



Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

FEBRUARY 2023



February 11: 5-7pm International Potluck

Some content inside provided in Spanish and English

Algunos contenidos internos se proporcionan en español e inglés.



INSIDE
THIS
EDITION

8

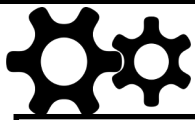
Meet
Peter
Jones

12

Rec
Council
Happenings

22

Black
History
Month



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

February:

A great time to cut invasive vines out of trees.

Now that fall leaf collection is complete, it is a great time to keep invasive vines in check by cutting them at the base of trees if they are growing into tree canopies. Some common ones in our area are English Ivy and Poison Ivy.

When a vine is cut at the base of trees, it cuts off the plants' access to roots, so everything above that will die off. Keep in mind though that the oils in Poison Ivy (urushiol) that cause allergic reactions remain in the woody parts of the plant even though it loses its leaves in the winter, so wear gloves and long sleeves, and wash any skin that comes in contact with soap and water as soon as possible after contact.

Monday, February 20th is Presidents' Day.

Tuesday, February 21st – Town-wide trash/bulk

Wednesday, February 22nd – Town-wide recycling

Thursday, February 23rd – Town-wide yard waste

Febrero:

un buen momento para cortar las enredaderas invasoras de los árboles.

Ahora que la recolección de hojas de otoño está completa, es un buen momento para controlar las enredaderas invasoras cortándolas en la base de los árboles si se están convirtiendo en copas de árboles. Algunas comunes en nuestra área son hiedra inglesa y Hiedra venenosa

Cuando se corta una enredadera en la base de los árboles, corta el acceso de las plantas a las raíces, por lo que todo lo que está arriba morirá. Sin embargo, tenga en cuenta que los aceites de Hiedra venenosa (urushiol) que causan reacciones alérgicas permanecen en las partes leñosas de la planta a pesar de que pierde sus hojas en el invierno, así que use guantes y mangas largas, y lávese la piel que entre en contacto. Con agua y jabón tan pronto como sea posible después del contacto.

El lunes 20 de febrero es el Día de los Presidentes

Martes, 21 de febrero – Basura/a granel en toda la ciudad

Miércoles 22 de febrero – Reciclaje en toda la ciudad

Jueves, 23 de febrero – Desechos de jardín en toda la ciudad

Viernes, 24 de febrero – Basura en toda la ciudad

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!

A Senior is:

Slower

Older

Smarter

Why not join us?

ACTIVITIES

BINGO - Every Tuesday at 12:00 PM

WII BOWLING— Every Wednesday 10:30AM

POOL—Every Thursday at 7:00PM

POTLUCK & MOVIE – Second Saturday at 5PM

BREAKFAST at the SILVER DINER third Thursday at 9:30

MEETINGS-Second and Fourth Tuesday at 11:00 AM. The Fourth Tuesday is also a Potluck

CRAFTS - Last Friday 11AM

Town Meeting Minutes : August 10, 2022 | 7:00 pm

This meeting was held in the Council Chamber. Residents could comment by attending the meeting, calling 301-474-9570, or e-mailing Town Manager Laura Allen at lallen@berwynheightsmd.gov

Call to Order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell and Councilmember Shinita Hemby. Councilmembers Faustino Menjivar and Jason Papanikolas had excused absences. Staff present were Town Manager Laura Allen and Assistant to the Town Manager, Yvonne Odoi. Also present were residents of Berwyn Heights.

Announcements

Resolution 09-2022 - Thanking Mutual Aid Partners in Storm Cleanup. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read this "Resolution of Gratitude" to thank those partners who provided equipment and staff in helping the Town clean-up after the July 12 windstorm: Upper Marlboro, University Park, Gaithersburg, Hyattsville, New Carrollton, Prince George's County and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

CM Hemby announced that the Boys and Girls Club is looking for mentors, coaches and volunteers. High school students can get credit for volunteering.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda was moved by CM Hemby. MPT Brittan-Powell seconded.

Consent Agenda

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to make changes to the July 18th minutes. He provided printed copies of the changes. After Council discussion on the wording in the proposed changes, the decision was made to table accepting the 7/18 minutes until the September Town Meeting. MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to accept the Consent agenda with the exception of the July 18th minutes. CM Hemby seconded that motion. Agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Mayor and Councilmember reports

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that National Night Out was a great success, and thanked the residents, Town Organizations and staff for their help and participation. She reviewed the August 4 Four Cities meeting which included a presentation from Prince George's County Office of Emergency Management on preparing for a natural disaster. She further stated that the County is still collecting data on uninsured loss claims, hoping to hit \$3 million threshold to activate FEMA relief aid. She also provided resources for residents to receive emergency alerts: www.weather.gov, "Prepare Prince George's" mobile app, and "Alert Prince George's" at alert.mypgc.us. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reminded residents of the August 11th opening of the Maryland Insurance Administration's virtual disaster center for information and questions on severe weather events. She concluded by reminding

residents of the upcoming Maryland Tax-Free week August 14-20 for school resources as well as purchasing equipment that can be used to prepare for weather events.

MPT Brittan-Powell wished all going back to school well on this new school year. He added that Council will be using ARPA funds to assist residents with basic needs, including addressing food insecurity. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that there are also additional resources for assistance with the State of Maryland.

CM Hemby noted that National Night Out was exciting, especially seeing Town Organizations, teens and young people in attendance. She noted that the Four Cities' meeting was very informative. The Office of Emergency Management's presentation on preparing a go-bag for each home and to not just have an emergency plan, but to practice it as well, was very useful. She reported on her department meeting with Director Goodwin. The department partnered with Prince George's County to provide resources and assist Town residents in navigating permit requirements to recover from this past weather event. She further thanked residents for attending and presenting issues at meetings for Council to address. The issue of speeding and stop-sign running were presented by residents during a previous meeting. Council is working on options to curb this behavior and will be presenting those options to the Police department. She pleaded to residents to continue to call, email, and write to share opinions and concerns with Council on matters in town.

Committee Reports

BH Education Advisory Committee had no representation at this meeting.

The Green Team had no representation at this meeting, but Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated their next meeting is tomorrow (August 11) at 7pm.

Historical Committee: Chair Debby Steele-Snyder reported that National Night Out was a success as they celebrated Berwyn Heights' 126th anniversary of incorporation with cupcakes. She stated there is no meeting in August but that the next meeting is September 28 at 7:30pm; officer elections will be held. She continued by stating there are plans for a fall "Wine & Cheese" event in October or November. Lastly, she mentioned that there needed to be additional security for the museum.

Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that the trailer was displayed at National Night Out while the members were busy manning the grills. She noted that the next meeting is scheduled for September 7 at 7pm and all are welcome.

Recreation Council: Angie Wolfinger reported that they had great attendance at National Night Out especially with their prize wheel. She listed the upcoming events:

August 18 – summer concert at Lake Artemesia (rain location: Town Center)

September 15 – Ice cream social

End of October – Trunk or Treat at BH Community Center

September 6 at 7pm – next meeting in the G. Love room

August 27 at 11am – Craft Day in the Senior Center

Every Friday night – Game night in the Senior Center

August 28 – book & movie discussion on Steven King's "The Shining" in the Senior Center

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Walking club – 8am meeting at Sports park

August 20 @10 am – Brookside Gardens trip, meet at the Senior Center

She concluded with an invitation to all residents to participate in all the activities that are available and to come meet their BH neighbors. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that on November 18, Team Trivia night is returning to the Town Center.

Old Business

Berwyn Heights/ UMD SPH Agreement- MPT Brittan-Powell reviewed the University of Maryland School of Public Health's past presentations and a draft baseline agreement with the Town to address public health needs. Dr. Dushanka Kleinman from UMD SPH called in; he stated he appreciated the invitation and opportunity to partner with the Town. The purpose of this agreement is to listen and learn from the community to develop guiding practices for the Town. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked what the start date would be, as it is not stated in the agreement. Dr. Kleinman replied the start date is the date of execution of the agreement, which is to be renewed annually. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that this is a winning program for the Town. MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to approve the partnership agreement. CM Hemby seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Senior Club Use Agreement

TM Allen reported that the changes requested by the Seniors on clarification of the use of the G. Love Conference room next door have been addressed. Currently, the Town Attorney is preparing a "Hold Harmless" agreement for use of the Senior Center. She further explained that included in the agreement is the Town's option to require adequate insurance for third party usage of the space; that is, groups or organizations not affiliated with the Town or the Seniors Club. This proposed agreement is for 5 years. Seniors Club Vice President Ron Luftman accepted the agreement as presented on behalf of the Seniors Club. MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to adopt Resolution 11-2022. CM Hemby seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Council Rule I and II

CM Papanikolas, who was absent,

emailed information to be read at the meeting. He gave background on the development of the Council Rules and explained his key points as to the changes needed in these rules. MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to adopt. CM Hemby seconded. In Council discussion, CM Hemby asked that she and CM Menjivar be given more time, after a presentation from the representatives of the Maryland Municipal League, to further their understanding of these Council Rules before making changes. She stated that she'd prefer that all Council be present for the vote on these Council Rules. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy confirmed that the requested MML meeting will not take place as that service is no longer offered. She asked if there were any other way that the 2 new Councilmembers could further their understanding. Training and/or classes given by a seasoned Councilmember were discussed. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy concluded by explaining the Council Rules are the rules and formats the council uses to govern themselves and that this Council can still operate with the current rules until such a time when changes are made. CM Hemby motioned to table the resolution until a time when Council has all the background information, seconded by MPT Brittan-Powell. Motion passed unanimously.

Sustainable Communities Workgroup Composition

TM Allen reviewed that the Town has a designation with Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development since 2017, and renewal as a "Sustainable Community" requires that a workgroup that was established. TM Allen is asking that the previous group be re-established, adding members from the Seniors, Immigrant Neighbors and a Teen member. Staff is seeking approval of the composition of the workgroup to start facilitating meetings to be in compliance by the upcoming renewal date in March 2023. MPT Brittan-Powell motioned to appoint the workgroup composition as recommended; CM Hemby seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

No new business

Resident & Community Comments

Resident Mike Attick called with his concerns of the workings of this current Council. He expressed concerns of aggressive behavior of residents toward Council and other residents. He further explained his past knowledge of how to handle severe weather events and presentations that have been made to previous Councils on how to better prepare. Mr. Attick continued to express his concerns on how Council should work with outside agencies and elected officials for the betterment of the Town. MPT Brittan-Powell asked what the Council should be accomplishing to meet his expectations? Mr. Attick responded that Council should know where staff is in severe weather events.

Debby Steele-Snyder commented that a previous committee, the Walkable-Bikeable

task force, came up with a complete report identifying unsafe areas in the neighborhood and included possible solutions for these areas. She stated that the crosswalk on Pontiac Street was not marked after the street was repaved. She has witnessed many near misses and near-collisions on this street. She offered suggestions of flashing signs, markings on the street with speed limits, additional crosswalks, and ensuring that the streetlights are in operation. CM Hemby added that the other side of the school has the same safety issues on 62nd Avenue and on Quebec Street. Ms. Steele-Snyder continued with background information on the configuration of the 62nd Avenue stairs from BHES. MPT Brittan-Powell asked if the Task Force considered a speed hump before the stop sign. Ms. Steele-Snyder noted there had been a discussion but the needs of the firetruck being able to access the street resulted in the review of other, more visual, options. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked TM Allen about the traffic study requested through the task force. TM Allen confirmed there is a \$68,00 grant from Park and Planning for traffic engineering services that has been approved by Council and Park and Planning. However, due to the current staffing issue in Park and Planning, a project manager has yet to be assigned. Everything is waiting on the project manager position to be filled. She continued by saying the previous Council directed that all of the task force recommendations be reviewed. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy commented that it does not preclude the Town from trying temporary solutions.

Mike Attick called to clarify that the sidewalks that are on Cunningham were completed in the first phase of the sidewalk project.

Resident Dave Wolfinger commented on the AudioVisual system used for the Town meetings. He continued to comment on speed bumps. He stated that the root cause to be addressed is lack of enforcement for offenders; that they need to be fined for the message to be sent. His third comment is the lack of emergency preparedness in the Town. He is volunteering to be able to assist in events.

CM Hemby motioned to adjourned, MPT Brittan-Powell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

Worksession Minutes December 5, 2022 | 7:00 pm

Call to Order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:05PM. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell, Councilmember Shinita Hemby, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Staff present were Brad Pudner, Director of Public Works in his role as Acting Town Manager and Town Clerk Melanie Friesen. Residents of the Town of Berwyn Heights were also present.

Approval of the Agenda

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve the agenda. CM Papanikolas seconded. With no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

1. Mayor

a. Announcements

* Executive Session Report: The Council met in Executive Session from 5:11 PM to 6:59PM in Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, MPT Brittan-Powell, CM Hemby and CM Papanikolas. CM Menjivar was unable to attend. David Deutsch, who is conducting the interim Town Manager search, was also present for part of the session. The session was closed to discuss personnel and real property matters (exemptions 1 and 3 of § 3-305(b)). No action was taken during the session.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy also reviewed the funeral services for former Mayor and State Delegate, Tawanna Gaines.

b. Calendar

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the calendar for upcoming events including community meetings, the PGCMA Legislative Meet-and-Greet, and the Employee Luncheon.

c. Draft Ordinance 110 (Ethics) review

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy discussed some edits she would like to see addressed as part of the Ordinance, highlighting a misnumbered section and some typos. TC Friesen will send the suggested edits to the Ethics Commission for review and noted questions to send to the State with the goal of addressing all issues in order for the ordinance to be included on the December 14th Town Meeting agenda.

d. MuniPay Account "ownership" Update

TC Friesen reviewed the need for a change in the account owner/signer after the departure of TM Allen. She recommended that Town Treasurer Mike Lightfield be named owner until a new Town Manager has been hired. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked that the minutes reflect that Mike Lightfield is to be named interim account signer/owner.

e. Resident Comments

Resident Claudia Barragan asked that whenever the Town is considering emulating programs from College Park or the City of Greenbelt to take into consideration the fact that these might not scale to Berwyn Heights, which is considerable smaller than either of those communities. She also commented that the documents regarding the Police Department proposals were full of generalities and requested that Council provide residents details and numbers to support the claims in the documents. She also requested a letter from **the Chief of Police indicating that he desired a new building**. She expressed concerns about a housing bubble and the Town acting as a developer in the Town for a Police Department and that there are other concerns that should take priority for ARPA funds.

2. Code Compliance

CM Hemby shared that she met with Code Compliance Director Hollyce Goodwin twice over the last several days. She shared that the largest concerns at the moment are business licenses and late penalties for those licenses. They will be working on policies for landlord and tenant responsibilities regarding flood and renters' insurance. Code Compliance has also agreed to be the department point of contact for the Student Volunteer program. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that Code has also taken on the responsibility of spearheading the Department of Housing and Community Development Sustainable Communities Workgroup. MPT Brittan-Powell thanked CM Hemby for helping turn around resident perception of Code Compliance.

3. Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs

CM Papanikolas shared that he had several community committee meetings coming up, as well as attending the PGCMA legislative meet-and-greet with the Mayor. He added that he is happy to attend meetings of the community organizations, but to let him know when they are. He highlighted the great craft fair and tree lighting ceremony that happened over the previous weekend. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy complemented Public Works for all their work on the tree and the lights. MPT Brittan-Powell added his compliments as well.

a. 50th Council Goals/Objectives and Tracking spreadsheet

CM Papanikolas stated that the Tracking Spreadsheet has been updated. There are currently 39 projects on the list, including completed projects and those that Council has decided not to pursue at this time. He added project numbers, but those are for reference, not an order in which projects will be completed. There was discussion about adding definitions for each column. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if "next milestone" could be changed to "action items". There was Council discussion on how the tracker is updated in OneDrive and communication between Councilmembers on how to update projects with joint leads. Resident Jose Valcarcel commented that this is a living document and until Council actually begins using it that there will be questions. The Council plans to have the tracker as part of the Consent Agenda for the December 14th town meeting.

4. Public Safety

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that the Council held their annual Legislative Dinner last week, to meet with officials who represent Berwyn Heights on a State and County Level. Four Councilmembers were able to attend as were Eric Olson (for County Council District 3), Jonathan Briggs (the new District 2 School Board representative) and State Delegate Anne Healey. There was a lot of good conversation and

discussion regarding school boundary changes, stormwater management, and the potential for noise and stop sign cameras. The Council asked about bond bills, but would have to get the Town's paperwork in order very quickly.

a. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that MPT Brittan-Powell had asked for an update on the UMD School of Public Health agreement. She reviewed that she had reached out to the SPH and received the response that it is better for the Council to hold an internal discussion before meeting with the SPH, regarding what are the big questions the Council/community would like to have answered (in terms of assets/needs), as well as the types of engagement that the Council is hoping to accomplish. After the internal discussions are held, the SPH will meet with the Council, and then the Council and SPH will meet with the community. Berwyn Heights Emergency Assistance Program

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed some minor track changes and comments made by Town Attorney Ferguson. The Council had discussion about the intent on the insurance requirement and confirmed that their intent is that if a resident is uninsured, then they are ineligible for funds. This prompted discussion about if the Town can make homeowners and renters insurance mandatory as part of a rental license. CM Papanikolas suggested that Code Compliance could do education on renters and flood insurance. Council addressed some language that needed clarification as well as who will make the assessment once an application is submitted. There was concern that a police officer might be intimidating. Resident Jose Valcarcel stated that some residents may have more issues with Code Compliance than the Police Department. He suggested the Town should call the resident and let them know that a staff person, naming the person, will be stopping by and then the resident knows who to expect. CM Papanikolas reiterated that nothing from this process will be used for Code Compliance issues or enforcement. They addressed another comment from Town Attorney Ferguson that the applications should be reviewed by staff and then the Council could be the body to address appeals. There were no issues with that from Council.

The Council began discussion on the application. There is a sentence that Town Attorney Ferguson recommended be removed and Council agreed. CM Papanikolas questioned if a webform could be created that would securely accept proof of residency and any PII? As next steps, the Council needs to amend the budget and make appropriations for the program. MPT Brittan-Powell asked how the program will be funded. CM Papanikolas replied that it will be a reserve fund which could potentially be depleted, and the Council would have to re-evaluate the need, if the fund is depleted. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed that a new reserve fund has the potential to raise taxes. CM Papanikolas will have a discussion with Town Treasurer

Lightfield regarding the fund balance and that will inform the decision on how large the reserve fund can be without raising taxes.

5. Public Works

CM Menjivar invited Director Pudner to give an update on Public Works. He reviewed that they are staying on schedule as the leaves seem to have fallen early this year. Holiday lights were a big project recently. He updated on the curbside collection of compost, stating that approximately 40 households are participating and more who are likely mixing their compost in with their yard waste.

a. Food Compost Containers/Bins: verbal report

Director Pudner continued that residents have come to Public Works about their composting containers going missing and requesting that the Town either give or sell uniform food compost containers. He has spoken to neighboring municipalities with one offering 5-gallon buckets with a Town sticker on it and another that offers 4 different sizes of bins, but residents pay half the cost to encourage them to take care of their bins. There was discussion about what kinds of lids would be easier for crews to manage during the disposal process as well as what to do with compost when residents will be out of town on days when compost is picked up.

6. Administration

MPT Brittan-Powell expressed his gratitude for the additional work that Administrative staff are carrying during this time without a Town Manager.

a. Berwyn Heights Home Retrofit Program

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that there are a couple of proposals on the table. MPT Brittan-Powell shared that residential waterproof doors are not available in the United States and that there is no market available for them. There are watertight doors for commercial properties but not for residential. Since specialty doors are not available, there aren't specialty contractors for this. However, he has spoken with a few contractors who expressed interest in this niche and would be interested in working with the Town on this. He and Mayor Kulpa-Eddy discussed the WSSC request for meetings to discuss installation of backflow preventers and how these meetings might take place. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if the intention was to include the storm gates as part of the retrofit program, as there would need to be an application and "hold harmless" agreement for those as well.

CM Hemby stated that during that last meeting she was asked to work with INCbh and Jose Valcarcel who is an architect and project manager. They created a document with background information and a proposal pro-

cess. She invited Claudia Barragan to present. Ms. Barragan requested that this document be voted on during the December 14th Town Meeting and that if the vote is yes, to assign a start date. She proposed that the program be renamed "Flood Resilience Residential Retrofit". She reviewed the background information of the program and shared that FEMA has a toolkit for residential retrofit programs. She also added that Maryland has recently passed a law to provide loans to resident who want to retrofit their homes. She emphasized the importance of not creating barriers to implement the program. She shared how DC has implemented a cost-sharing program for residents who have an interest in removing the lead pipes from their homes and shared how a similar system could work to retrofit homes in Town. She stated that flood risk eligibility would be based on need shown with data, such as pictures of previous flooding.

Mr. Valcarcel proposed that a case study be done to determine an estimate of what it will actually take to retrofit one of the houses. He reviewed the proposed process including utilization of contractors who do work for the County and are in good standing, including all the required licenses and insurances. He reviewed some of the fixes that could be implemented such as sump pumps, drains, window wells, raising walls, etc.

Ms. Barragan reviewed the remainder of the proposal, detailing the implementation and application process.

MPT Brittan-Powell stated that in previous versions, sump pumps had been excluded. CM Papanikolas expressed that while that was true, emergency pumps may be worth considering. There was continued discussion on the proposal. CM Hemby expressed her appreciation for residents who are subject matter experts and willing to do pro bono work for the Town. Council discussed next steps and asked who would run the program. CM Papanikolas reviewed that in the last meeting they discussed that the ARPA Grants Manager would oversee the program with the Town Manager, and he would support the Grant Manager until a Town Manager has been hired.

Ms. Barragan reiterated that the offer for this proposal ends on the 14th.

b. Securing Home Ownership in Berwyn Heights

MPT Brittan-Powell addressed that the economics around us are changing and how that affects home ownership and rentals. He continued with how legislation has made it profitable for corporations to buy large amounts of homes and essentially control the rental markets. He continued that there are programs in neighboring communities to help long term renters purchase a home in

the community. He'd appreciate Council reviewing what our neighboring communities are doing and seeing if there would be interest in scaling something to match Berwyn Heights.

c. Introduction and Review of the Traditional Funding Act

MPT Brittan-Powell introduced this as a way to address concerns he has heard from residents about the possibility of using ARPA funds to pursue a Town-owned property for the Police Department. This Act would essentially be a commitment to not use ARPA funds for a building for the Department. He continued that the largest portion of maintaining a decent police force is salary, not buildings. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed that salaries are an ongoing expense and ARPA funds cannot be used for salaries and increased salaries could lead to increased property taxes.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy continued that ARPA funds are a onetime funding source that has been encouraged to be used for onetime expenditures. She expressed concern regarding a possibility of funds being pulled back by Treasury if funding isn't allocated, and requested that Council not restrict the use of ARPA funds for this potential purpose. She reiterated that she is not asking for funds to be allocated, just not restricted. CM Papanikolas confirmed that MPT Brittan-Powell's intent was to pass a resolution for this and as such a resolution can be changed by the passage of another resolution that would allow Council to change direction.

Resident Jose Valcarcel asked if this resolution would be voted on at the next Town Meeting and asked for confirmation that the project is not budgeted for in any way. It was confirmed that the project is not budgeted, and that the resolution is not ready to go before Council at the December meeting. He also asked if the Police Department was addressed by residents during the initial survey of the community on how ARPA should be spent. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that she could not recall if it had been addressed, but that the ARPA final rule has changed since that survey was completed. There was brief discussion on preparing another survey.

CM Hemby asked to return to the subject of storm/flood gates, asking when they will be purchased. She expressed confusion over why they had not been purchased. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that there are two issues: developing a hold harmless agreement and the number of gates to be ordered. CM Hemby expressed her understanding that the former Town Manager had a purse of \$10,000 she could spend and wants to know why they have not been purchased yet.

There was discussion about which line item that former TM Allen had planned to charge the gates to. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy expressed concern that if they order gates and nobody uses them, they could be accused of wasting taxpayer money. MPT Brittan-Powell stated he had many names of people who are interested in the gates. CM Papanikolas said he'd work with Town Treasurer Lightfield to determine where the funds could come from.

d. Stormwater Management - Current Status and next steps

MPT Brittan-Powell shared that he sent Council an RFP draft for Council to consider for the Town to spearhead a project to address the stormwater management issues regarding the storm drains. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that she doesn't believe that the Town is able to address the storm drains as those are County property. There was discussion on responsibility for the storm drains and if the Town should prepare a project plan or if the County should do so.

e. Walkable Bikeable Berwyn Heights Status and Report, MNPCC Grant and Next Steps

MPT Brittan Powell reviewed that the Town had received a grant to implement the WBBH findings. He expressed that the intention of discussing it at this meeting is to alert residents that it has not been forgotten. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that the Town is waiting for the County to assign an engineer to the project.

7. Adjournment

CM Papanikolas moved to adjourn the meeting. MPT Brittan-Powell seconded. After no discussion the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:43PM.

M. Friesen 12/14/22

Town Meeting Minutes : December 14, 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, and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Town Clerk Melanie Friesen was present as were residents of the Town of Berwyn Heights.

Pledge of Allegiance

Announcements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy announced that Councilmember Faustino Menjivar had an excused absence. She reported that Council had met in Executive Session on December 12, 2022. CM Hemby moved to close the meeting, seconded by CM Papanikolas. The motion passed 4:0. The meeting closed at 6:01PM with Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, MPT Brittan-Powell, CM Hemby, CM Papanikolas present. CM

Menjivar was absent. Council met under the exception in Article § 3-305(b)(1): To discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of an appointee, employee, or official over whom this public body has jurisdiction; or any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals. The meeting concluded at 9:27PM. Council interviewed candidates for the interim Town Manager position. The Council reached a consensus to offer the position to one of the candidates interviewed and is in negotiations with them.

MPT Brittan-Powell mentioned the Winter Storm Warning overnight.

Approval of Agenda

CM Papanikolas moved to approve the agenda. CM Hemby seconded. During discussion MPT Brittan-Powell sought clarification on item 8b, confirming that this was an introduction of the Emergency Assistance Fund and the corresponding budget amendment. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing Ordinance 106: Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed Ordinance 106 and how this will require Comcast to continue to provide all existing benefits for the next 10 years, including the Town's Comcast cable channel and I-net internet access. She opened the Public Hearing at 7:07PM. No residents commented. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he's been asked if this agreement restricts the broadband in Town. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy replied that it does not and mentioned that the Town also has an agreement with Verizon. The hearing closed at 7:09PM.

Consent

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to approve the consent agenda. CM Papanikolas seconded. In discussion, MPT Brittan-Powell questioned a portion of the November 9, 2022 minutes, specifically item 7b. He expressed concern that this portion does not properly reflect Robert's Rules, where if a motion does not have a second it is as though it was never considered by the Council. In lieu of amending the November 9th minutes, the minutes from this meeting reflect that proper procedure. The motion to approve the consent agenda passed unanimously, 4:0.

Mayor & Councilmember Reports

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that she had only one recent meeting, which was the PGCMA Legislative Meet-and-Greet. CM Papanikolas also attended. They were able to meet with legislators from across the County and State and discuss concerns such as noise cameras and storm-water management. She then wished everyone a happy holiday season.

ryone a happy holiday season.

MPT Brittan-Powell expressed appreciation for all the volunteers and employees from Public Works who contributed to a successful tree lighting party. He thanked the Administrative staff for the extra work they have picked up between Town Managers. He also thanked the Mayor for all the additional work she has done as well. He wished everyone blessings for the holiday season, encouraging safe interactions and to keep up with current vaccines.

CM Hemby expressed gratitude for the residents in Berwyn Heights and is looking forward to seeing everyone in the new year.

CM Papanikolas also shared holiday wishes and has personally been uplifted this holiday season. He added it's nice to see people being able to get out and enjoy the holidays together.

MPT Brittan-Powell also wanted residents to know that there are matters before the Council that have been put on-hold until a Town Manager has been hired. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy also expressed that some matters still need to be fully realized.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy gave a brief Public Works update including that leaf collection is going well and that street repaving is complete. She complimented the work done with the holiday lights at Town Hall. She reported that crews are prepared and reporting early to respond to the pending winter storm. MPT Brittan-Powell shared good wishes for Luis Cardenas who will be leaving Town employment.

Committee Reports

Education Advisory Committee: CM Papanikolas reported that the EAC is still on hiatus.

Green Team: Paul Kavanaugh shared that the Green Team has been focused on planning projects for 2023, including developing bilingual educational signage and updating their website. They are looking to hold events focused on storm-water, removal of invasive plants, and more. Additionally, they are collecting old and broken holiday lights to be recycled. The Green Team is always open to suggestions and feedback.

Historical Committee: CM Papanikolas shared that the Historical Committee participated as a team for trivia night. They are planning another wine and cheese event in the spring. They are also hoping to begin editing existing footage for the oral history project, with hopes to finish in 2023. Their next meeting will be January 25th.

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness: CM Papanikolas shared that NW/EP is planning to try and get some trainings scheduled in the next calendar

year, including basic first aid and CPR/AED. The next meeting would be Jan 4th if there are no changes. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said that they are still trying to secure a vendor for a Townwide shredding event in January.

Recreation Council: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported that the tree lighting event went well with great weather. She expressed apologies for miscommunication on the timing of the event as some old yard signs said it went from 6-8PM and this year it went from 6-7PM. The Recreation Council is planning for a "post-holiday party with a regifting game" in the New Year.

Old Business

Adoption of Ordinance 106

MPT Brittan-Powell moved to waive the second reading and adopt Ordinance 106. CM Hemby seconded. MPT Brittan-Powell thanked the Mayor for moving this forward during a demanding time. After no further comment the motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

New Business

Introduction and First Reading of updated Ordinance 110-Ethics

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the purpose of the updated ordinance and the changes that are being required by the State of Maryland. CM Papanikolas moved to waive the first reading and introduce Ordinance 110. CM Hemby seconded the motion. In discussion MPT Brittan-Powell offered that the changes being required are the result of issues that happened elsewhere, but that the Town is simply required to comply. The motion passed unanimously, 4:0.

The Public Hearing on the Ordinance will be during the January Town Meeting.

Berwyn Heights Emergency Assistance Fund Program

CM Papanikolas introduced the program that the Council has been working on since August. He summarized that there are residents in Town who don't have the resources to weather an emergency such as short-term housing needs. This program would grant \$1,000 to residents who apply for the grant. He also shared that Ordinance 185C is being presented to fund the program. CM Hemby moved to introduce the Berwyn Heights Emergency Assistance Fund Program. MPT Brittan-Powell seconded. During discussion, MPT Brittan-Powell asked if there was a limit on income or need. He also asked how applications would be considered if several applications are received nearly simultaneously. CM Papanikolas shared that there is not a limit on income. He also stated that they would have to figure it out at that time if many applications are received closely together. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy clarified that the Town Attorney stated that they could only do "first come, first

served" or base prioritization on income or need, but trying to do both would not work. MPT Brittan-Powell asked where the number \$50,000 came from as he thought it was decided to start the fund smaller and increase if needed. CM Papanikolas replied this was discussed during a worksession in which MPT Brittan-Powell was absent. There was discussion on the issue of the fund being a "last resort" vs a stop-gap measure. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about how this accounts for personal responsibility. CM Papanikolas stated that every applicant will have to affirm they have properly insured their belongings and that if they have not it, would be considered fraud and there would be legal consequences. He continued that there needs to be an education component where residents are informed about all the insurance options available to them. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy highlighted this fund comes out of the Town's savings account, and that in a worst-case scenario, the Town may have to raise property taxes in order to keep it funded, especially if it is continually depleted. A Public Hearing will be held at the January 2023 Town Meeting. The motion to introduce the program (description, application and funding via Ordinance 185-C) passed unanimously, 4:0.

Prioritizing Collaboration Projects with UMD-Campus Community Connection Program

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that Mr. Andrew Fellows had presented at a previous worksession. At the time, the Council had no projects to submit. Since then, MPT Brittan-Powell has suggested a project, which would focus on communicating with residents on stormwater management and concerns. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that this could fall under "Improved Residential Engagement" on the previously proposed project list. She reminded the Council that a proposal does not mean that the project will be chosen by the students, as they choose from among the proposed projects submitted by all participating municipalities. She opened the floor to other suggested projects. There were none. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for a motion to prioritize the "Informing the community of what they can do about stormwater management and mitigation" project. MPT Brittan-Powell made the motion. CM Papanikolas seconded. The motion passed 3:0:1, with CM Hemby abstaining.

Resident & Community Comments

Resident Paul Kavanaugh presented Council with paperwork that he would like to see become part of the public record. This paperwork asked several questions of the Council. He stated that his family moved to Berwyn Heights for the Town's commitment to sustainability and to Prince George's County due to the demographics of the community. He commented on how one tree adds \$57,000 of value to the residents in the Town. He added that he

was disappointed in the Town's lack of participation in Hispanic, Indigenous, and Black Heritage months.

There were no further resident comments.

9. Adjournment

CM Papanikolas moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:06PM.

M. Friesen 12/16/22



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Meet Peter Jones, Berwyn Heights' Interim Town Manager

Peter Jones is Berwyn Heights' new Interim Town Manager and Chief Financial Officer. In these roles, either directly or through Department managers, Mr. Jones oversees the daily operations of the Town, including general operations, budget, human resources, administration, special projects, etc. His professional local government career belies his commitment to providing responsive, high quality services and improving the quality of life of the communities that he serves.

Born and raised in Philadelphia, PA, Mr. Jones first discovered the "DMV" while stationed at Marine Barracks in Washington, D.C. Upon leaving the Marines he returned to Philadelphia, eventually earning a B.A. in Religion from Temple University and two Master degrees in social work from the Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research. Mr. Jones spent 20 years as a social worker, where he held two executive directorships and was a senior manager at two other non-profits. Rounding out his social work experiences was working for the University of Maryland School of Social Work (SW Community Outreach Service) as an Assistant Director.

In 2003 Mr. Jones entered public service as a Mayoral Appointee for the Anthony Williams administration in D.C., where, in addition to implementing Mayoral priorities, he planned and resolved neighborhood issues that required a multi-departmental response. Mr. Jones' local government experiences include lead management roles at several municipalities in Prince George's County, including Brentwood and Glenarden. In addition to overseeing municipal services (public safety, public works, codes enforcement/zoning/ permitting, parks and recreation, and working with seniors), Mr. Jones has been involved in economic development projects, project/program management activities, and contract administration. He has overseen a host of Federal, State and private (foundation) contracts and grants, most in the form of an award stemming from a competitive solicitation process. Over the years Mr. Jones built active and productive relationships with residents, community groups, businesses, elected officials and government administrators, and has worked with seniors, adults and youth.

During the past ten years Mr. Jones worked for the D.C. Government as a contract specialist, associate contracting officer and contract administrator, principally purchasing equipment, products and services for the D.C. Fire and EMS Department. During this period he earned accreditations in the procurement specialty from the Universal Public Purchasing Certification Council and George Washington University. He retired from the D.C. Government in August of last year.



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THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE OUR HOLIDAY PARTY AND THE CEREMONY TO CELEBRATE SENSEI LEON'S PROMOTION TO 7TH DEGREE SO SPECIAL SPECIAL!



Promotion ceremony: The karate club with the Mayor, Police, and Lead Mason

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



Historical Committee

Save the date!

April 16, 2023

It is time for our Spring Wine and Cheese Event. We have a special treat for you. More information coming in the March Bulletin!

We are back to our normal meeting schedule-the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. Be one of the first to know of our upcoming events. Visitors are always welcome!

Happy Presidents' Day!

The next meeting of the BHHC is on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 in the Love Room at 7:30 pm.

All other inquiries to:

dsteelesny@yahoo.com

For more information visit our Website:

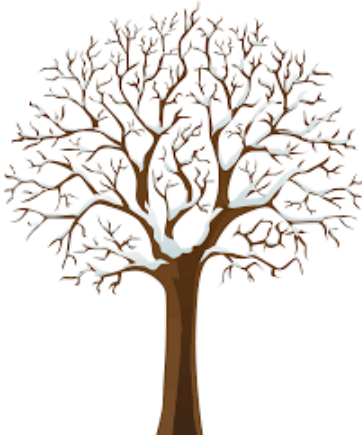
<https://berwynheightshistory.com>

and on Facebook.



Protecting our Tree Canopy

Shade trees provide many benefits for our town. For starters, trees:



Provide energy savings. Trees can block wind in winter and provide shade in summer, reducing utility costs.

Reduce stormwater runoff that contributes to flooding and allows harmful substances to enter waterways.

Beautify our neighborhood and make Berwyn Heights a better place to live!

Do you have ideas about how to protect our tree canopy? Please don't hesitate to share them!

Please join the Berwyn Heights Shade Tree Board at an upcoming meeting with the Green Team or reach out!

Next meeting: February 9th, 7 pm, Virtual meeting

Contact: Amanda Dewey, amandamdewey@gmail.com



Berwyn Heights GreenBee

bgreen.berwynheights@gmail.com

www.berwynheightsgreenteam.wordpress.com

Facebook: @BerwynHeightsGreenTeam



Our next virtual Green Team meeting will be Thursday, February 9 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 9 de febrero 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.

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Get a home energy assessment!

Receive free upgrades such as LED lightbulbs and water-efficient showerheads.
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in upgrading their home.



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Berwyn Heights Recreation Council

Saturday, February 11th from 5-7pm

International Potluck

at the Town Center, 1st Floor (8603 57th Avenue)

All are welcome! Bring a dish to share and enjoy with your neighbors. Show off a family favorite or represent where you come from.



CRAFT DAY will continue every **SATURDAY** from 11am-2pm!

Town Center (1st Floor) Make a gift for someone special or just be creative and take something cool home with you.

GAME NIGHT continues every **FRIDAY NIGHT**, at 7:30pm

Town Center (1st Floor) Join in with our collection of board, strategy & card games, or feel free to bring your own!



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

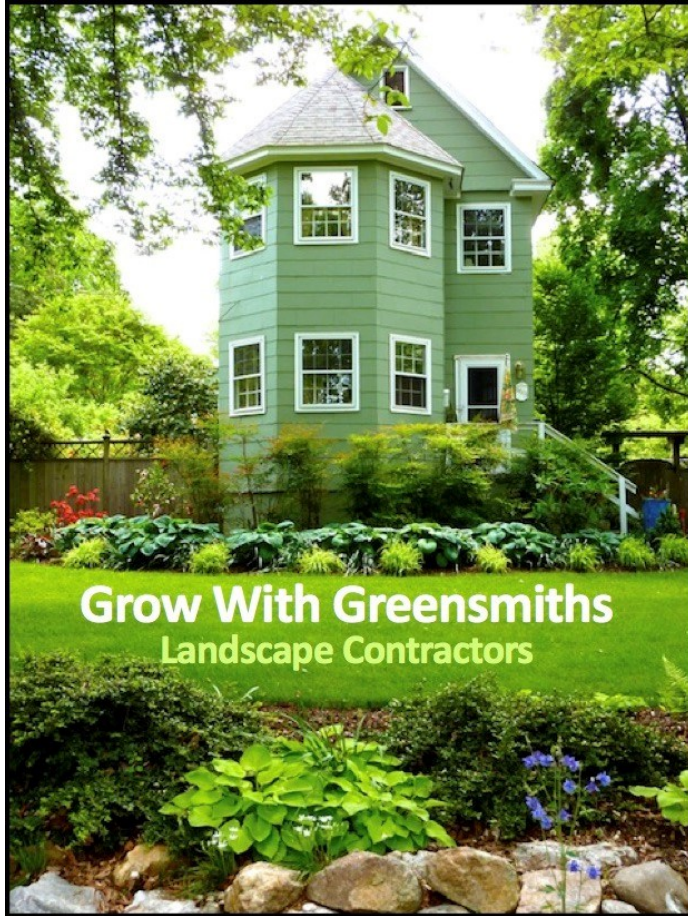
Our goal is to have a fun event happening in our community each month. An International Pot-Luck and Karaoke Night are just a few new ideas, stay tuned for dates & additional information. And please let us know if you have any suggestions of events that you would like to see!

Our next in person meetings will be **Tuesday, 2/7** and **Tuesday, 3/7** at 7:00pm in the **G. Love Room at the Senior Center**. We will be starting to plan Berwyn Heights Day. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Questions? Comments? Contact us at violindreams@verizon.net

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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Join us February 1st at 7:00pm in the G. Love Room or via Zoom



With Valentine's Day fast approaching this month, we would like to provide some information for online dating scam(s)...

Have you ever thought about Online Dating? Have you been a victim of Online Dating gone bad?

You may have thought about signing up for Online Dating OR Actually Done It...If you have, you may already know that there are good and bad experiences with online dating services!!!! There are tips for identifying when your date may be more interested in your money than they are in you:

- 1) if your date presses you to leave the dating site you met through and communicate using personal email or instant messaging;
- 2) professes instant feelings of love;
- 3) sends you a picture of themselves that looks like it came from a glamour magazine;
- 4) claims to be from the U.S. and is traveling or working overseas;
- 5) makes plans to visit but is then unable to do so because of a tragedy; or
- 6) asks for money for a variety of reasons (i.e. travels, medical emergencies, hotel expenses, hospital expenses for child or other relatives, visas or other official documents, losses due to financial setbacks or crime victimization)

NEVER send money through wire transfer services to someone you met online!!!!!! The chances of recovering your money are slim to none!!!!!!

The best way to avoid these criminals altogether are to use nationally known reputable online dating websites!!!!!! Never send money through any wire transfer services to someone who you met online!!!!!! The chances of recovering your money is slim to none!!!!!! If you think you have been a victim of an online dating scam(s) or any internet facilitated crime(s), you can file a report at www.ic3.gov.

Some tips to avoid online dating scam(s):

- 1) use a separate email, phone number, etc for online dating;
- 2) run a background check on them;
- 3) NEVER put personal information on your profile or give it to someone;
- 4) ask lots of questions of this person;
- 5) REPORT suspicious people to the dating site

The more you know about online dating the better you will be!!!!!!



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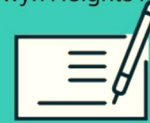


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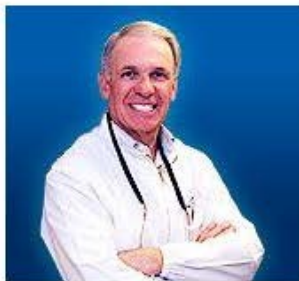
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- Service all appliances if needed
- Have records available for service calls

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- TOWN RESIDENT

Just a few of my transactions in the last 30 days.....will your address be here next month???

Under Contract- 6210 Seminole PL 4 BR 2 BA Rambler w/FP
SOLD- 5610 Seminole St- 2 BR 1 BA Rambler lg lot\$337K
SOLD-6207 Tecumseh PI 4 BR 2 BA Rambler w/ FP \$410K.
Coming Soon- 3 BR 1.5 BA Rambler gourmet Kit

Don Bunuan | Realtor



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- Patty Galati and Karen Jung



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December Incidents

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022, AT 6:45 AM, 'STOLEN VEHICLE'

On 12/01/2022 at approximately 0645 hours officer responded to 85** 60th Pl., Berwyn Heights, MD for a stolen vehicle report call. Upon arrival, the victim stated the unknown suspect stole her vehicle from 85** 60th Pl., Berwyn Heights MD on 12/01/2022 at 0436 hours. Teletype was advised C1133.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2022, AT 2:52 AM, 'ARMED CARJACKING'

On 12/02/2022, at approximately 0252 hours, officers responded to 5815 Greenbelt Rd Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 for the report of an armed carjacking. On scene, the victim advised that he was exiting the 7-11 when an unknown suspect pushed him back into the store and displayed a handgun. The suspect told the victim to get on the ground and demanded his car key. The victim complied with the demand and the suspect went to the victim's vehicle. A second unknown suspect then entered the store and demanded the victim's phone. The victim complied and both suspects fled in the victim's vehicle in an unknown direction. The victim was not injured and provided a written statement. Further investigation will be handled by the SID Carjacking Interdiction Unit. Suspect 1: B/M, green puffy coat, gray hoodie, black pants, colorful shoes, gray handgun Suspects 2: B/M, gray jacket, blue jeans, black shoes. Weapon: Gray handgun Mask: Black Facemasks Suspect Vehicle: None Property Taken: Keys, Apple iPhone Carjacked Vehicle: 2022 black Honda Accord MD-7EZ1947 VIN: 1HGCV1F39NA046550.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022, AT 9:00 AM, 'SHOP WITH A COP'

On Saturday, Cpl. Rufino and Police Executive Assistant Ms. Muralles participated in the Shop with a Cop event hosted by the Mt. Rainier PD. In addition to the gift cards received, they spend their own money helping needy kids.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2022 AT 12:00 PM, 'TOWN-WIDE EMPLOY-

EES LUNCHEON'

On Friday employees of the Town participated in the annual holiday luncheon. This year the event was conducted virtually for the safety of the staff.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022, AT 5:00 PM, 'THEFT from VEHICLE'

On December 08, 2022, at approximately 1712 hours, an officer responded to 89** 59th Avenue, Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740 for theft from auto incident. The victim advised that his vehicle was parked in front of the residence at the location of the incident. The vehicle was parked between December 07, 2022, and December 08, 2022, between 2200 hours and 1700 hours. The victim advised that he returned to the vehicle and observed his vehicle rummaged through by an unknown suspect. The unknown suspect unlawfully entered the victim's vehicle and took the listed items. The unknown suspect fled the location of the incident in an unknown direction and made good on their escape. A canvass was conducted throughout the neighborhood for residential cameras. The vehicle was processed for latent prints and yielded negative results. The victim was advised on the scene and given a case number for reference.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2022, AT 10:00 AM, 'DEATH INVESTIGATIONS'

On December 15, 2022, Officer Lowndes # 1456 and Det Krouse # 1447 were dispatched to 89** 56th Ave, Berwyn Heights, MD, 20740 for a death investigation. Officer Lowndes spoke with Medic Michael from Ambulance 812. He stated to Officer Lowndes the wife of the listed deceased, found her husband in his red and black plaid pajamas in the main hallway bathroom sitting on the bathroom floor with his back leaning against the bathtub. The Medics from Ambulance 814 and 812 arrived on the scene, they immediately noticed the victim had minimal breathing. The Medics moved the subject from the bathroom to the back of the Ambulance (814). At about 10:31 AM Medic Michael Barnett and Capital regional Dr. Akomdah pronounced the death of the aforementioned.

Det Krouse's investigation revealed, the deceased suffered from the following illnesses: diabetes, COPD, high blood

pressure, congestive heart failure, and atrial fibrillation (AFib). The 83 Y/O, W/M had a pacemaker, and his aortic heart valve was replaced several years ago. Three days prior to his death, the subject was complaining of chest pains and difficulty in breathing. The deceased had suffered cardiac arrest in 2021 and was hospitalized at White Oak Adventist Hospital.

The decedent's Primary Care Physician Dr. Berrard was contacted by Det Krouse via telephone and the doctor stated he will sign the death certificate.

Via telephone Det Krouse spoke with the on-call Medical Examiner (Case # 22-16417) and the on-call Prince Georges County Homicide Detective. M.E. released the decedent to Gasch's funeral home and the Prince Georges County Homicide was informed by Det Krouse and no further investigation was needed.

At about 12:10 PM Gasch's funeral home arrived on the scene and took custody of the deceased.



Happy
VALENTINE'S DAY



BERWYN HEIGHTS

Volunteer Fire Department & Rescue Squad, Inc.

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

In Case of Emergency Call 911!

Recent Working Incidents

Dec 22- Rescue Squad 14 and its volunteer crew was dispatched to the Inner-Loop of I-495 prior to I-95 in Beltsville for a vehicle accident with people trapped. Rescue Squad 14 arrived and stabilized the vehicle and extricated the patient.

Dec 22nd: At 12:41pm Ladder Truck 14 & Ambulance 14B was dispatched to the 4400Blk of West Caroline Ave in Beltsville for a reported building fire. Units arrived to find fire showing.

Dec 22nd: At 4:41pm Ladder Truck 14 was dispatched to the 5400Blk of Hamilton St in Bladensburg for a reported Apartment Fire. First arriving units found smoke showing; Truck 14 operated on the floor above, searching and checking for extension, with negative results.

Dec 23rd- Ladder Truck 14 and its volunteer crew were alerted to the 2300 block of Vermont Avenue in Landover on with a 2-story multi-family dwelling w/smoke from a fire in the basement showing from 1st floor & roof. A 2nd alarm was sounded due to the location of fire & weather conditions. As fire suppression operations were underway, a partial collapse of the basement occurred causing a trapped firefighter to signal a "Mayday" distress call. The firefighter was able to self-extricate and escape the collapsed portion of the basement.

Dec 23rd- Ladder Truck 14 and its volunteer crew were alerted on the 2nd Alarm to the 6100 block of Old Central Ave for a reported structure fire. On scene, crews found a 3-story former educational facility with smoke showing from a fire on the 2nd floor.

Dec 24th- **SANTA!** Volunteers staffing Ladder Truck 14, Ambulance 14, Ambulance 14B, Utility14, Chief 14A, and BHPD, escorted Santa around Berwyn Heights.

Dec 28th- Ladder Truck 14 was alerted to the 6400 blk Landover Rd for a reported apartment fire.

Dec 30th- Rescue Squad 14 as the County's North-side Technical Rescue Team was alerted to the 7600 Blk Finns Lane in Lanham, for a vehicle into a house. Units arrived to find an SUV into a house with no reported injuries.

Jan 8th- Rescue Squad 14 and its volunteer crew were dispatched to the intersection of Campus Dr and Kenilworth Ave in Riverdale for a personal injury accident with one patient trapped in the vehicle. The Squad crew removed the doors, and roof, and extricated the patient in 5 minutes.

Volunteers Make Rescue on College Park House Fire

On Saturday January 8th, 2023, at around 2pm, volunteers staffing Ladder Truck 14 (8 volunteers), Paramedic Ambulance 14, (2 volunteers) Chief 14-B, and surrounding companies were alerted for a house on fire with multiple calls in the 9700Blk of Wichita Avenue in College Park. While en route communications advised that they were getting reports of people trapped inside of the home. Truck 14 arrived on the scene as the first arriving unit with smoke and fire coming from the home.



Truck 14's interior team entered the side entrance of the home and located and removed a trapped occupant (adult female) within 4 minutes of arriving. The patient was handed off to Paramedic Ambulance 14 and Bladensburg Ambulance 9 for treatment and transport to an area hospital with life-threatening injuries.

Chief 14B was assigned "operations" by incident command. The interior crew continued searching and opening up hidden fire on the first and second floors, operating with Engine 12 (College Park VFD). The exterior team laddered the structure and ventilated the roof. Truck 14 operated for 3 hours before returning to service.

PC College Park VFD—>



Vehicle Donations Needed!

BHVFD operates one of the busiest Rescue Squads in the region covering over 60 miles of highways. Our members use donated vehicles in training for vehicle rescues and extrication techniques. We are able to offer a tax deduction equal to the current fair market value of any used vehicle when donated to the department, and can usually pick them up.



If you are interested in donating a used car, please email spierce@bhvfd14.org or call the station. *Thank*

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.

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



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.

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

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

Also ask about handyman services

**Angela's
Cleaning &
Handyman
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](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
Email: parish@holy-redeemer.org

Thomas A. Gentile, Attorney



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



Berwyn Heights Resident
Admitted to Practice, MD, DC, VA
Over 45 years experience
Wills, Powers of Attorney, Probate, Trusts,
Home Visits to Berwyn Heights Residents.

Black History Month

To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week (then called “Negro History Week”) nearly a century ago. The event was first celebrated during the second week of February 1926, selected because it coincides with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and abolitionist/writer Frederick Douglass (February 14). That week would continue to be set aside for the event until 1976 when, as part of the nation’s bicentennial, it was expanded to a month. Since then, U.S. presidents have proclaimed February as National Black History Month.

Every year, the Association of the Study of African American Life and History selects an overarching theme for Black History Month. The very first Black History Month theme was Civilization: A World Achievement. The 2023 Black History Month theme is Black Resistance.

Black Resistance shines a light on historic and modern oppressions against African Americans. Advocating for equity has long been a form of resistance. Resisting acts of discrimination, injustices, and racism plays a critical role in African Americans' well-being. (<https://www.bestcolleges.com/blog/black-history-month-facts/>)

The following facts are provided by the 2020 US Census (<https://www.census.gov/newsroom/facts-for-features/2022/black-history-month.html>)

Note: References to the Black population in this publication refer to single-race Black people (“Black alone”) unless otherwise noted.

Did you know:

46.9 million: The black or African American alone or in combination population in the United States in 2020.

89.4%: The percentage of African Americans age 25 or older with a high school diploma or higher in 2020

30.7%: The percentage of employed Black populations 16 and older working in management, business, science, and arts occupations in 2019.

134, 567: The number of Black-owned employer businesses in the United States in 2019

3.2 million: the number of Black civilian military veterans in the United States nationwide in 2019.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

BH Elementary School PTA

President: Lilly Ridge
President@BHESPTA.org

Secretary: Angie Wiens
Treasurer: Sara Jacobsen

Boys & Girls Club

President: Robin Harris
rcrestwell@yahoo.com

Vice President: Brandi Cowgill
brandie9105@gmail.com

Registrar: Tiffany Papanikolas
tif.papanikolas@gmail.com

Treasurer: Sandra Zuniga
Secretary:

Athletic Director: Darryl Harris
darryl.harris@aimdgroup.com

Fundraising Chair:

Education Advisory Committee

Chair: Allison Holmes
thebheac@gmail.com

Green Team/ Shade Tree Board

Facilitator: Jeffrey Knutson
jbknutson@verizon.net

Public Outreach: Therese Forbes
therese@celticclans.com

Historical Committee

Chair: Debby Steele Snyder
dsteelesny@yahoo.com

Immigrant Neighbors Community of Berwyn Heights (INCbh)

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

Men's Basketball League

Jim McGinnis 301-651-8142

Movie Club

Jonathan Loutsch
bhmovieclub@gmail.com

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness

Co-Chair: Joan Hayden
jimosley45@gmail.com

Co-Chair: Randy Fortwengler
bhnwep53@aol.com

Karate Club

Leon Swain 301-728-2881
Brett Bentley 240-678-9103
Brett.bentley@gmail.com

Quilter's Club

Coordinator: Janet Freitag
quilttag1@yahoo.com
























Recreation Council

President: Susan Jones
violindreams@verizon.net

Seniors Club

Ray Smith 301-474-3482

FEBRUARY 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|---|--|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| | | | 1 NW/EP 7PM  | 2  | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6  Worksession 7PM Council Chambers  | 7  Rec Council 7PM G. Love Room | 8  Town Meeting 7PM Council Chambers  | 9  Green Team 7PM– Virtual | 10 | 11 International Potluck 5-7PM |
| 12 | 13   | 14   | 15  | 16  | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 President's Day Town Offices Closed | 21  Worksession 7PM Council Chambers  | 22  BHHC 7:30PM G. Love Room | 23  | 24  | 25 |
| 26 | 27   | 28   | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

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 22.

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

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PRESORT STANDARD
U. S. Postage Paid
College Park, Maryland
Permit No. 5442

POSTAL CUSTOMER BERWYN HEIGHTS, MARYLAND

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TOWN INFORMATION

Town of Berwyn Heights Phone Nos.

Emergency - Fire & Rescue 9-1-1
Police (Non-Emergency) (301) 352-1200
Police Administrative Office (301) 474-6554
Code Compliance Department (301) 513-9331
Email: code@berwynheightsmd.gov
Public Works Department (301) 474-6897
Email: publicworks@berwynheightsmd.gov
Fire Department (301) 474-7886
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
Mayor — Public Health & Safety
Christopher Brittan-Powell (240) 786-2578 cbrittanpowell@berwynheightsmd.gov
Mayor Pro Tem — Administration
Shinita Hemby (301) 910-7134 shemby@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Code Compliance
Faustino (Tino) Menjivar (240) 854-7845 fmenjivar@berwynheightsmd.gov
Councilmember — Public Works
Jason Papanikolas (240) 338-5191 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
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
Advertising Rates — call Yvonne Odoi, Administration at 301-474-5000, or email: yodoi@berwynheightsmd.gov
Submission Deadline is the 15th of the month