance is to move funding from General Fund Checking to the FY2023 General Fund for the trash truck that was ordered during FY2022 but was delayed due to supply chain issues and is now ready for delivery. She opened the hearing at 7:07PM. There were no public comments and the hearing closed at 7:09PM.

4. Ethan Sweep, Community Liaison for Congressmen Glenn Ivey (amended agenda item). Mr. Sweep stated that the Representative's office (1529 Longworth) is here to help and serve constituents. He highlighted that their Grants Newsletter is coming out soon and will have information on Federal and Community Project Grants, though they are awaiting guidance on the application process for the latter. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the redistricting that occurred as a result of the 2020 Census, which moved Berwyn Heights from Steny Hoyer's District 5 into District 4. MPT Brittan-Powell inquired about the committee assignments of Congressman Ivey. Mr. Sweep shared that Congressman Ivey is on the Homeland Security, Judiciary, and Ethics Committees.

5. Chief Kenneth Antolik, Introductions (amended agenda item) Chief Antolik shared that the Department has a new intern joining the team for the spring, Diego Silva, and shared a brief biography of Mr. Silva. He introduced the new Police Officer, Ms. Rebecca Portillo and shared her biography. Ms. Portillo shared that she has been a Town resident for over 20 years and will be starting at the academy in April and looks forward to serving the Town soon.

6. Crown Castle Small Cell Presentation Heather McComas, Director of Network Permitting from Crown Castle along with Counsel Sean Patrick Hughes shared that Crown Castle owns and operates the nation's most robust and comprehensive communications infrastructure, including towers, small cells, and fiber cables. Ms. McComas shared that Crown Castle provides 68% of the coverage for Prince George's County. She gave comment to the variety of services that small cells will enhance. It is anticipated there will be a demand for 800,000 small cells nationwide by 2026. Berwyn Heights has been identified as a need area by one cellphone carrier.

er and Crown Castle is seeking permits to put in 5 small cells. Ms. McComas spoke to the impact that small cells have on the digital divide, healthcare, economics, and safety. She shared images of the type of equipment they are proposing to install on PEPCO owned poles through an established process with PEPCO.

Council asked questions of Ms. McComas about maintenance, about employees involved in maintenance, as well as if there are any potential downsides, and if Crown Castle had any programs to help low-income residents receive assistance in connectivity.

#### 7. Consent

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the consent agenda and asked for a motion to approve. MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve. CM Papanikolas seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously 5:0.

#### 8. Mayor & Councilmember Reports

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that she gave a detailed report on her recent activities at the Worksession on February 6th. She added that the Council is working on the FY24 budget and wants resident input to consider at the March 4th Budget Worksession. She highlighted that the January 2023 Police Department report has a new data table for the automated redlight camera at 58th Avenue and Greenbelt Road. She further explained about the new signage, the requirement to come to a complete stop before turning right on red, and that a violation will result in a \$75 citation.

MPT Brittan-Powell highlighted some changes in Administration, including hiring ITM Jones and the mostly complete A/V update. He encouraged resident input in the budget process that will take much of Council's time during the next several months. MPT Brittan-Powell shared some of the minutia involved in the budget process.

CM Hemby highlighted the new and upcoming program for teen volunteers, to help students earn service credit hours while helping the community. Additionally, she hopes to add a scholarship to be awarded to students with the greatest level of involvement.

CM Menjivar reported that the restoration of Edmonston Road is a little bit closer. He received some good news but is still waiting for a start date. He stated Public Works is concentrating on cleaning up public spaces from the storms of last summer in addition to their regular duties.

CM Papanikolas stated that most of his report will be done during Committee Reports, but he wanted to share again about his personal hero on Black Resistance Homer Plessy and encouraged residents to seek out the lesser-known stories of resistance.

#### 9. Committee Reports

a. Education Advisory Committee: There is no report for the EAC as they remain inactive.

b. Green Team: The Green Team is meeting next week, February 16th. On April 1st from 10AM-12 Noon they will be holding a "storm water fair". On April 15th, they will be removing invasive garlic mustard from parts of Town.

c. Historical Committee: Chair of the Historical Committee Debby Steele-Snyder shared that during their last meeting they had talked about putting a display out front of Town Hall, but if the Town Hall is to be renovated, they would delay working on something that would likely have to be removed during any renovation. She also spoke about the self-guided walking tour of Town and ways to make the maps available in person and via QR code once the tour is updated. Ms. Steele-Snyder gave an update on the April 16th event which will be held from 2-4PM with Dr. Richard Bell, a local author and professor of History at UMD. He will be giving a presentation on his book "Stolen", about free African Americans who were taken off the streets of Philadelphia and sold into slavery. He will be bringing a limited number of signed copies to the event. She added that she has had some difficulty getting an accounting for the Committee from the Town Treasurer and there have been some issues that need to be addressed. They are preparing for Berwyn Heights Day. The next meeting will be February 22nd at 7:30PM in the G. Love Room. She shared about attending the inaugural "1856 Project" symposium at the University of Maryland. She also shared about a movie being held at the Greenbelt theater, titled "The Bell Affair", which is about Maryland families suing for their freedom from slavery.

d. Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy mentioned the shredding event that was held and reported on how residents found out about the event. Most saw it in the Bulletin, but word-of-mouth, yard signs and social media were also noted. She shared there will be some kind of class, perhaps first aid and Narcan or AED/CPR training, in the spring. The next meeting will be March 1st in the G. Love Room.

e. Recreation Council: CM Papanikolas shared about the upcoming International Potluck. He also shared about challenges with the Berwyn Heights Day parade as College Park is hosting a parade that same day. The Rec Council is looking to put together a music group for people interested in playing instruments with others. Ms. Steele-Snyder added that the Rec Council is always looking for volunteers, even for just one event.

#### 10. Old Business

a. Ordinance 185D: Second Reading: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy once again reviewed

the purpose of the ordinance is to fund the trash truck ordered in FY2022. CM Hemby moved to adopt the ordinance. CM Menjivar seconded. In discussion, MPT Brittan-Powell expressed that he believes this to be a good decision. The motion passed unanimously, 5:0. CM Papanikolas moved to waive the reading of the ordinance. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

#### 11. New Business

a. Emergency Ordinance 185D.1, Introduction and Adoption

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy explained that due to the 20 day waiting period for a budget amendment ordinance to become effective, this emergency ordinance will make the funds available immediately, but will expire after 90 days and is a stop gap measure to pay for the trash truck. CM Papanikolas moved to adopt Emergency Ordinance 185D.1. CM Menjivar seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

b. Community Organizations Adding Membership: Green Team and Berwyn Heights Historical Committee

CM Papanikolas asked the Council to approve additions to the membership of the Green Team and Berwyn Heights Historical Committee. Mr. Tom Capon has been recommended to join the Green Team and Ms. Brittney Jacoby to the BHHC. He shared brief bios of each. Ms. Jacoby was available in person and shared that she is excited to join the committee and be a part of community events. CM Hemby moved to add the new members to the committees. CM Menjivar seconded. The motion passed unanimously, 5:0.

#### 12. Resident & Community Comments

Debby Steele-Snyder encouraged parents to help their students get their service hours for graduation during Middle School as it is more challenging to find the time to do so in High School.

#### 13. Adjournment

CM Papanikolas moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5:0. The meeting ended at 8:31PM.

### Worksession Minutes February 21, 2023 | 7:00 pm

#### Call to Order

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Staff present were Interim Town Manager Peter Jones and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen. Councilmember Faustino Menjivar had an excused absence. Also present were residents of the Town of Berwyn Heights.

## Approval of the Agenda

MPT Brittan-Powell discussed the process for adding items to the agenda, as he had submitted items that were not included but will discuss them during his departmental report.

CM Hemby moved to approve the agenda. CM Papanikolas seconded. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

## 1. Mayor

### a. Announcements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that CM Menjivar had an excused absence. She reported out on the Executive Session held on February 14, 2023, from 5:25PM to 6:48PM. All Councilmembers were present as was ITM Jones. The meeting was closed under General Provisions Article §3-305(b)(3), to consider the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and matters directly related thereto. The meeting was closed with a vote of 4:1 with MPT Brittan-Powell opposed. There was discussion of several possible locations to house a permanent Police Department as well as possibly providing space for other Town activities. The Council voted 4:1 (MPT Brittan-Powell opposed) to send a "Letter of Intent", indicating that the Town would like to negotiate a contract for a particular property.

MPT Brittan-Powell announced that he has filed an Open Meetings Act complaint, as he believes that most of this meeting should have been a public session. He expressed feelings of frustration and his perception that this was lacking transparency.

There were no further announcements.

### b. Calendar

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that beyond the current Town calendar, there is a PGCMA meeting on Thursday February 23, 2023, in Laurel that she plans to attend. She asked ITM Jones about the budget listening sessions. ITM Jones shared that there will be two listening sessions later in the week with one on Friday, February 24, 2023, and another on Saturday February 25, 2023. The purpose of these sessions is to create space for residents to voice their input into the FY2024 budget planning process. These will be advertised via signs outside the Town Offices and on social media and the Town Website. Council set March 21 and 23, 2023 as additional listening sessions, possibly setting those up in Council Chambers so that they can be hybrid meetings. There was discussion about the upcoming budget worksession on March 4, 2023, as TC Friesen is mostly unavailable during that time. TC Frie-

sen shared that she will be able to help out in the morning but will need to leave before noon.

### c. ARPA Funding Update

ITM Jones shared an expenditure document reviewing the accounts that have had funds allocated. There was some discussion about the purpose of each line item. The Council pointed out that the University of Maryland School of Public Health collaboration has not been funded and that the AV upgrade, and the BH Emergency Assistance Fund are not ARPA expenditures.

MPT Brittan-Powell discussed the status of the project with the SPH. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that she sent a list of five items that the Council identified in January but she does not know what the SPH is doing with those. MPT Brittan-Powell stated he believes that it is the Town's responsibility to do the next steps. ITM Jones will follow up with the SPH during the week.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy identified some items for discussion. She expressed that the expenditures for residential and business support are higher than currently reflected as there are new pending applications, and that these will all likely deplete the funding. CM Papanikolas stated the expectation was that what was not spent in FY22 would roll over into FY23, so the amount available for residential and business relief should be \$60,000 instead of \$40,000. He suggested moving money from the existing line item for non-profits providing housing and food support to the line item for direct residential/business relief. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed his concern about transparency. CM Papanikolas stated that is why he suggested moving funds from line items that have similar goals. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed his opinion that the Town should be consistent with the original understanding that relief would be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. CM Hemby expressed her support on moving funds to the line item for direct support from the line item for non-profits. She clarified the way that the funds for the business grants have been expended. MPT Brittan-Powell indicated that there is still a desire to see food programs in Town. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed that ARPA Funds should really go to residents who need support. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for ITM Jones to make the corrections and updates to his spread sheet and bring it back to Council.

There was discussion regarding transparency regarding the budget. The March 4th Budget meeting will cover both ARPA and General Fund budgets.

ITM Jones stated that he does not believe that the Grants Manager position is required and that it could all be handled in-house. CM Papanikolas stated that a new duty the Council is looking for is the outreach portion of the position. Discussion

led Council to determine that the position should be re-labeled as a Community Outreach Specialist and re-advertised.

Council discussed PRECA needs. TC Friesen reviewed a couple of software options to help with grants management.

Council discussed the storm water/flooding line items and ways to go forward on those projects, including outside resources such as the Army Corps of Engineers, and identifying what other infrastructure and County resources are available to the Town. There was disagreement on what the Town needs to do with the County in regard to the latest stormwater study and will need to seek clarification. The watershed study will encompass the entire Town. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if there were any other questions or suggestions.

d. Budget Discussion: ARPA Funding Allocations: combined with the previous discussion.

e. Resident Comments:

There were no resident comments.

## 2. Administration:

MPT Brittan-Powell asked for Council to consider expanding the Town's Microsoft Office Package to the full suite, or at the very minimum to add Project and possibly Access. There was some discussion about the cost. He also expressed a desire to schedule trainings and education utilizing the trainer recommended by the Maryland Municipal League.

### a. Residential Flood Gate Relief Program

MPT Brittan-Powell shared an updated flood gate program application. CM Hemby asked why the application appears to have a section missing (jumps from section 3 to section 5). There was discussion on what was removed and moved to other areas, and the numbering issue will be fixed. CM Hemby asked about the income level question on the application to ensure all residents, regardless of income, will have access to a gate. CM Papanikolas replied that those who are not income-eligible for ARPA payment will be funded out of the Town's General Fund. Council discussed consistency between sections, having each section indicate "property owner" instead of applicant. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy and **ITM Jones indicated that they have a meeting the following day with WSSC regarding backflow preventors.**

### b. Residential Stormwater Mitigation Grant Program

MPT Brittan-Powell stated that if you need more than one flood gate, you could apply for this program to get more. There was discussion regarding the requirement that the mitigation work must be completed before applying. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated there had been concern about residents who may struggle to pay for things upfront. There was



discussion on the bullet points on the application and ways to clarify which points are for projects pending and which are for projects completed. CM Papanikolas suggested that Council provide feedback before February 24th, so that there could be a rewrite and have the application sent to the Town Attorney for review by March 3rd with the aim to have a March 10th launch. MPT Brittan-Powell pointed out that this “hold harmless agreement” is different from our standard as it was copied from Rockville, and he highlighted some of the differences. There was discussion about the inspection portion of the “hold harmless agreement” and if there were staff that were qualified to conduct such an inspection. It was decided to leave that portion in the “hold harmless agreement”, as it is basically an inspection verifying completion, not evaluating the quality of work. ITM Jones noted the historical preservation portion and is going to request that the Town Attorney take a special look at that portion.

### 3. Code Compliance

CM Hemby noted that the Code Compliance office is not the police department and is here to help you stay safe, not to turn anyone in. She reported hearing discussions on social media about the County allowing chickens in R55 zones, but wanted to let residents know Berwyn Heights is zoned RSF65 and chickens are still not permitted in Town. She highlighted that business licenses are only at 60% compliance and since license renewals were due in June 2022, the Town will begin to turn non-compliant businesses over to the County. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if notice will be sent before reporting these businesses. CM Hemby stated that she will seek clarification on that. CM Hemby asked that residents who have an idea or club they are interested in seeing created, to send those to CM Papanikolas, adding that she will be sending her own ideas to CM Papanikolas (an adult soccer club).

### 4. Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs

CM Papanikolas stated that MPT Brittan-Powell has talked with him about some activities. He stated Ordinance 113 guides how new groups in the community are formed. He is working with the Rec Council to formalize a process for it, since things were relaxed during Covid. If you have ideas, come to the Rec Council, but be prepared to help implement your ideas. He reminded all Town Organizations that they are to send a delegate to the Rec Council meetings, reminding them that they get to vote. He hopes to see everyone there.

### 5. Public Safety

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that there will be a Black History Month Celebration Brunch sponsored by the Cornerstone Grand Council of Masons (with appreciation to the Town and to the Berwyn Heights Karate Club) on February 25 from 2-5PM. She shared about the Maryland Mayors Association Conference that she attended last week. There was an update on State Legislative Priorities, Cybersecurity, Economic Development and Emergency Response as well as training on First Amendment Audits and Advocacy. She met with State Senator Washington and Delegates Healy and Williams and was told that our third delegate will likely be Ashanti Martinez who hosted a meal give-away in Town after the storms of last summer. He is awaiting appointment by the Governor. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the potential State legislation regarding police accountability boards and the legalization of cannabis, and further reviewed several bills that are of interest to the Town, including SB229 on the use of noise abatement monitoring systems and HB353 which permits the use of monitoring systems to record violations of traffic control devices (e.g. stop sign cameras). SB813 is the Flood Management Grant Program which would give \$20 million for Counties and Municipalities to deal with flooding, setting aside 40% of the funding for underserved and overburdened communities. This bill had a scheduled hearing on Thursday, February 23rd. HB313 would give \$50 million statewide for the construction of public school stadiums. This was discussed as Parkdale High School has need of athletic fields, with a senate version having a hearing on March 8th. She asked for general consensus on the drafting of letters of support for these bills, particularly the Flood Management Grant Program and the public school athletic stadiums.

### 6. Public Works

There was no Public Works report.

MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he forgot to mention to CM Papanikolas that young adults are often overlooked in Berwyn Heights and reported that the organization “Bark Social” is looking to open a facility in either Greenbelt or College Park and may be open to operating a mini-park in Town. CM Papanikolas asked for contact information so that he could explore the options available.

### 7. Adjournment

CM Hemby moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Papanikolas seconded. With no discussion the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:16PM.





## Ethics Commission Application, 2023

Print your name: -----

Print your address: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your email: \_\_\_\_\_

Provide best phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirm your eligibility:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ I am a resident of the Town of Berwyn Heights.
- I am registered to vote in Maryland/ Town of Berwyn Heights.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do not currently hold an office in the government of the Town of Berwyn Heights.
- I do not currently have an immediate family member, who is a Town Council member or Town employee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am not affiliated with a current Town Council election campaign.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I do not currently do business with the Town of Berwyn Heights.

**Indicate any prior service on an Ethics Commission:**

\_\_\_\_\_ State and/or County                      When and where \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Town of Berwyn Heights              When \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ None

**Indicate additional qualifications:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I have previously served in local government in the following capacity: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ In addition to English, I am fluent in the following languages: \_\_\_\_\_

**Read the fine print** (see page 2 for description of Ethics Commission mission):

- My **Statement of Interest** is filed with this application (see page 2).
- I am available to review the financial disclosures of Town Council candidates after their papers are filed on the first Tuesday in March in an election year.
- I am available to review the financial disclosures of Town staff after they are filed on April 30 of each year.
- I am available to meet with the Ethics Commission when needed.

**Your Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to: Melanie Friesen, Town Clerk, Town of Berwyn Heights, 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 by March 31, 2023 (extended to April 14, 2023).

**Office Use:**      Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_      Assigned: Yes ---- \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_



## Ethics Commission Applicant Statement of Interest

**Applicants to the Ethics Commission should have an interest in and knowledge of ethical standards and local government or willingness and ability to acquire such knowledge. Please explain briefly (3-5 sentences) why you want to serve on the Berwyn Heights Ethics Commission.**


**Your Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name, Printed:** \_\_\_\_\_

The Berwyn Heights Ethics Commission consists of 3 resident members appointed by the Mayor for a term of 2 years. The Commission is charged with ensuring the ethical conduct of Town elected officials and staff as set forth in [Ordinance 110 – Ethics](#), as amended January 11, 2023. To that end, the Commission shall:

Annually review the financial disclosures of elected officials, candidates for elected office and certain employees;

Issue advisory opinions about the applicability of Ethics Ordinance provisions to persons subject to it;

Issue findings regarding ethics complaints brought before the Commission;

Annually certify the Town's compliance with State ethics requirements to the State Ethics Commission; and

Determine whether changes to the Ethics Ordinance are required.

The Ethics Commission is counseled by the Town Attorney.

**Town of Berwyn Heights  
FY2024 Proposed Budget  
General Fund**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Proposing increased real property tax revenue, utilizing FY2023's real property tax rate of \$0.545 cents per \$100 property value and an increase in overall property valuations. By maintaining the same real property tax rate, with increased property assessments Town-wide, the Town will yield an additional \$112,309 in real property tax revenue next fiscal year.

Due to the nation experiencing high inflation the past two years (6% and 7%, respectively), the Interim Town Manager is proposing an across the board 2% COLA for staff.

Recommending the use of General Fund Reserve \$\$\$ to pay for staff salary increases.

The Red Light Camera program has been added, which will show on the Revenue and Expenditure sides.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) recommended expenditures include: Purchase of a building for a police station; purchase of at least one police vehicle; purchase of three Public Works vehicles; stormwater mitigation equipment/flood gates; community engagement worker; UMD School of Public Health project; continued emergency assistance for residents and businesses.

**RATES OF TAXATION**

**Real Property Tax (RPT).** Real property taxes is a significant component of the General Fund and the Road Repair Fund. The RPT will remain at **\$0.5450 per \$100 of assessed valuation** and is expected to yield \$2,195,935 (General Fund - a 4.15% increase over the FY2023 amount of \$2,108,400). The Road Repair Fund will also see an increase: \$127,929 (estimated FY2024) versus \$122,000 (FY2023), a 4.86% increase.

**Personal Property Tax:** The Personal Property tax also pays into the General Fund and the Road Repair Fund. For FY2024 the rate will be **\$1.475 per \$100 of assessed valuation**. The income expected to be generated during FY2024 is \$254,272, a 11% increase over the amount yielded during FY2023.

**Income Tax.** The Town has not established its own income tax rate. The Town receives a portion of monies generated from the State of Maryland income tax and the Prince George's County income tax.

**Refuse and Recycling Collection Fee:** This is a **\$90** annual fee for each residential dwelling unit, including rental property.

**Estimated FY2024 Revenues**

<b>Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Real Estate Taxes – General Fund	\$2,195,935
Real Estate Taxes – Road Repair Fund	\$127,929
Personal Property Taxes	\$239,879
Personal Property Tax – Road Repair Fund	\$14,393
Income Tax	\$450,000
Refuse and Recycling Collection Fee	\$97,945
Licenses and Permits	\$146,100
Intergovernmental (includes Highway User fee)	\$251,303
Service Charges (Pedestrian Bridge Replacement)	\$100
Fines and Forfeitures	\$160,000
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$84,900
General Fund Balance (Transfer from Reserves)	\$80,100
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE EST.</b>	<b>\$3,848,584</b>

**General Fund: Cont.****Estimated FY2024 Expenditures****Account****Amount**

General Government (Mayor&Council, TownAdmin, MuniBldg, TownCenter)	<b>\$ 541,126</b>
Public Safety (Police Dept. & BHPD/Misc.)	<b>\$ 941,400</b> (2.13% increase from FY2023)
Code Compliance	<b>\$ 92,285</b> (1.15% increase from FY2023)
Public Works (Public Works Bldg., Streets/Sanitation, Street Lighting)	<b>\$1,011,423</b> (15.5% increase from FY2023)
Parks & Recreation	<b>\$51,150</b> (27.4% increase from FY2023)
Cable	<b>\$26,200</b> (No change from FY2023)
Miscellaneous	<b>\$732,800</b> (1.83% increase from FY2023)
Capital Projects – Operating	<b>\$352,200</b> (53.39% decrease from FY2023)
Capital Projects – Reserve	<b>\$0.00</b> (No change from FY2023)
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$3,848,584</b>

**Fiscal Year 2024****Proposed Public Safety Taxing District Budget**

The Public Safety Taxing District (PSTD) was created under the authority granted by the state of Maryland to enhance public safety. Berwyn Height's PSTD encompasses the commercial and industrial properties in the commercial district, as defined in Ordinance 123.

The PSTD provides the Berwyn heights Police Department with resources to finance capital and operating costs for one Police Officer to strengthen public safety in the commercial district.

The Town of Berwyn Heights benefits from one of the lowest crime rates in Prince George's County through enhanced visibility for crime prevention and deterrence. Continued PSTD funding helps to facilitate the safest possible environment for Berwyn Heights' residents, businesses and visitors.

The FY2024 PSTD proposed budget increases the current tax rates of \$0.66 per \$100 of the assessed value on real property to \$0.71, and \$0.15 per \$100 of assessed value on business personal property.

See the table below for detailed information on the revenue and expenditures proposed for FY 2024.

**PSTD REVENUES**

Acct. #	Account Name	FY2023 Adopted	FY2023 Actuals (As of 1/31/2024)	FY2024 Proposed
310-600	-Real Property Taxes	\$61,000	\$58,373	\$61,000
310-601	-Personal Prop. Taxes	\$30,500	\$14,870	\$30,500
301-100	Fund Balance – Adopted Budget	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,615

**Total: PSTD Revenues      \$91,500      \$73,243      \$96,115**

**PSTD EXPENDITURES**

Acct. #	Account Name	FY2023 Adopted	FY2023 Actuals (As of 1/31/2023)	FY2024 Proposed
	Personnel	\$79,900	\$48,943	\$84,015
	Expenses	\$5,400	\$2,471	\$5,700
	Benefits	\$6,200	\$6,200	\$6,400



## Registration is open for our Spring 2023 Track Program.

*La inscripción comienza este mes para nuestro programa de atletismo de primavera de 2023.*

**Please register online at**

We need coaches!

Please consider volunteering to help coach or manage a team!



Necesitamos entrenadores!

¡Considere ofrecerse como voluntario para

**The Berwyn Heights Boys & Girls Club welcomes children of all skill levels and abilities and currently offers a Track program for ages 4 & up.**

*El Club de Niños y Niñas de Berwyn Heights da la bienvenida a niños de todos los niveles y habilidades, actualmente ofrecemos programas de atletismo para niños de 4 años en adelante.*

**Interested in becoming a member? Have suggestions or ideas? Looking to volunteer?**

*¿Interesado en ser miembro? ¿Tienes sugerencias o ideas? ¿Quiere ser voluntario?*

**Contact us at:** [info@berwynheightsbgc.org](mailto:info@berwynheightsbgc.org)

**Follow us on Facebook!** [www.facebook.com/berwynheightsbgc](https://www.facebook.com/berwynheightsbgc)

## Berwyn Heights Day **FUN RUN** May 6<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am

Bring the whole family for an enjoyable run/walk around Lake Artemesia with post-race refreshments!

Registration and race begins at the Town Center and will proceed to nearby paths

**Registration begins at 8:00 am**

**Cost is \$10.00 per adult town resident, and \$5.00 per child 13-17 and \$2.00 12 and under.**

**Strollers are free, \$15 for non-town residents.**

*All registrants receive a t-shirt designed by resident Angie Wolfinger(while supplies last)*

Please make checks out to the Town of Berwyn Heights



---

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE (if under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SHIRT SIZE (PLEASE CIRCLE) CHILD 8-10 14-16  
ADULT S M L XLXXL

**QUANTITIES LIMITED AND DISTRIBUTED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS  
WAIVER – MUST BE SIGNED BEFORE REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED**

I know that running a race is a potentially hazard activity. I should not enter and run or walk unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability and safely complete the run. I assume all risks associated with this event including, but not limited to falls, contact with other participants, effect of weather, traffic, and the condition of the track, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts, and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself, and anyone entitled on my behalf, waive and release the Town of Berwyn Heights, its agents, servants and employees and event sponsors for all claims and liability of any kind arising out of my participation in this event including any liability which may arise out of the negligence or carelessness on the part of the person named in the waiver.

PRINT NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENTS SIGNATURE IF UNDER 18 \_\_\_\_\_

## Berwyn Heights Day Vendor/Information Booth Application Saturday, May 6, 2023

Contact Person:

Business:

Address:

Phone Number and Cell Number:

E-mail:

Items for Sale/Distribution (Please be specific as no more than 2 craft vendors selling similar items will be approved):

**The Recreation Council must approve ALL items for distribution.** Please be descriptive of any food items you plan on selling. We are unable to approve any foods that would compete with our on-site food vendors.

Please do not plan on selling or providing:

Ready to eat food/drinks (canned/jarred items, loaves of bread, etc are acceptable – individual cupcakes, beverages, etc. are not.), no Silly String, no Colored Hair Spray

All vendors will be located at Sports Park (corner of 57<sup>th</sup> Ave and Berwyn Road).

**Set-Up Time: 10:00 am – 11:00 am. Please drop off items no later than 10:15 am to begin your set up.**

**Event time: 11:00 am – 4:00 pm**

**Check ONE:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Residents/Non-Profits

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20 Non-Residents/For-Profits (\$15 if payment received by 4/1/2022)

Table/Chairs: Will you need a table Yes NO Chairs? (Supply is limited): 1 or 2

Will you need a canopy? (Canopies available for \$15; supply limited): YES NO

Mail or drop-off registration form at Berwyn Heights Town Center, 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 with cash/check (made out to the Town of Berwyn Heights) by April 28, 2023.

For more info, contact: Susan Jones at 301-602-8926, [violindreams@verizon.net](mailto:violindreams@verizon.net)

### OFFICE USE ONLY: SELECT ONE:

Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Check \_\_\_\_\_ (put check # in space)

AMOUNT PAID \_\_\_\_\_





# Berwyn Heights Seniors Club

Open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 10 A.M. to 2P.M.— Next to the Town Office

on 57th Ave. Phone 301-474-5000

**THE BEST THERAPY IN THE WORLD IS TIME OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS!**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO		APRIL ACTIVITIES
April 3	Carl Carni	<b>BINGO</b> - Every Tuesday at 12:00 PM <b>WII BOWLING</b> — Every Wednesday 10:30AM <b>POOL</b> —Every Friday at 7:00PM <b>POTLUCK &amp; MOVIE</b> – Second Saturday at 5PM <b>BREAKFAST</b> at the SILVER DINER third Thursday at 9:30 <b>MEETINGS</b> -Second and Fourth Tuesday at 11:00 AM. The Fourth Tuesday is also a Potluck <b>CHAIR EXERCISES</b> — Monday and Friday at 11 A.M.
April 5	Mike Attick	
April 6	Bertha Davies	
April 11	Eddie Daffron	
April 19	Jodie Kulpa-Eddy	
April 23	Sue Sheehan	
April 25	Martha Baxter	

## Public Hearing Notice

FY 2024 Budget Introduction and No Change to the Tax Rate - April 12, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The Town Council will introduce its FY 2024 Budget and hold a public hearing at the April 12<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting in the Council Chamber, 5700 Berwyn Road. The Budget assumes the real property tax rate remains at \$0.545 per \$100 of assessment.

The meeting will be broadcast live on BHTV (FiOS 12, Comcast 7) and streamed on the Town's website, [www.berwynheightsmd.gov](http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov). Public comments will be taken in person during the meeting, over the telephone at 301-474-9570 and by email to [mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov)

The proposed FY 2024 Budget will be posted on the Town website at <https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/budget>.

## Aviso de audiencia pública

Introducción al presupuesto del año fiscal 2024 y sin cambios en la tasa impositiva - 12 de abril de 2023, 7:00PM. El Concejo Municipal presentará su presupuesto para el año fiscal 2024 y realizará una audiencia pública en la Reunión Municipal del 12 de abril en la Cámara del Concejo, 5700 Berwyn Road. El Presupuesto supone que la tasa del impuesto a la propiedad inmobiliaria se mantiene en \$0.545 por cada \$100 de tasación. La reunión se transmitirá en vivo por BHTV (FiOS 12, Comcast 7) y se transmitirá en el sitio web del Pueblo,

[www.berwynheightsmd.gov](http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov). Los comentarios públicos se recibirán en persona durante la reunión, por teléfono al 301-474-9570 y por correo electrónico a [mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov). El presupuesto propuesto para el año fiscal 2024 se publicará en el sitio web del pueblo en <https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/budget>.



## Free Karate Training!!!!

Train with Sensei Leon Swain, 7th degree black belt, five-time inductee into the World Professional Martial Arts Hall of Fame. Member of Sho-Rei-Shobu-Kan Budo Organization.

Berwyn Heights Town Center-5700 Berwyn Rd-2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.  
Open to all ages/all levels: Year-Round: Mondays and Fridays 5-7 pm  
Executive Club (Senior Citizens): Thursdays 12:00 – 2:00 pm

Thanks to everyone who turned out for our Black History Month event, which included performances such as the dance one pictured below!



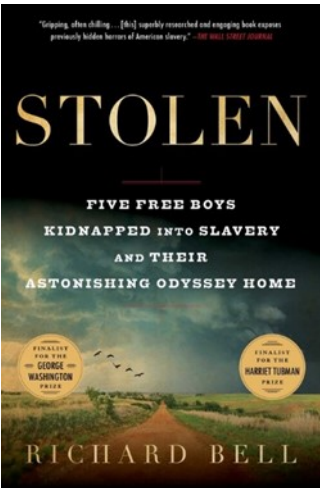
For more information, contact Theresa Beck 301-237-2829 ([becktheresag@gmail.com](mailto:becktheresag@gmail.com)), Brett Bentley at 240-678-9103 ([Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com](mailto:Brett.t.bentley@gmail.com)) or Sensei Leon Swain at 301-728-2881



# Historical Committee

## Meet the Author!

Join us for a history filled afternoon. Dr. Richard Bell, Professor of History at the University of Maryland College Park will discuss his book, “Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and Their Astonishing Odyssey Home”.



Sunday, April 16, 2023, 2-4 pm  
Berwyn Heights Town Center

\*A limited number of signed paperback copies of the book will be available for \$20

\*\*Limited edition BHHHC wineglasses also available for \$7 each!

**Berwyn Heights Day is just around the corner-Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 8am to 4pm.**

**We will be there! Stop by and say hello.**



The next meeting of the BHHC is on Wednesday, April 26, 2023 in the Love Room at 7:30 pm.

All other inquiries to:

[dsteelesny@yahoo.com](mailto:dsteelesny@yahoo.com)

For more information visit our Website:

<https://berwynheightshistory.com>

and on Facebook.



Visitors are  
always  
welcome!



## Berwyn Heights GreenBee



[bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com)

[www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com](http://www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com)

Facebook: @BerwynHeightsGreenTeam

Our next virtual Green Team meeting will be Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 pm.

[Email us](#) to get the link. All residents of Berwyn Heights are welcome.

Nuestra proxima reunion virtual del Equipo Verde sera el jueves 13 de abril a las 7:00 pm.

Mandenos un correo electronico para obtener el sitio de la pagina web.

Todos los residentes de Berwyn Heights son bienvenidos.



**Saturday, April 1 / sábado 1 de abril**

**10 am—12 pm**

**Town center parking lot**

**En el estacionamiento del Town Center**



Volunteer to remove invasive garlic mustard that harms our forest. RSVP or stop by. Wear garden gloves and bug spray.

Ayude de voluntario para remover plantas invasivas que dañan nuestros bosques. Confirme su asistencia o visítenos. Use guantes de jardín y repelente de insectos.

Want to help plant a pollinator garden? Email us.

¿Quieres ayudar a plantar un jardín de polinizadores? Contacta con nosotros.



**Saturday April 15  
sábado 15 de abril**

**10 am—12 pm  
Nevada St & 58th Ave**

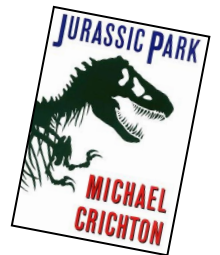


# Berwyn Heights Recreation Council



On **Sunday, April 30th from 1-4pm**, The Rec Council presents **Spring Porch Concerts**, taking place outside of 5701 Pontiac St. and 8609 57th Ave. Seating not provided, please feel free to bring a chair or blanket. Performance schedule will be posted on the Town's website. We have a few talented musicians lined up, but are looking for more. We know there are many musical residents in town, so here is your chance to volunteer to perform. Please email **violindreams@verizon.net** if you are interested. (In case of rain, concerts will be at the Senior Center)

Also on **Sunday, April 30th** the **Book Club** will be meeting at **4pm** at the Town Center (1st Floor) to discuss **Jurassic Park** by Michael Crichton



**CRAFT DAY** continues every **SATURDAY**, from **12noon-3pm!** Town Center (1st Floor)

**GAME NIGHT** continues every **FRIDAY NIGHT**, at **7:30pm** Town Center (1st Floor)



Our **WALKING CLUB** meets every **MONDAY, WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY morning at 9am** at the Sports Park Parking Lot

Coming Soon: **Berwyn Heights Day 2023!** Join us for a full day of fun on **Saturday, May 6th!** Start the day off at our Fun Run or at the Pancake Breakfast, stop by the Senior Bake Sale, celebrate our Parade's 50th Anniversary (starting at noon) and finish your afternoon with food, music, shopping, and \*free\* rides for the kids at Sports Park. (In case of rain, event will take place at the Town Center)

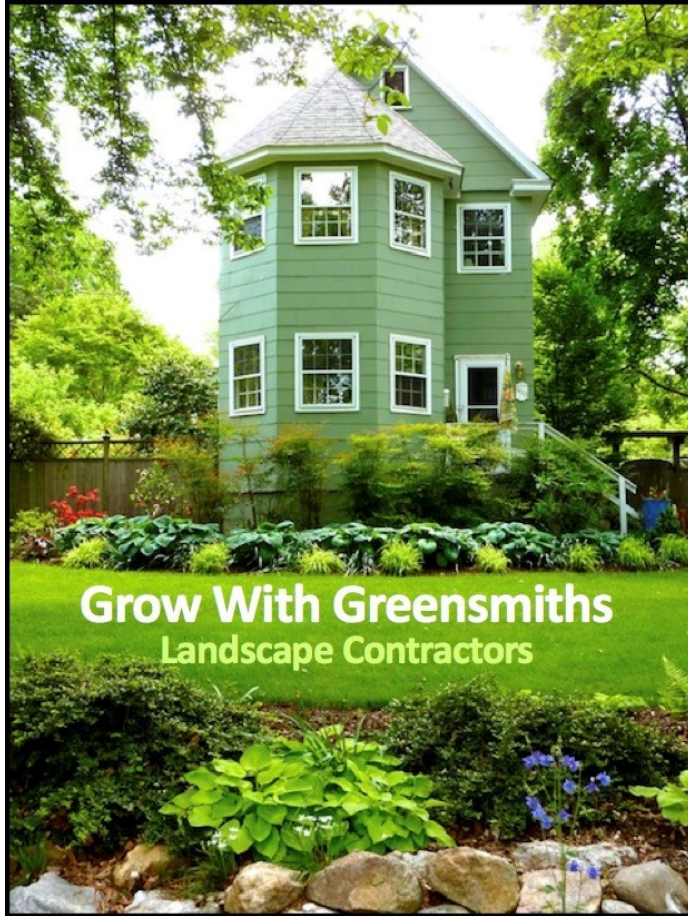


We are still planning for Berwyn Heights Day, please reach out with any suggestions or if you would like to volunteer. Our next in person meeting will be **THURSDAY, 4/6 at 7:00pm** in the G. Love Room at the Senior Center.

*Would you and your family or group like to join in the parade?  
Must register no later than April 14th by emailing us at  
**violindreams@verizon.net***

Escanea el código QR para ver esta página en español →





**Grow With Greensmiths**  
Landscape Contractors

### **Contact Mark Emmell**

**Owner/President and  
Berwyn Heights Resident for 37 Years**

- **Landscape Design, Installation and Maintenance**
- **Annual Landscape Cleanups and Mulching**
- **Rain Gardens and Native Plantings**
- **Pruning and Plant Removal**
- **Drainage Solutions and Grading**

**301-335-4485**  
**greensmithsinc@hotmail.com**



Additions  
Basements  
Doors  
Painting  
Siding

Kitchens  
Gutters  
Windows  
Bathrooms  
Repairs

*Over 30 years of experience*  
**FREE ESTIMATES**  
**TOWN REFERENCES**



MHIC 51073

Mobile  
Bob 301 - 646 - 0825  
Danny 301 - 535 - 4594

Allegis HealthCare, Inc.

(301) 272-4267 Main line (301) 345-2512 ( Fax)

**Primary Care, General Practitioner / Family Medicine**

#### **Services:**

Wellness Exam, Preventative Care , Chronic Care and Acute Illnesses

We also offer DOT ( Dept of Transportation Physical) and Travel Visit

**Testing:** Allergies Testing, Contraception Implant Insertion

COVID 19 Rapid/ PCR. Strep test, Bladder infection , STI , Ear Wax Cleaning

**Acute Illness/ Minor Urgent Care :** Strep throat, UTI, Asthma Exacerbation

Call us today: (301) 272-4267 ( Extended office hours every Friday, Weekend)

Visit us on the web: <http://www.allegishealthcareinc.com>

### **Karel C. Petraitis**

#### **General Law Practice**

Specializing in Family Law, Wills, and Estates

7100 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 205  
College Park, Maryland 20740  
Business: (301) 277-1443

#### **A & T Family Medical, LLC**

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## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

*Join us April 5 at 7:00pm in the G. Love Room or via Zoom*



# PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

## Tips to Prevent Carjacking

Carjacking can take place anywhere, although some locations are more common: ATMs (automated teller machines); Self-serve gas stations and car washes; Garages and parking lots of shopping malls, grocery stores and mass transit; Intersections that are controlled by stop lights or signs; Highway exit and entry ramps, or anyplace else where drivers slow down or stop.

Even if you're rushed, LOOK AROUND before you get out and STAY ALERT to your surroundings.

- Park in well-lit areas
  - Equip your car with an anti-theft device
  - Lock your doors while driving
  - Avoid driving alone at night when possible
- Don't stop for apparently stranded strangers along the road. Note their location and pull over in a safe place once you've passed to call for help.

Trust your instincts--if the situation doesn't "feel right," then leave.

## What to do After an Attack

If you are threatened with a weapon, give up your car – your life is worth more than it is. Try to note as many physical characteristics of the carjacker as possible so that you can provide a detailed report when you call the police. But as always, avoiding a potentially dangerous situation is the best way to prevent an attack. Always carry a cell phone with you when you exit your vehicle and use your best judgment when driving and parking in unfamiliar areas.

**Remember: Your car is replaceable.  
You are not.**



## Outdoor Security Cameras

- Choose a strategic spot (Cover driveways; front, back, and side doors)
- Mount cameras out of reach
- Keep your cameras clean

## NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH



President George H.W. Bush launched the 1000 Points of Light campaign in 1991 and established April as National Volunteer Month. Most organizations in small towns, rural counties and the largest cities would not function without volunteers. Consider becoming a member of the NW/EP Committee, and provide valuable support to our Town in times of need. Many volunteers will tell you it is a rewarding experience!

**Hope to see you on Berwyn Heights Day!**



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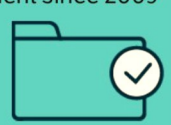


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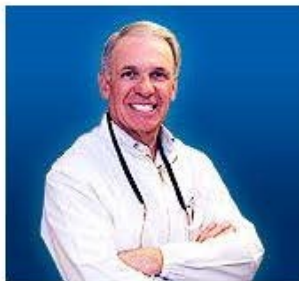
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Thinking of selling or buying?? I have a **full marketing plan**. I seamlessly take you from A-Z in the world of selling your home. I sell more Berwyn Heights homes than other agents, let me show you how I do it. Consistency, proven results, referral network, satisfied clients, top producer! I have lenders, stagers, contractors & more for your selling /buying needs.

**Welcome Spring with a few household maintenance tips for April.....**

- Spruce up the lawn care and landscaping. Fresh mulch, plant perennials.
- Change HVAC filters and schedule annual furnace and Central AC cleaning.
- Clean the Gutters and make sure downspouts drain away from house.
- Make sure to change timers to a later "on" time, now that its DST & check batteries smoke detector.
- Make sure to call me if you are thinking of a move!

- FREE MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUR HOME
- NATIONAL/ INT'L WEBSITE/ADVERTISING
- LICENSED IN MD & DC
- 20 YEARS + OF REAL ESTATE EXPERIENCE
- TOWN RESIDENT

**Just a few of my listings/sales last month.....Will your address be here next month???**

**SOLD-2203 Banning Pl 4 BR 2BA brick Rambler,FP...\$440K.**

**SOLD-5920 Osage St 3 BR 2 BA Rambler,Ig Kit.....\$385K.**

**Under Contract- 10802 Warfield Pl, 2 Lvl , 2 BR TH...\$400K**

**New Listing- 8916 56<sup>th</sup> Av 3 BR 2 BA colonial, updt Kit, backs to walking/biking trails. \$415K**



## Don Bunuan | Realtor



Hi, I'm Don Bunuan. As your Berwyn Heights neighbor and long-time area resident, I'm a big fan of the Route 1 Corridor and everything it has to offer.

As a Realtor®, I provide unparalleled service to my clients and am proud to have been named a "Top Agent" by *Washingtonian Magazine*.

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Sold!



Sold!



Sold!



*Don is awesome! He assured us a stress-free selling process and he delivered. He listened closely to our needs and put us at ease all the way through settlement, despite a pandemic! Our house was sold faster than he could put a "For Sale" sign on it! We highly recommend Don and his team and would give him a 10 star review if we could.*

*- Patty Galati and Karen Jung*

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## February Incidents

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023, AT 10:45 AM, 'FRAUD'

Truist Bank notified that on 5/9/2022 the suspect deposited a counterfeit check into his account in the amount of \$9,981.58 with his debit card through an ATM machine. Once the check was deposited he withdrew money from his account through Apple Cash and POS purchases. This left Truist with a loss of the full \$9,981.58. Bank investigator Gigi Frio was given the case to present to law enforcement. She produced a case with certified records of the bank statements, check images and surveillance images of the transactions.

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023, AT 6:45 AM, 'VANDALISM / IMPOUND'

An employee of US Fuel called and stated that there was a black car at pump# 7 with the window smashed. BHPD officer responded and impounded the vehicle.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AT 8:58 AM, 'THEFT FROM AUTO.'

At 0858 hrs, 2/13/2023, while on routine patrol, Cpl. T. Hollowell, #1449, Berwyn Heights Police, saw a dark Honda parked at the LOI with a busted-out driver's door window. There was glass on the ground outside the door and a further examination indicated a vehicle break-in. The victim was located and stated the vehicle was parked at 2100 hrs, 2/12/2023. An examination of the contents of the vehicle indicated a book bag with unknown contents was taken along with \$1000.00 in US currency that was in the center console. The victim was asked if anyone was aware of the cash being in the vehicle. The victim indicated the information was not shared with anyone. The reason the money was left in the vehicle was due to his forgetfulness. A search of the area did not identify any residence with surveillance cameras that would assist in identifying a suspect.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023, AT 12:10 PM, 'THEFT FROM AUTO.'

At 1210 hrs, 2/13/2023, Cpl. T. Hollowell, #1449, Berwyn Heights Police, responded to 86\*\* Cunningham Drive for a reported vehicle break-in. Hollowell met with the victim and it was disclosed that at approximately 0245 hrs, the house surveillance cam captured an image of an undescribed male walking on Quebec Street. The unknown male was seen pulling on the vehicle door handles. The unknown male made his way to the victim's Grand Cherokee and broke out the driver's side rear window. The unknown male rummaged through the vehicle and left. The victim later in the afternoon went to his vehi-

cle and discovered the shattered window which prompted a video review. The camera again was not able to determine the race or identity of the suspect but just visualized him as being tall.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AT 12:50 AM, 'BURGLARY'

On 2/16/23 at approximately 0050 hours officers responded to 5550 Greenbelt Rd, Shell, for a building alarm. Upon arrival, officer observed a window broken on the garage door. Officers checked the building for suspects, but none were located. Officers made contact with Reporting person while on the scene via phone, who was able to show video footage of the suspect breaking the window and entering the building with the intent to steal items inside. The suspect then was startled by the alarm and fled the store in an unknown direction making good his escape.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AT 6:45 AM, 'VANDALISM / TAMPERING'

On 2/16/2023 At approximately 0645 hours PFC. Herriott #1454 received a station call to respond to 56\*\* Seminole Street Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 for vandalism. Upon arrival, he spoke with the victim via phone, the owner of a gray Hyundai MD Tag# 3CV5928. Victim advises that he parked his vehicle at 2300 hours on 2/15/2023 and as he was leaving for work at 0500 2/16/2023, he discovered that someone broke his front driver-side window but did not take anything from his vehicle

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AT 8:42 AM, 'VANDALISM / TAMPERING'

On 02/16/2023 At approximately 0842 hours PFC. Herriott#1454 responded to 86\*\* Cunningham Road Berwyn Heights, MD. 20740 for vandalism Upon arrival he spoke with the victim who advised that he parked his orange and white 2015 BMW. in front of his home 2/15/2023 at approximately 2300 hours. Victim advised that when he returned to his vehicle on today's date 2/16/2023 approximately 0800 hours, he discovered his front driver's side window broken and nothing was taken.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AT 10:50 AM, 'VANDALISM / TAMPERING'

On 2/16/2023 At approximately 1050 hours. PFC. Herriott#1454 was dispatched to 60\*\* Berwyn Road Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 for vandalism. Upon arrival, he spoke with the owner who advised that she parked her 2013 Nissan Truck bearing MD Tag#7CH2322 yesterday date 02/15/2023 approximately 2200 hours the victim advised that when she returned to her vehicle on today's date 2/16/2023 at approximately 1040 hours she discovered her front driver's side window broken and nothing was taken.

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2023, AT 11:30 AM, 'VANDALISM / TAMPERING'

On 2/16/2023 at about 1130 AM the BHPD received a station call at 59\*\* Berwyn Rd. for vandalism/theft from auto. Victim advised that his vehicle was damaged and items were taken from it. The victim/owner stated that a fifty-dollar GAP gift card and a twenty-dollar bill were stolen from the console.

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2023, AT 7:20 AM, 'THEFT FROM AUTO.'

On February 20, 2023 at about 7:20 AM, Pfc. Lowndes met with the victim who is the listed complainant at the Berwyn Heights Police Department. The victim wanted to report a theft of (4) catalytic converters from two commercial landscaping trucks bearing Maryland license plates # 2EN9301 and 9ES7838. The unknown suspect by passed the parking lot secured fence and cut two catalytic converters, from each vehicle. The incident occurred at 8444 Ballew Ave.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023, AT 8:15 AM, 'CHECK ON THE WELFARE EPS.'

On 2/22/2023 At approximately 2042 hours. PFC. Herriott #1454 along with Prince Georges County Officer Myron #4181 was dispatched to 57\*\* Nevada Street located in Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 for a welfare check. Upon arrival, he met with \*\*\*\* who advised that her son was out of control and that he bit her on the right arm, kicked holes in the wall, then hid underneath her bed. Officer observation revealed a very tiny bruise on the back of her right arm area. Officers observed the subject underneath the bed. The subject then became irate and yelled that he was going to his room to sleep. The subject then exited from underneath the bed, went to his room then lay in his bed. The mother advised that she was scared of her son and that she did know what else to do. The subject later returned back upstairs entered the bathroom began cursing, let the dogs out of the bathroom, and later began slamming his head, face first into the door. Officers then placed handcuffs on the subject to keep him from hurting himself and called for Fireboard. The subject was later transported to Laurel Medical Center to be evaluated.

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023, AT 5:45 AM, 'THEFT FROM AUTO'

On 02/24/2023 at 5:45 am, the Chief of Police responded to the 8400 blocks of 57<sup>th</sup>, Avenue for a report of a theft from an auto. On scene, an investigation revealed that an unknown person(s) smashed the front driver's side window of a 2018 Nissan and removed four bottles of men's cologne valued at \$400.00.



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023, AT 6:00 AM, 'VANDALISM / TAMPERING'**

On 02/24/2023 at 6:00 am, the Chief of Police responded to the 8400 blocks of 57<sup>th</sup>, Avenue for a report of vandalism to auto. On scene, an investigation revealed that an unknown person(s) smashed the rear driver's side window of a 2016 Ford before fleeing.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2023 AT 12:42 AM, 'THEFT'**

Two subjects entered the 7-11 store at 5815 Greenbelt RD Berwyn Heights MD and began to gather items for a possible purchase. The subjects placed numerous items on the counter by the cash register and an argument began with the clerk. At this point, the two subjects reportedly went behind the counter, grabbed several tobacco products and groceries, and fled the store without paying. A customer in the store reported that he observed the two subjects. He described them as black males wearing masks covering their faces. He described their masks as "bad guy masks" not surgical masks. After the subjects fled they reported-

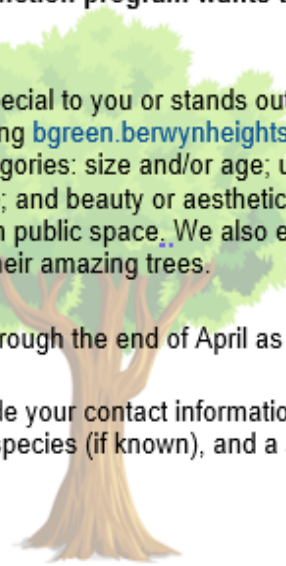
## Trees of Distinction

The annual Trees of Distinction program wants to recognize and inspire appreciation for trees!

If you have a tree that is special to you or stands out, please nominate it to receive an award by emailing [bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com). Trees will receive awards in four categories: size and/or age; unusual growth habit or form; historical significance; and beauty or aesthetic value. Your tree may be on your personal property or in public space. We also encourage you to reach out to neighbors to nominate their amazing trees.

Trees can be nominated through the end of April as we celebrate Arbor Day.

In your email, please include your contact information, the location of the tree, nomination category, tree species (if known), and a statement about what makes the tree special.



## New Town Groups Are Being Formed In Berwyn Heights

If your interests fit those below, please consider reaching out to them to find out more.

### Berwyn Heights' Garden Club

We are people who love gardening. While there are many wonderful gardeners in town, and a committed Green-Team, we are seeking to bring our shared enjoyment of gardening together.

Email: [berwynheightsgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:berwynheightsgardeners@gmail.com)

### Being Black in Berwyn Heights' Discussion Group

We are Black members of the Town of Berwyn Heights without any particular agenda, ideology, etc. We span the generations and have quite varied life interests and experiences. But, we realized that coming together to talk is a healthy thing. Please consider joining us. Find out more by sending us an email.

Email: [blackinberwynheights@gmail.com](mailto:blackinberwynheights@gmail.com)

### Berwyn Heights' Live Open Mike/Jam Sessions/Performances

Music is the mainstay for this informal group ... but other artists, poets, etc. are welcome to explore and perform. As jam sessions are known to be loose and open, so too is the spirit of this club. All styles of music, etc. are welcome. Let's gather to uncover and share the artistic riches of Berwyn Heights.

Email: [berwynheightslive@gmail.com](mailto:berwynheightslive@gmail.com)

## BULLETIN BOARD

### Help Wanted: Spanish Translator

**\$12/hr (Part-time)** Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs 3pm-8pm & Sat 7am-12pm.  
Open Interviews Monday- Thursday at 11:30am. 6103 Greenbelt Rd.

### 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.

### Approved Childcare of Essential Personnel

Opening for infant to 12 years old. Licensed and approved by the State to provide childcare during COVID-19. Meals provided. Openings Monday-Friday from 6 AM to 6 PM. Please contact Karuna at 301-345-2939 or [karunaemeldaroz-ario@outlook.com](mailto:karunaemeldaroz-ario@outlook.com).

**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 45-year old program needs volunteers to help with their daily operations out of College Park location. Please call 301-474-1002 M-F, 8:30-12p if available.

**Need Yard Help?** Shawn and Jeremy have helped Berwyn Heights residents with mowing, raking, mulching, and more for several years. Call 301-310-3807.

**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.

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

**Infant or Senior Care:** Nurse/midwife, recent US refugee, legal with work permit, looking for infant care or senior care. Full or part time. IRC internationally certified. Worked in Burundi and Tanzania. Special gift with babies, children with disabilities, and disabled adults. Intermediate English, fluent French. Does not drive. Contact [jeynekanyudo@gmail.com](mailto:jeynekanyudo@gmail.com)



### Vacation Pet Sitting and Doggie Day Care

Scott Magnus (Owner)

301-980-8567

Estate Sale: 5610 Berwyn Rd, Berwyn Heights. Nice furniture, living room, dining room, den, office and 2 bed room sets. Individual pieces, mirrors, pictures, piano, 2 organs, household goods, tools and weight sets. Must see! Appointment only, please call 301-474-2128 or 301-390-7296.

**REDSKINS MEMORABILIA** for sale. Please text or call David Harding (town resident) 301-704-7836, between 10am and 4 pm. PLEASE preface text with Redskin Inquiry.

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**Angela's  
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Services**



**Learn more about what is available in Berwyn Heights!**

Visit the Community tab on the Town Website to learn more about

- ◇ County Community Resources
- ◇ Area Recreation
- ◇ Town Groups and Assemblies
- ◇ Bee City USA
- ◇ And so much more!

<https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/home/pages/community>



**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](http://holy-redeemer.org)  
Email: [parish@holy-redeemer.org](mailto:parish@holy-redeemer.org)

### Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney



301-908-9427 (cell)  
[tgentile301@yahoo.com](mailto:tgentile301@yahoo.com)  
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# BERWYN HEIGHTS

## Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc.

Berwyn Heights Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc. • 8811 60<sup>th</sup> Avenue • Berwyn Heights, MD 20740

*In Case of Emergency Call 911!*

### Ambulance Donation

With the delivery of our newest Ambulance last year, BHVFD was able to retire our 2003 Freightliner/Medic Master Ambulance which served the Department many years. The Board of Directors decided to donate the unit to the Hawkins County, Tennessee, Fireman's Association, where many of the volunteer fire departments have equipment that are 50 years old or older. Our Ambulance is going to be used by the County's HazMat team, which is currently using units from the 1970s. We hope that this unit continues to serve the people of Hawkins County for years! The College Park VFD also recently donated their 1992 Fire Engine to Hawkins County.



*Ambulance that was donated*

### BHVFD History- "No Hose Nation"

BHVFD is one of the only stations in the region to not have a fire engine/pumper truck, which carries hose and supplies water on the fire ground.

In the early 1960's Prince George's County hired Yarger and Associates to conduct a study of fire protection throughout the county and to make recommendations as to how the departments could provide better protection. In regard to Berwyn Heights, the Yarger Report suggested that a ladder truck be added to the station, that the engine company be eliminated, but the Rescue Squad should remain in service. The elimination of the engine company was justified because of surrounding firehouses, including those in Branchville, Riverdale, and Greenbelt, could provide adequate engine coverage while Berwyn Heights could provide the ladder company service. The study also suggested the firehouse be relocated to 60th Ave to better serve the new Springhill Lake apartment complex that was under construction and the various businesses along Greenbelt Road.

BHVFD has not had an engine company since, however the Department has had several units serve as "mini" pumpers to be reserve units or handle brush fires until 2001. There was discussion in the mid 2010s to bring back an engine company due to a volunteer shortage of surrounding stations, until the County placed 24/7 career staffing at Greenbelt VFD Station 35.



*"Mini" Pumper 14 which served from 1992-2001. It could operate as a Rescue Squad or Engine*

### Bike Trail Emergencies

It's that time of year again and BHVFD volunteers have been busy responding to emergencies in our "First Due" along the bike trails of Lake Artemisia, Greenbelt Station Parkway, Greenbelt National Park, and Anacostia Tributary Trail System to name a few. With the complex trail systems in our area, BHVFD needs all the help we can get when responding to these calls. Below are some tips to help us

- **Be as specific as possible when reporting the emergency's location to 911.** What trail are you on, what mile marker, closest road/trail intersection, and even check for the round Park Police trail emergency markers. In most cases BHVFD has to request more specific location details prior to committing to a specific trail entrance point, and our response is delayed.
- Send help to guide Fire/EMS units. Ask a bystander to head to a park/trail entrance or trail intersection to help show responders the way. If you pass a trail emergency and then see Fire/EMS units, please help direct them to the scene as well!
- If you are out alone, be sure to carry identification (which includes name, phone number, and pertinent medical information) in case you become unconscious. Before leaving home, share the route you plan to run, walk or cycle with a family member or friend, and include the time you plan to return.

#### ***What units does BHVFD send on Trail Emergencies?***

A typical BHVFD response to a bike trail emergency will include the Ambulance (of course), the Rescue Squad (for man power or if special rescue is needed), and our Utility truck (pickup truck able to go off-road and along most trails). You may also see the College Park VFD "Cart 12" which is a EMS transport ATV unit used for events at the University of Maryland. This unit is often requested as it can easily navigate the trails and pedestrian bridges.



<-- Utility  
14



Cart 12 -->



## **TOWN OF BERWYN HEIGHTS NOTICE OF A PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**

The Town Council of Town of Berwyn Heights proposes to increase real property taxes.

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2023, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 5.1%, from \$405,789,951 to \$426,397,139.
2. If Town of Berwyn Heights maintains the current tax rate of \$0.545 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 5.1% resulting in \$112,309 of new real property tax revenues.
3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$0.5187, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The Town of Berwyn Heights is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The Town of Berwyn Heights proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$0.545 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 5.1% higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$112,309 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m. on April 12, 2023 at the Council Chambers, 5700 Berwyn Road, Berwyn Heights, Maryland. The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged. Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call (301) 474-5000 for further information.

## **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS**

### **BH Elementary School PTA**

President: Lilly Ridge  
[President@BHESPTA.org](mailto:President@BHESPTA.org)

Secretary: Angie Wiens  
Treasurer: Sara Jacobsen

### **Boys & Girls Club**

President: Robin Harris  
[rcrestwell@yahoo.com](mailto:rcrestwell@yahoo.com)

Vice President: Brandi Cowgill  
[brandie9105@gmail.com](mailto:brandie9105@gmail.com)

Registrar: Tiffany Papanikolas  
[tif.papanikolas@gmail.com](mailto:tif.papanikolas@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Sandra Zuniga  
Secretary:

Athletic Director: Darryl Harris  
[darryl.harris@aimdgroup.com](mailto:darryl.harris@aimdgroup.com)

Fundraising Chair:

### **Education Advisory Committee**

Chair: Allison Holmes  
[thebheac@gmail.com](mailto:thebheac@gmail.com)

### **Green Team/ Shade Tree Board**

Facilitator: Jeffrey Knutson  
[jbknutson@verizon.net](mailto:jbknutson@verizon.net)

Public Outreach: Therese Forbes  
[therese@celticclans.com](mailto:therese@celticclans.com)

### **Historical Committee**

Chair: Debby Steele Snyder  
[dsteelesny@yahoo.com](mailto:dsteelesny@yahoo.com)

### **Immigrant Neighbors Community of Berwyn Heights (INCbh)**

POC: Claudia Barragan (301)458-0288  
[info@incbh.org](mailto:info@incbh.org)

### **Men's Basketball League**

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

### **Movie Club**

Jonathan Loutsch  
[bhmovieclub@gmail.com](mailto:bhmovieclub@gmail.com)

### **Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness**

Co-Chair: Joan Hayden  
[jmosley45@gmail.com](mailto:jmosley45@gmail.com)

Co-Chair: Randy Fortwengler  
[bhnwep53@aol.com](mailto:bhnwep53@aol.com)

### **Karate Club**

Leon Swain 301-728-2881  
Brett Bentley 240-678-9103  
[Brett.bentley@gmail.com](mailto:Brett.bentley@gmail.com)

### **Quilter's Club**

Coordinator: Janet Freitag  
[quilttag1@yahoo.com](mailto:quilttag1@yahoo.com)

### **Recreation Council**




















President: Susan Jones  
[violindreams@verizon.net](mailto:violindreams@verizon.net)

### **Seniors Club**

Ray Smith 301-474-3482



# APRIL 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Stormwater Fair Town Center Parking Lot 10AM to 12PM
2	3  Work Session 7PM Council Chambers 	4 	5  NW/EP 7PM G. Love Room	6  Rec Council 7PM G Love Room	7 Good Friday Town Offices Close at 1PM	8
9	10 	11 	12  Town Meeting 7PM Council Chambers 	13  Green Teem 7PM Virtual	14	15 Invasive Plant Removal Nevada St/58th Ave 10AM-12PM
16 Meet the Author: Stolen BHHC Event 2-4PM Town Center	17  Worksession 7PM Council Chambers 	18 	19 	20 	21	22
23	24 	25 	26  BHHC 7:30PM G. Love Room	27 	28	29
30 Porch Concerts 1-4PM Book Club 4PM Senior Center						

**A quorum of Town Council Members may be present at any community organization meeting. No action will be taken by Council at any community organization meeting. Location of meetings is subject to change after publication. To join community meetings, please contact the meeting organizers or use the contacts on page 30.**

Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste  
North-side Collection



Trash, Bulk Trash, Yard Waste  
South-side Collection



Recycling



# BERWYN HEIGHTS BULLETIN

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

**CARRIER-ROUTE SORTED**  
**PRESORT STANDARD**  
**U. S. Postage Paid**  
**College Park, Maryland**  
**Permit No. 5442**

## POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

**Dated Material — Do Not Delay!**

### 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](mailto:code@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Public Works Department ..... (301) 474-6897  
Email: [publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Fire Department ..... (301) 474-7886  
Senior Center ..... (301) 474-0018  
Community Center (Gym) ..... (301) 345-2808  
Town Office ..... (301) 474-5000  
Office Hours: MON - FRI 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

#### Mayor and Council

Jodie Kulpa-Eddy (301) 345-1516 [jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:jkulpaeddy@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Mayor — Public Health & Safety  
Christopher Brittan-Powell (240) 786-2578 [cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Mayor Pro Tem — Administration  
Shinita Hemby (301) 910-7134 [shemby@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:shemby@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Councilmember — Code Compliance  
Faustino (Tino) Menjivar (240) 854-7845 [fmenjivar@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:fmenjivar@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Councilmember — Public Works  
Jason Papanikolas (240) 338-5191 [jpapanikolas@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:jpapanikolas@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](mailto:contact@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Be assured that your communication will be answered promptly and in confidence.

#### 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: <https://www.berwynheightsmd.gov>; Follow us on Twitter @BerwynHeightsMD

Questions — call Melanie Friesen, Administration at (301) 474-5000, or email [mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:mfriesen@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Advertising Rates — call Yvonne Odoi, Administration at 301-474-5000, or email: [yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov](mailto:yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov)  
Submission Deadline is the 15th of the month