



# Berwyn Heights Bulletin

Incorporated 1896

January 2023



**January 7: Regifting Party**

**January 28: Community Shred**

Some content inside provided in Spanish and English

Algunos contenidos internos se proporcionan en español e inglés.



INSIDE  
THIS  
EDITION

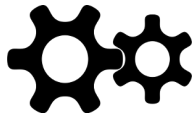
8

Community  
Shred

12

String  
Light  
Recycling

15 NW/EP



# PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

## Street Sweeping Schedule

The streetsweeper will be in Town the week of January 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.

## Curbside Leaf Collection Schedule:

- Week of January 3-6: Town-wide Leaf Vacuum Collection
- Final Call for Leaf Vacuum: Any leaf piles left out by January 7, 2023, will be picked up the following week. After this time, residents will need to bag any remaining leaves in the brown leaf/yard waste bags to be picked up on the normal yard waste day.

## Holiday Trash Schedules

### New Year's Week:

- Monday, January 2, 2023: New Year's Day Holiday- No Trash Pick-up
- Tuesday, January 3, 2023: Town-wide Trash
- Wednesday, January 4, 2023: Town-wide Recycling
- Thursday, January 5, 2023: Town-wide Yard waste/Food Scraps

### MLK Week:

- Monday, January 16, 2023: MLK Holiday- No Trash Pick-up
- Tuesday, January 17, 2023: Town-wide Trash
- Wednesday, January 18, 2023: Town-wide Recycling
- Thursday, January 19, 2023: Town-wide Yard waste/Food Scraps

## Horario de el barrendero de calles:

El barrendero estará en la ciudad la semana del 23 al 27 de enero.

## Horario de recolección de hojas en la acera:

- Semana del 3 al 6 de enero: recolección de aspiradoras de hojas en toda la ciudad
- Llamada final para la aspiradora de hojas: cualquier pila de hojas que quede fuera antes del 7 de enero de 2023 se recogerá la semana siguiente. Después de este tiempo, los residentes deberán embolsar las hojas restantes en las bolsas de desechos de jardín/hojas marrones para recogerlas en el día normal de recolección de desechos de jardín.

## Horarios de recolección de basura en días festivos

### Semana de Año Nuevo:

- Lunes, 2 de enero de 2023: Día festivo de Año Nuevo - No se permite la recolección de basura
- Martes, 3 de enero de 2023: Basura en toda la ciudad
- Miércoles 4 de enero de 2023: Reciclaje en toda la ciudad
- Jueves, 5 de enero de 2023: Residuos de jardín/restos de comida en toda la ciudad

### Semana de Día de Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK):

- Lunes, 16 de enero de 2023: Día feriado de MLK - No hay recolección de basura
- Martes, 17 de enero de 2023: Basura en toda la ciudad
- Miércoles 18 de enero de 2023: Reciclaje en toda la ciudad
- Jueves, 19 de enero de 2023: Residuos de jardín/restos de comida en toda la ciudad

## Worksession Minutes November 7, 2022 | 7:00 pm

### Call to Order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:01PM. Present were Councilmember Shinita Hemby, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar, and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell joined the meeting remotely. Town Clerk Melanie Friesen was present; Town Manager Laura Allen had an excused absence.

### Approval of the Agenda

CM Papanikolas moved to approve the agenda. CM Menjivar seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

### Mayor

### Announcements

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reported out the Executive Session that happened prior to the Worksession from 6:00-6:25PM under General Provisions 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. CM Hemby moved to close the meeting with CM Menjivar seconding. The motion passed unanimously. All Councilmembers were present, with MPT Brittan-Powell attending remotely. During the session Council took action to approved the terms of a personnel agreement.

### Calendar

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed the November calendar. Dates for the Legislative Dinner were discussed, and TC Friesen will reach out to fellow legislators to poll for available dates. MPT Brittan-Powell asked for Council to discuss scheduling a meeting with the University of Maryland School of Public Health. This prompted discussion about what the community wants from a needs assessment. Council decided to hold a listening session, with a possible date of November 17<sup>th</sup>, despite some conflicts.

### News from the Town Manager

### Codification Project Update

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read the update from American Legal that indicated that the codification is likely to be done ahead of schedule.

### Community Bulletin Boards

TC Friesen shared the websites of the recommended bulletin boards. Council reviewed the options and expressed that they are leaning toward the option from Treetop.

### Ethics Code Review recommendations

Ethics Commissioners Alex Lopatka and Diane Beckham reviewed the purpose of the State mandated updates to the Ethics Ordinance.

They shared that the ethics commission recommends adopting the ordinance. Commissioner Lopatka shared that while the State does not require a lobbying section to the Town's Ethic Ordinance, the Commission has included the lobbying section so that there are guidelines in place should lobbying occur. Commissioner Lopatka also reviewed the State Financial Disclosure form that has small changes that the Commission recommends adopting to address the changes to the Ethics Ordinance. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about repetitive language found in Section 4(c) and (c)(1). She also shared that the changes appear to be a consequence of actions taken by other municipalities in the State. CM Papanikolas shared his support for the lobbying section. When answers have been received from the State regarding the duplicate language, the Ordinance will come before the Council again, likely for the December Town Meeting.

### Resident Comments

Resident Claudia Barragan asked if comments would be held to three minutes collectively or per topic. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy replied that comment time is usually collective, but there is some flexibility.

### Public Works

CM Menjivar shared that leaf collection has begun on the northside of Pontiac Street, with the southside pick-up beginning the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>. Leaf collection has been extended to January 7<sup>th</sup>, weather depending. He reported on the street restoration and praised Director Pudner for his quick response to unsafe conditions left by the street contractor. He also gave praise for Public Works participation in "Trunk or Treat".

### Administration

MPT Brittan-Powell asked Mayor Kulpa-Eddy to give an update on the Town Manager status. She shared that TM Allen's last day will be November 10<sup>th</sup> and that a search has started with a consultant for an interim Town Manager who will serve through the end of Budget Season and will be conducting the search for a new Town Manager. Department directors will be helping to cover the workload until an interim has been found. She added that the Town will not have as much Staff capacity to get work done during this time but will be doing the best it can. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed his appreciation for TM Allen's service and also expressed confidence in the administrative staff.

### Storm Water Management/Ordinance 185-A "Selecting Consultants"

MPT Brittan-Powell expressed gratitude to CM Menjivar for his assistance in this area as well as residents who have given their input. He stated that even larger municipalities hire consultants for work of this magnitude and he would like to set up a meeting with the consultants identified from his meetings and interview them. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that this would need to be advertised and proposals would have to be submitted before a meeting could be scheduled. She continued that an advertisement should be published for

30 days, setting a tentative review in January. There was discussion about piggybacking off of another municipality's selection, with CM Papanikolas expressing that the scope of work needs to be reviewed, to ensure their selection also meets our needs. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that he has a draft proposal that he can share with the Council. CM Papanikolas offered to draft the RFP/RFQ.

Resident Jose Valcarcel expressed concern about this discussion, with the implication that the consultants have already been selected and that this is a fake RFP process. MPT Brittan-Powell responded that it was about vetting vendors rather than exclusion. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy also responded that the RFP/RFQ process will be open and encourages residents to share the advertisement once it is published.

### Code Compliance

### Flood Survey Results

CM Hemby thanked all the residents who filled out the survey, gave ideas for the survey, and to staff for their help with the survey. She stated that there were 96 respondents to the survey. Of that 96, there were 73 that were directly affected by storms. There were 13 respondents who did not share their contact information with the Town for follow-up. She asked for those who did not share their information to reach out to the Town so that they can be included in the follow-up conversations.

She will be continuing work with Code Compliance to address concerns and ways to ensure homes in Berwyn Heights are safe for occupancy regardless of ownership or tenant status. She also expressed concern about reports of unsatisfactory behavior between residents, including loud voices and aggressive behavior. She asked for anyone who encountered such an incident to report it using 911. She asked that residents be kind. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy echoed her concerns. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that there may be good data to cross reference from the surveys for the work that CM Menjivar and he are doing.

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

CM Papanikolas encouraged participation in the General Election.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Council Goals and Objectives Update

CM Papanikolas shared that there were two documents in the packet, one being the project tracker as discussed in a previous Worksession. He asked that Council add their projects to the tracker, and proposed to make it an online document so that Council can keep it up-to-date. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked to have discussion regarding the 50<sup>th</sup> Council Goals and Objectives, including prioritization of those projects so that she can add them to

agendas as appropriate. CM Papanikolas shared that the tracker is a project list while the Goals and Objectives is a prospective list. There was discussion about how to rank or prioritize items, as there was a discomfort about ranking or prioritizing the goals championed by other Councilmembers, and how to handle projects that a CM has an interest in championing when the project may fall under another CM's purview. MPT Brittan-Powell also asked for discrete tracking on ARPA projects.

Resident Claudia Barragan spoke asking that residents and organizations who have participated in the project be shown on the tracker. She also would like to see each Councilmember's name by the goals they proposed. She added that some of the goals should be updated, reflecting current Town issues, such as replacing restorative justice in Lakeland with addressing violence and racism in Town. Resident Jose Valcarcel also shared that ranking goals could tell the residents that are involved in those items that their projects are of lower value than others and suggested adding dates of action on the tracker so that it will be obvious if there had not been work done in a considerable period of time. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that goals have steps that need to be captured and knowing next milestones would help with agenda planning. CM Papanikolas will modify the tracker and send it back out to Council for them to fill out their projects, retroactive back to May of 2022 to the extent possible.

#### **BH Education Grant**

CM Papanikolas shared that they had advertised Round One of the grant. He reported that Berwyn Heights Elementary School sent in an application and would like to have that reviewed and voted on at the November Town Meeting.

Ms. Barragan asked when Round Two of the grant will be open. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy said it will be in the Spring but no specific date has yet been set.

#### **Public Safety**

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reminded residents of the upcoming Team Trivia event on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **BH Natural Disaster Relief Fund Program**

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that the program and application are the result of edits submitted by herself and MPT Brittan-Powell. She hopes that this will be able to get off the ground soon. There was discussion regarding ensuring that more than one household may be present at an address. There was discussion regarding self-attestation vs proof of different elements of the program, such as insurance. Council had some disagreements about the underlying philosophy of the program. MPT Brittan-Powell asked for clarification on if the funding for this program was part of the vote at the August 19<sup>th</sup> special meeting. He expressed it was his understanding that the program has already been approved and it just needs to be implemented. CM Papani-

kolas stated it was his understanding after viewing the meeting video that the funds were allocated for a program to be defined as quickly as possible. Discussion continued around the program philosophy and eligibility requirements.

Resident Claudia Barragan stated that she likes the BHEAC grant application and how it is written, and would suggest using it as a template. She also expressed a desire to have the program name changed from disaster assistance to emergency assistance to help create clarification about the program purpose. She also asked if the funding for this program is coming from the \$175K of reallocated ARPA funds. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, MPT Brittan-Powell and CM Papanikolas had differing recollections whether this funding was part of the \$175K of reallocated ARPA funds. There was further discussion to ensure that it is clarified where the funding for this program is coming from. Ms. Barragan continued that the where the funding is coming from is important as with large disasters the funds could be depleted quickly.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that it does not seem like the Council is in consensus about what the program is supposed to entail. Ms. Barragan interjected that it has been three months and no residents have received relief. CM Papanikolas wondered as this is no longer an emergency situation if the priority should be the home retrofit program. CM Hemby asked to prioritize the flood gates and spending the \$175K on fixing homes. She indicated there are a number of projects coming before Council and it would be helpful to develop a focus. MPT Brittan-Powell stated that for this year the disaster/emergency assistance fund will come from the \$175K of reallocated ARPA funds, but in future years would be part of the annual budget. CM Papanikolas will look at the documents and bring them back to Council.

#### **BH Home Retrofit Program**

MPT Brittan-Powell and Council discussed what was passed on August 19<sup>th</sup>, with a discussion about what was proposed, passed, and is now required to make the program a reality, including how the application is an essential function. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed that adding the low-to-moderate income limitation is an amendment to the program that was not discussed. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that limitation is a function of the funds being sourced from ARPA.

Resident Jose Valcarcel stated that the renter vs homeowner portion of the application is not applicable, as renters would not be able to make permanent changes to someone else's property. There was Council discussion about if there should be another application for the temporary flood gates or if they should be a part of this application. Mr. Valcarcel expressed concern that the given timeline on the draft application would limit residents to those who want to install backflow preventors. He also expressed concern that to take advantage of the program residents will need to have permits, time, etc. and that the proposed \$10,000 limit may only pay for the design of

the retrofit project, not implementation. He expressed that having a set of pre-vetted vendors that the Town can recommend may speed the program along as well as save residents money in the design process. He expressed that this is a short-term fix when the long-term problem is fixing the road and storm drainage system. He also suggested that the Town could hire a contractor for the design. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy replied the Town providing this service is not part of the proposed program, which is written as a reimbursement grant program. Resident Claudia Barragan stated she believes residents will be able to sue the Town in the future for floods if they don't take advantage of the grant program as the Town is aware of a problem and did not solve it. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reiterated that the stormdrain system is owned by the County. Mr. Valcarcel suggested that the Town reach out to the 13 people who are known to have flooding and then target a program to fit them.

There was continued discussion whether the program should be a service provided by the Town, or a grant program. MPT Brittan-Powell offered to take the lead and speak to residents and get estimates on what flood doors and windows will cost. He will also write a proposal for contractors. There was discussion on if an RFP/RFQ is required. There was continued discussion about the program description and the application.

#### **Adjournment**

CM Hemby moved to adjourn. CM Papanikolas seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:40PM.

### **Town Meeting Minutes : November 9, 2022 | 7:00 pm**

[Call to order](#)

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Present were Councilmember Shinita Hemby and Councilmember Jason Papanikolas. Mayor Pro Tem Chris Brittan-Powell attended remotely. Councilmember Faustino Menjivar and Town Manager Laura Allen had excused absences. Town Clerk Melanie Friesen was also present as were several residents of the Town of Berwyn Heights.

Pledge of Allegiance

#### **Announcements**

MPT Brittan-Powell expressed his deep appreciation for TM Allen and her work for the Town.

#### **Municipal Government Works Proclamation**

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy read the "Municipal Government Works Month" Proclamation.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

CM Papanikolas moved to approve the agenda. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **FISCAL Public Hearing Ordinance 185B- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE YEAR**



## 2023 BUDGET TO ADD \$100,000 IN ARPA FUNDING FOR AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy gave a brief background on the budget amendment. MPT Brittan-Powell added that this amendment would allow the Town to have access to ARPA funds to spend as may be needed as part of the agreement with the University of Maryland School of Public Health (UMD SPH) but does not require that the Town spend any of the funds.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy opened the public hearing at 7:08 pm.

Resident Angie Wolfinger of 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue asked if this means that this funding can only be spent with UMD SPH. She expressed her understanding that during the original ARPA discussions, funding was set aside in the ARPA budget for promoting wellness in Town and would like clarity on if this money is separate from that. MPT Brittan-Powell and CM Papanikolas both weighed in stating that this is additional funding and would be a separate line item in the budget. Ms. Wolfinger also asked if the funding would be spent on events for Berwyn Heights, or if the Town would be included in events hosted by the University. CM Papanikolas replied that this funding would be for use within the Town.

Resident Claudia Barragan spoke on behalf of INCbh stating that they have had a complete loss of confidence the funds will be allocated appropriately, as there is no background documentation on this item. She stated that much greater detail and specific goals should be available. She encouraged Council to vote no on the ordinance. She also reported reaching out to Erin McClure at UMD SPH to see if they had any information regarding this amendment and was referred back to the Council. She expressed concern about earmarking and the potential for creation of slush funds using ARPA money.

The hearing closed at 7:15 pm.

## Consent

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

## Mayor & Councilmember Reports

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared some items of note, specifically giving a detailed account of how two town officers were involved in the capture and arrest of a bank robber in Town. She gave the accounting from the publicly available police report on the event and commended the officers involved on their professionalism. She shared that she has been busy attending several different meetings including one on the Municipal Tax Differential, the PGCMa meeting in Cheverly that included a Park and Planning presentation and one on legislative priorities. She added that the Four Cities Coalition resulted in communities sharing their legislation regarding shopping carts as that has been an interest in dealing with these in Town. She had attending meetings of the Berwyn Heights Community School steering committee which involved a needs assessment for the school. She also attended the MML Summer Conference Planning committee in Annapolis and a virtual

presentation on Fire Safety. She added that the enrollment period is now open for health insurance and shared ways about how to get information on the options at MarylandHealthConnection.gov.

MPT Brittan-Powell thanked the many members of the community who have been sharing input and suggestions to improve the Town. He will continue to work with residents on projects to advance economic stability. He expressed gratitude to staff for all they are doing and gratitude to the work done by TM Allen, particularly in terms of accounting and developing an excellent team of administrative staff.

CM Hemby shared that the Code Department is working on possible ordinance changes for landlord and rental properties to ensure that all is fair, and will bring these to the Council. She has had comments from residents about how dark some parts of Town are at night due to inadequate streetlighting. She encouraged residents to wear reflective or lighted gear on themselves and their pets at night. She shared about a report of a carjacking in the area (it did not occur in Berwyn Heights) and encouraged residents to be vigilant. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated they will be following up with Pepco on replacing the poles and lights lost during the summer storms. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy also added that that a permit has been issued for the construction of an EV charging station near the Police Department.

CM Papanikolas thanked everyone who participated in democracy on Election Day and shared that he will be representing Berwyn Heights at the Peace Cross rededication in Bladensburg on Veterans' Day.

## Committee Reports

Education Advisory Committee- CM Papanikolas shared that they are still lacking a quorum for their meetings and due to that, the Council will be handling the educational grant request this evening.

Green Team- CM Papanikolas shared that their meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening. Their previous meeting was primarily administrative in nature, addressing the storm damage to trees and exploring if anything could be done in the community garden to prevent stormwater runoff. They also have interest in hiring an arborist for a year. The INCbh representative to the Green Team will be reaching out to the Extension Program to see if they can provide any assistance. MPT Brittan-Powell asked about previous Council discussions on hiring an arborist, perhaps in collaboration with Hyattsville. CM Papanikolas said he'd review his notes on Council discussions.

Historical Committee: Debby Steele-Snyder shared that the Wine and Cheese Event had more than 30 people attend, with Maya Davis from the Riversdale House Museum presenting on what is happening at that location as well as other nearby locations. In their last meeting they had a quorum and were able to hold their elections, sharing that the current leadership was reelected for the same positions. She updated that the November and

December meetings will be moved due to the holidays.

Neighborhood Watch/ Emergency Preparedness: Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that they were out driving around on Halloween and there were no issues noted. They are talking about conducting training on Emergency Preparedness. The County will be getting their training classes running again soon. Lastly, the NW/EP will be trying to host a "shred event" in January.

Recreation Council: CM Papanikolas shared that Trivia night, held on November 18<sup>th</sup>, will be Green Team themed. There is an upcoming craft sale on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a tree decorating party and tree lighting ceremony that evening. The Crafting club will be meeting every Saturday until mid-December and the Rec Council has donation boxes for Toys for Tots and a food drive at Town Buildings. Game Night continues every Friday.

## Old Business

### Adoption of Ordinance 185B

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy introduced the vote on the item from the Public Hearing. She shared that she has been in touch with the UMD SPH and their main need is to know what the needs are for the Community. Council hopes to hold a listening session next week to hear from residents on this topic. MPT Brittan-Powell stated this money makes funding available but does not commit the Town to spending it. CM Papanikolas shared that residents have expressed their concern that this number has been pulled out of thin air and that UMD SPH has not even asked for money, and that scholarships and financial aid typically pay for interns. He believes this is putting the cart before the horse. CM Hemby stated that she agreed with CM Papanikolas as well as expressing concern that they have allocated ARPA money for other items that hasn't yet been spent.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy called for a motion. MPT Brittan-Powell moved to adopt Ordinance 185B. There were no seconds. The motion failed to progress.

### BHES PTA Grant Request

CM Papanikolas shared that the BHES PTA is asking for a grant to replace or upgrade essential educational technology that PGCPs has not prioritized. He shared that the Council will be voting on the application that complies with the grant request, not the letter previously submitted and included in the agenda packet. He added that he has familial connections to BHES and would abstain from the vote. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy clarified that this grant will be coming out of the ARPA funds allocated to address learning loss. MPT Brittan-Powell moved to award the Berwyn Heights Elementary School PTA \$8500. CM Hemby seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed with Mayor Kulpa-Eddy, MPT Brittan-Powell, and CM Hemby in favor of the motion with CM Papanikolas abstaining.

## New Business

Ordinance 106 Amendment, Cable Franchise Renewal (Comcast) First Reader

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared the history of the cable franchise agreement. The results of this updated ordinance ensure that the Town will be able to maintain their Comcast cable channel and keeps the I-Net functioning while its replacement, the C-Net, is built.

CM Papanikolas moved to introduce Ordinance 106 Amendment and waive the first reading. MPT Brittan-Powell seconded. After no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

## Resident & Community Comments

Resident Claudia Barragan shared that she came out of the last worksession feeling positive that projects were moving forward and hopes to see a home retrofit application soon. She also stated that during the worksession there was mention of bias and racially motivated incidents in Town. INCBH will be working with the Police Department on reporting these incidents. She expressed that she would like to have her emails read into the record at worksessions. She asked for an update on the Interim Town Manager search and inquired why it would be open to remote work. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy responded that the advertisement is out and will be open until November 30<sup>th</sup>. They hope to have someone in the position by mid-December. She added that Town Managers are a specialty position and interim Town Managers are even more so. CM Papanikolas added the ability for the person to work remotely will generate a larger pool of candidates to find the best person for the position.

Resident Angie Wolfinger said that she tried to watch the worksession, but the sound is hard to hear in hybrid meetings. She shared that Ordinance 113 is older than she is and as one of the 50<sup>th</sup> Council goals and objectives is to review the Town Organization policy, she'd like to have this reviewed. She gave commentary on the number of residents volunteering and expressed that volunteers need to have access to funds for events. She spoke on public safety, that she has seen an increasing number of drivers who are passing cars that are stopped or slowing to stop at stop signs.

CM Papanikolas encouraged residents to look at the ordinances that affect them and suggest changes.

## 9. Adjournment

CM Hemby moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Papanikolas seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 8:04PM

## Worksession Minutes November 21, 2022 | 7:00 pm

### Call to Order

Mayor Jodie Kulpa-Eddy called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Councilmember Jason Papanikolas, Councilmember Faustino Menjivar, Councilmember Shinita Hemby were present in Council Chambers. Mayor Pro-Tem Chris Brittan-Powell attended remotely, joining at 7:02 PM after the approval of the agenda. Chief Kenneth Antolik attended remotely as acting Town Manager. Town Clerk Friesen was also present. Andrew Fellows from the University of Maryland was present for the Campus Community Connections update. Also present were residents of the Town of Berwyn Heights.

### Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy moved to amend the agenda to reorder the agenda items: to move up the CCC Update to after Announcements, and move up items 5a and 5b to after the CCC Update, ending with Department Reports and Resident Comments at the end of the agenda. CM Papanikolas moved to approve the agenda as amended. CM Hemby seconded. After no discussion, the motion passed unanimously with MPT Brittan-Powell absent at the time of approval.

### Mayor

**Announcements** Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared about the passing of former Mayor and State Delegate Tawana Gaines. There was discussion of the protocol for sending a remembrance on behalf of the Town.

MPT Brittan-Powell reported having a concussion and that while he would attempt to be present, he may need to leave the meeting early.

### Administration: amended position

#### CCC update- Andy Fellows

MPT Brittan-Powell introduced Mr. Andrew Fellows, who manages a University of Maryland program called Campus Community Connections (CCC) that has been assisting the Town since 2017. Mr. Fellows shared the history of CCC to update the Councilmembers who are newer to Council and have not been involved with the program to-date. He reviewed the ten projects proposed by Berwyn Heights and how the Town can engage the CCC program over the coming year. CM Hemby engaged with Mr. Fellows regarding details on how students are assigned to projects and the responsibilities of the Town's primary contact with them. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked about what types of projects other municipalities are doing with students from the School of Information Studies (the I-school). Mr. Fellows shared a number of projects done by other municipalities, including website enhancements and food security projects. He suggested Council consider a project involving the

new 2020 Census data for the Town and encouraged the Town to "think big".

### Public Safety: amended position b. Berwyn Heights Natural Disaster Emergency Assistance Program

CM Papanikolas shared that he worked on the application form to make it easier to read and understand. He added that he would like to see this as a webform, in HTML format. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if he had worked on the program description, as the application criteria depends on the program content. There was extensive discussion on the program, determining if it would only be triggered by a Town-wide event or if a single household encountering an emergency would be eligible (example: the windstorm that damaged many residences in Town vs a windstorm that damages a single residence). CM Papanikolas stated that the money is coming from a reserve fund from the Town and it is important to be conscientious that the funds are finite. With input from residents Jose Valcarcel and Claudia Barragan, the consensus was that this program would be available to all residents, regardless of income and number of homes affected by the event. Conversation continued discussing what kind of emergency needs the Town would approve for the use of these funds. It was concluded that funds should cover basic, short-term, immediate needs, such as shelter, food, and clothing. Discussion continued regarding how funds would be distributed, acknowledging that the funds would need to be readily accessible. There was discussion about if the funds should be available as gift cards for specific vendors to ensure they were spent on the intended relief purposes, or if they should be available in the form of a Visa gift card for more options on how they could be used. There was discussion regarding asking residents to provide receipts after the fact, to verify the funds were used as intended. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy took the role of the Town's risk manager, stating while she would be asking challenging questions regarding the need for documentation or limits to be placed on the program, they did not necessarily represent her personal position. There was continued input from Ms. Barragan and Mr. Valcarcel advocating that the program be broad and accessible. Council debated what, if any restrictions, would be placed on eligibility for the program beyond being residents of the Town. CM Hemby stated that she did not believe that income should be considered, as while someone may have a greater income, that does not take into consideration all that they may have in the way of expenses (example: funding the care of an elderly parent). Ms. Barragan suggested that an assessment be part of the approval process. MPT Brittan-Powell expressed that adequate assessments would require training. Discussion continued to include what would be considered proof of residency, with two documents confirming

the address of residency being required. Ms. Barragan suggested that the Council set a standard list of items that are acceptable for proof of residency. Council considered several ways to distinguish between households that share an address. They also considered if the assistance should be limited to once per year or once per incident, and whether annual reviews should be conducted regarding how often a household has requested the funds. Ms. Barragan expressed that applications will be reviewed by people and will have human intervention. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy advocated for a set of standards that would be enacted so that whoever is on staff to do the assessment of need would be able to make a consistent decision. The application will be received by the Town Emergency Manager and the Chief of Police. Council decided to add a description of the emergency that caused a resident to apply for relief. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked if the funds will be given out on the honor system to be used as intended. CM Papanikolas stated that yes, it is essentially the honor system, however it is fraud to lie on an application for the government and if someone were found to be misusing the funds, then they would be turned over for prosecution. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy suggested clarifying this in the affirmation statement. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked where the funding would come from for this program. CM Papanikolas suggested setting up a reserve fund of \$50,000. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy added that this would require a budget amendment.

The Zoom technology became non-responsive during the last portion of this discussion. MPT Brittan-Powell left the meeting at 8:16PM, after leaving a note in the chat. Staff were not able to restart Zoom. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy released Acting Town Manager Chief Antolik. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy left a message for MPT Brittan-Powell to see if he'd be able to rejoin by phone. While the Council waited for his response, they moved on to the next agenda item.

#### **Parks, Recreation, Education, and Civic Affairs (amended to follow Emergency Assistance Fund)**

#### **50<sup>th</sup> Council Goals/Objectives and Tracking spreadsheet**

CM Hemby updated that she and CM Menivar have a new item to include, a Teen Volunteer Program. In discussion, where the document should be kept so that CMs are able to update it and who should be updating projects was discussed. The document will be held on the Council OneDrive and that only the project leads should be making updates. There was discussion about adding a projected completion date for projects. CM Papanikolas stated that he envisioned this as tool so residents could know what the Council is working on, and would like it included in the consent agenda for Town Meetings. There was further discussion on categories to include on the document and best ways to

use it. Resident Jose Valcarcel expressed that he believes this will be a helpful tool. He would like to have the projects numbered on the shared spreadsheet for easy reference and would like to have "Next Milestone" be changed to "comments" so that broader information could be shared. He also made comment on a project. He expressed that a Council/Councilmember-driven town-wide voter registration drive would be a conflict of interest. Resident Claudia Barragan stated that this document should not be used as an excuse to delay work. She would like to see a "date added" column to the tracker and encouraged Council not to continually add projects. CM Papanikolas responded that most of the projects came from agendas and that anyone on the Council has the power to add items to the agenda and that the Mayor is obligated to allow it. There was continued discussion on how to utilize the document for prioritization and setting each meeting's agenda, as well as if projects should be removed. Council discussed not removing any projects until the document had been completed and all Councilmembers were present. Ms. Barragan asked who provided oversight and holds the Council accountable. She also suggested that a column be added for "Department", to improve communication with department heads on the projects.

#### **Public Safety**

#### **Berwyn Heights Home Retrofit Program (amended to follow the 50<sup>th</sup> Council Goals/Objectives)**

MPT Brittan-Powell was absent and is the lead on this project. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated the expectation is that they will have to come back to this when the Council lead was present.

Resident Claudia Barragan asked to speak, stating that she had sent an email on November 9<sup>th</sup> followed by another from INCbh offering to do this project on a pro bono basis. She continued that it has been 3 months with 9 public record meetings where this project was discussed, yet Council continues to delay the project. She asked for Council to accept or reject the proposal for the pro-bono work at this meeting. She also questioned if there was intentionality behind the absence of the project lead (MPT Brittan-Powell) from tonight's meeting. She cited Ord. 184 which directs Council to respond in a timely manner to residents. CM Hemby suggested that Council take a vote on INCbh's offer. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated that Council doesn't take formal action or votes at worksessions. CM Hemby also offered to take over the project. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy stated she would see if MPT Brittan-Powell would be willing to turn the project over to CM Hemby. CM Papanikolas also expressed his support for the proposal. Mr. Valcarcel asked if INCbh could work with CM Hemby in the meantime. The consensus was that CM Hemby could work with INCbh and present a com-

peting proposal to MPT Brittan-Powell's.

#### **Mayor**

#### **Calendar**

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy engaged discussion on several items, including an early start for the executive session scheduled for December 5<sup>th</sup>, the PGCMA legislative "meet and greet" event, and the Town-hosted legislative dinner. Council also discussed possible dates for a meeting with WSSC.

#### **Update from November 17 Listening Session**

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared concerns that were expressed during the November 17<sup>th</sup> Listening Session. There were two Councilmembers and two residents in attendance. The residents shared concerns about stormwater management, flooding and drainage, parking, speeding, and rentals. When residents were asked about how to improve the health and wellbeing of residents (the basis of the UMD-SPH agreement), the participants did not have a response. The event was primarily advertised by digital means because of the short advanced notice for the session and Mayor Kulpa-Eddy asked for input on how to increase engagement. Suggestions included planning sessions for several days so residents could pick a date that works best for them and planning in advance so that it can be advertised in the Bulletin. CM Papanikolas stated that he believes that the University should be conducting the listening sessions.

Ms. Barragan stated that a needs assessment is a technical endeavor and needs to be done by the University. She also offered to host a training on language access. She commented on all digital advertising being an issue. Ms. Barragan stated that her work experience as an urban planner has given her knowledge that engagement with the University, including the work done by Mr. Fellows, is a conflict of interest. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy refuted that statement.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy will reach back out to the University of Maryland School of Public Health and ask that they take over the needs assessment.

#### **Grants Administrator Position**

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy reviewed that the Town received no responses to the RFQ posted for the Grants Administrator. The position will now be advertised as a contractual position and asked for input on the drafted advertisement. There was discussion on salary, work hours per week, and expectations. Resident Ms. Barragan asked about how many ARPA applications were processed and how many were approved. Mayor Kulpa-Eddy responded that she did not have that information immediately available, but believed it was less than a dozen. There were applications that were not approved as they were incomplete, and the residents did not respond to re-

quests to complete the application. There was continued discussion about the advertisement, including input from Ms. Baragan that requiring experience with Federal Grants would increase the salary that would need to be paid to the contractor. CM Papanikolas added "experience working with diverse populations" as an additional bullet point in qualifications as well as adding salary expectations. He also added that the contractor should be reporting directly to the Council and that there should be a point person on Council for the primary contact. Discussion also included where the position should be advertised.

#### Reports:

CM Menjivar gave an update on road repairs in Town as well as the status of the loose leaf collection. He added that Public Works will be putting up the Christmas tree and decorations in preparation for the December 3<sup>rd</sup> tree lighting party.

Mayor Kulpa-Eddy shared that the County is asking residents to take a survey to help update their Hazard Mitigation Plan. Details will be shared over the Town website and social media pages.

There were no other Council departmental reports.

#### Resident Comments

There were no further Resident Comments.

#### Adjournment

CM Papanikolas moved to adjourn the meeting. CM Hemby seconded. With no discussion the motion passed unanimously (4:0) and the meeting adjourned at 9:48PM.

## Community Shred

Join NW/EP for a community shred event. Bring all your documents to 5700 Berwyn Rd on January 28 from 9-12.



#### Winter Tree Maintenance

It's important to keep our BH trees healthy and strong to protect our tree canopy!



Looking for a simple way to help? English ivy and other invasive species can kill trees if left unchecked. Use the winter season to remove any vines that may have climbed your trees this year. Just snip the vine near the ground, wait a while for the vine to die, and tug it off your tree!

***Want to learn more or share your perspectives? Join an upcoming Shade Tree Board meeting or reach out!***

**Next meeting: January 12th, 2023, at 7 pm with the Green Team  
Contact: Amanda Dewey, [amandamdewey@gmail.com](mailto:amandamdewey@gmail.com)**

#### Do you want to know more?

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You can subscribe to alerts for News & Announcements. Sign up to receive the e-newsletter in your inbox. [www.berwynheightsmd.gov/subscribe](http://www.berwynheightsmd.gov/subscribe)

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)

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**Executive Club (Senior Citizens): Thursdays 12:00 – 2:00 pm**

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

## 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

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**A Senior is:**

**Slower**

**Older**

### Did You Know?

Did you know that there are many health benefits to smiling? Smiling offers not only a mood boost, but also helps our bodies release cortisol and endorphins resulting in numerous health benefits including reduced stress. Plus smiling is contagious! Your smile will lead to additional smiles not just for you, but for those around you. Though it can be more difficult when wearing a mask, your eyes smile, too. Try it.

### JANUARY 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

# CODE COMPLIANCE

## Code Compliance and the Residential Property Maintenance Process

### Code's Role

The Code Compliance Department is responsible for investigating violations of the Town's Code of Ordinances, encouraging cooperation with the Code, and taking further enforcement action if necessary due to non-compliance.

\*For violations of County and State Code regulations, Code Compliance may refer to other agencies or appropriate enforcement authorities for further investigation and handling.

Code Compliance aims to support life safety and wellness by ensuring that properties within Berwyn Heights are maintained in a safe and sanitary manner in accordance with the Town's property maintenance standards. In general, standards apply to existing residential and accessory structures, their premises, and vacant lots as well. The code provisions constitute minimum standards.

### Compliance Process

The Department initiates investigations based on inquiries or observations of a Code Officer.

### Inspection

An inspection can be triggered by a complaint; an observation made while on patrol or while investigating a complaint; or by a referral from another agency. For Rental Properties, inspections are part of the licensing process. Code Inspectors conduct general property maintenance code inspections as well as interior and exterior rental housing inspections.

### Courtesy Notice

When a Code Official has identified minor property maintenance code violations and has not previously addressed the property for this violation, generally, a Courtesy Notice will be issued.

The Code Official may knock and attempt to speak with you. A Courtesy Notice, a simple door hanger or letter, may be placed at the property. A Courtesy Notice will list the code violation(s) observed and encourage the owner to contact us if they have any questions. Code Compliance will return to the property within 1 to 7 days (depending on the nature of the violation) to re-inspect. If the violation(s) have been corrected, the case is closed. If one or more items remain unresolved, a Notice of Violation is issued.

### Notice of Violation

If violations are observed when the property is re-inspected, if there are repeat violations, or when a code violation is more severe or hazardous, the Code Official issues a Notice of Violation. The owner is due date to take corrective actions. The property will be reinspected on or shortly after that date. If the owner has made the required repairs, the case is closed. If work to correct the violation is underway or circumstances, such as weather, have prevented the owner from fully addressing the violation, the owner may request additional time to make corrections.

### Notice of Fine and Abatement

If the owner has not been responsive and the violations remain, the property will receive a fine. Notice of Fine's may be appealed within 10 days of receipt. Failure to pay the fine and correct violations can result in additional fines and abatement by the Town. Abatement consists of the Town taking action to remedy violations. E.g., cutting tall grass, tow of an inoperable vehicle, boarding up of a hazardous structure.

If abatement takes place, fine payment(s) and costs of abatement must still be paid to the Town for the violation to be considered resolved and closed.

**The Code Compliance Department aims to communicate and work with property owners when a violation exists; With the goal of bringing each property into compliance with Town Ordinances. If you have questions about the Code Compliance process, have received a Notice from our office and have concerns or need additional time to correct a violation, we encourage you to contact us to discuss. Thank you!**



# Historical Committee

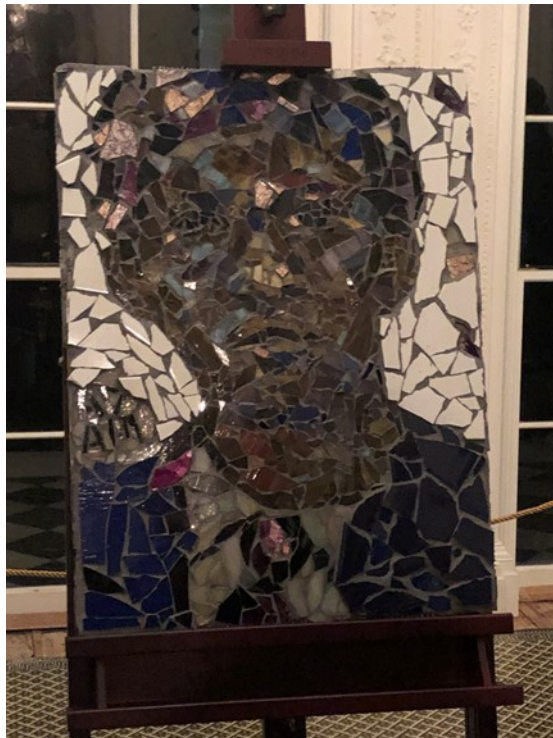


## Trivia!

We participated as a team for Trivia on Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Mayor Kulpa-Eddy for organizing this fun event again!

Committee members Lee Fuerst and Sharmila Bhatia attended the unveiling of the portrait of Adam Francis Plumber at Riversdale House Museum. The artist Chanel Compton created the portrait by incorporating items representing Ghana and Riversdale. For more information visit:

<https://www.pg parks.com/3023/Riversdale-House-Museum>



The next meeting of the BHHC is on Wednesday, January 25, 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.



We are always looking for new members and visitors are always welcome. Stop by one of our meetings! 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month! *Everyone is welcome!*



Did you miss the motorized Santa & Elves at the historic Gohr House in the 5700 Blk of Ruatan Street this year? They will be back next year!

Thank you to Gohr and Jacoby families for bringing back this vintage Berwyn Heights tradition!



# 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, January 12 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 12 de enero a las 7:00 pm.**



Got broken holiday string lights? Leave them in the bin in front of the Town Center. Lights will be recycled via MOM's Organic Market.

Si tienen luces de navidad que ya no funcionen, por favor dejenlas en el bote frente al Town Center. Las luces serán recicladas por MOM's Organic Market.

Leave your Christmas tree by the curb on your yard waste day, with all artificial decorations removed. It will be composted.

Favor de dejar su árbol de navidad natural en el frente de su casa, el día de recolección de desechos de jardín. Favor de quitar todas las esferas y otras decoraciones artificiales, ya que los arbolitos serán compostados.







# Berwyn Heights Recreation Council

**Saturday, January 7th from 2-4pm - "After Holiday Party"**

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

Keep the holiday spirit going well into the New Year! Wine & cheese, and other refreshments will be provided. (Adults only, please!) Have any leftover holiday treats you'd like to share? Feel free to bring them along. We will also be playing our annual **"Re-gifting Game"** (*White Elephant*). Did you receive a gift you can't wait to get rid of? Another coffee mug? Scented candle? Bring along a **NEW, wrapped present** if you'd like to participate and maybe you'll leave with a real treasure! (Game is optional, spectators are welcome!)

**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**



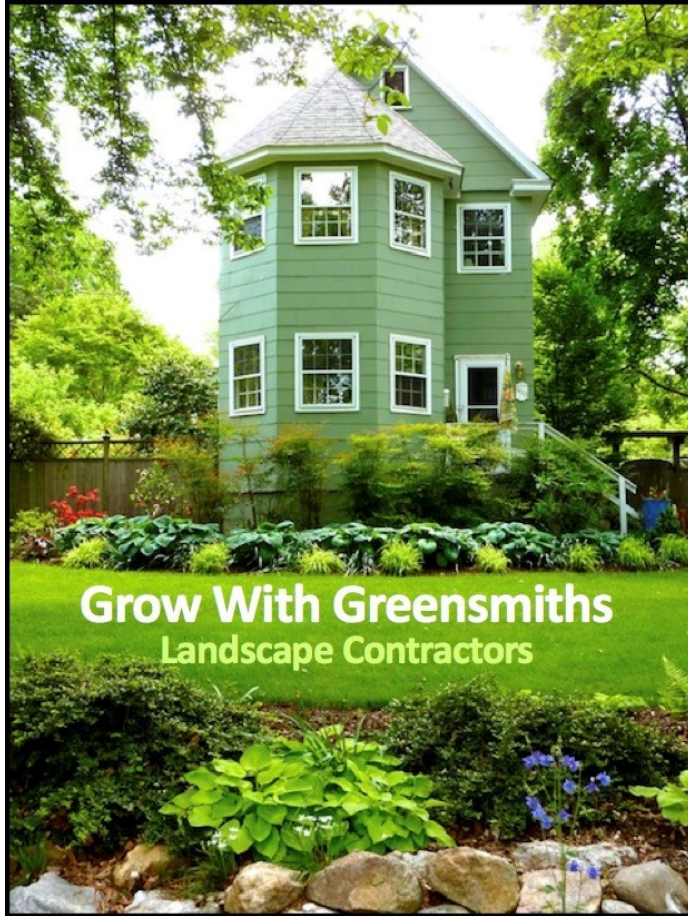
Our goal is to have a fun event happening in our community each month. An International Pot-Luck and Karaoke Night are just a few new ideas, stay tuned for dates & additional information. And please let us know if you have any suggestions of events that you would like to see!

Our next in person meetings will be **Tuesday, 1/3** and **Tuesday, 2/7** at **7:00pm** in the **G. Love Room** at the Senior Center. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Questions? Comments? Contact us at [violindreams@verizon.net](mailto:violindreams@verizon.net)

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## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH/ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



*Join us January 4th at 7:00pm in the G. Love Room or via Zoom*

**How prepared were you for the devastating windstorm we experienced in July?**

**Are you interested in developing skills to keep your family and neighbors safe?**

Please let us know if you are interested in trainings on CPR/AED, household safety, compiling a first aid or “go” kit, power tool safety, or other topics. We welcome all ideas via email to [Berwyn2419@gmail.com](mailto:Berwyn2419@gmail.com). Once we have workshop participants, we will contact you to arrange the training.

This is an opportunity for you to develop the skills you need and to connect with like-minded people in your community who want to be prepared for the next emergency.

The Berwyn Heights Neighborhood Watch/Emergency Preparedness Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Senior Center. All are welcome.

**Some past and present members of NW/EP shared their reasons for joining:**

I enjoyed going to the meetings and training to get to know my fellow community members.

I went to the training to learn some new skills that I did not get when I was growing up.

It's been good meeting our police officers, who are important to our town's safety.

I liked learning the basic level of first aid and other emergency skills so I would know what to do in an emergency so I do not add myself to the casualties!

The meetings help me know what's going on in town.





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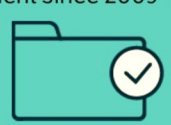
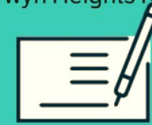


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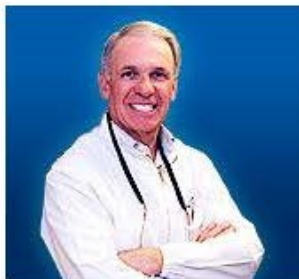
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**SOLD**  
6307 Tecumseh Pl • \$443,417



**SOLD**  
6209 Ruatan St • \$433,900



**SOLD**  
6208 Seminole St • \$387,000



**SOLD**  
6210 Quebec St • \$450,429



**SOLD**  
8901 60th Ave • \$439,900



**SOLD**  
8800 62nd Ave • \$380,000



**SOLD**  
7612 Charlton Ave • \$445,000



**SOLD**  
8515 Cunningham Dr • \$285,000



**SOLD**  
6019 Berwyn Rd • \$485,697



**SOLD**  
7616 Edmonston Rd • \$507,022



**SOLD**  
8806 58th Ave • \$495,845



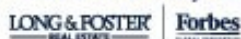
**SOLD**  
8818 Edmonston Rd • \$385,495



**SOLD**  
8603 60th Ave • \$507,613

Source: 2022 Bright MLS, Inc. Information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Not all properties are listed/sold by this advertised agent or broker.

Call me today at **301.346.1462** for more information.



**Sharon A. McCraney, REALTOR®**





## 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*.

If you're thinking about making a move, now is actually a great time to consider your options. I offer:

Free Home Staging  
Professional Photography  
Custom Brochures

Social Media Promotion  
3D Matterport Home Tours

Call, email or text me today!



*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*



5101 Baltimore Ave., Hyattsville, MD 20781

Don@GoBrentRealty.com

C: 301.213.6332 | O: 301.565.2523



**TOP  
AGENT**  
**WASHINGTONIAN**  
**2022**



## November Incidents

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2022, AT 10:00 PM, 'THEFT'

On November 1, 2022, BHPD Officer was dispatched to the 7-Eleven convenience store located at 5815 Greenbelt Road, Berwyn Heights Maryland, for a report of a shoplifting that just occurred. The shoplifting suspect was a 30 to 35-year-old White or Hispanic female wearing a white jacket and jean pants. Officer arrived on the scene and met with the 7-Eleven store clerk and, the listed complainant. He stated the unknown suspect took about ten winter knit caps off the store displays, each knit cap was valued at about fifteen dollars each. The total stolen amount value was \$150.00 dollars. The unknown suspect fled the scene in a vehicle. However, the complainant was unable to provide any description of the vehicle. The listed complainant only wanted to make a report of the shoplifting incident. No further police action is required.

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2022, AT 3:08 PM, 'THEFT'

The victim entered the Berwyn Heights Police Station to report a theft. The victim reports that she was in her Doctor's Office two weeks ago located at 6201 Greenbelt RD suite M8. She reports that while she was in a doctor's treatment room an unknown person (employee or another patient) took her property which she had left in the waiting area. She was using a zip-lock plastic bag as a wallet which was placed in a handbag. The zip-lock bag contained her driver's license \$102.00 dollars, debit cards, and various personal papers. The victim wanted the incident documented. The victim was supplied with a case number.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022, AT 12:15 PM, 'THEFT'

ON 11/7/2022 At approximately 1215 PM hours PFC Herriott#1454 responded to Extra Fuel located at 5919 Greenbelt Road Berwyn Heights MD 20740 for theft from auto. Upon arrival, he spoke with the owner of a blue Toyota Camry bearing Tag# 8ET1373. The victim advised that she got out of the vehicle to get gas and when she turned around to get back into her vehicle, she discovered her purse missing which was left on her front passenger seat. A view of the gas station's CCTV revealed an unknown black vehicle with tinted windows parked beside the victim's vehicle for approximately 10 seconds and left the area in an unknown direction. Due to the placement of the camera, the tag number could not be read. The CCTV did not capture images of the suspects.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022, AT 3:00 PM, 'LOST PROPERTY'

On 11/07/2022 while working as Division 1 Desk Officer, Cpl Tant #3522 PGPD, made contact with The Reporting Person by phone in reference to a lost handicap placard. The Reporting Person stated she last saw her placard inside her home on 11/05/2022 at 2100 hours. On

11/07/2022 at 1500 hours The Reporting Person was unable to locate the placard.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022, AT 12:13 PM, 'FRAUD'

On 11/09/2022 the Berwyn Heights PD received an email from the Victim Mr. \*\*\*\*, the information was forwarded to Detective Sergeant Krouse for investigation. The victim met with the detective on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at approximately 1130 am and filed a report. The Victim advised that he had a fraudulent personal check cashed for \$12,910.98 on 11/06/2022 and that the check was originally intended for his Visa Payment totaling \$1,200. The Victim provided a copy of the check that was altered and cashed. Tamia Lawrence was fraudulently written in the pay to the order of line and the amount was altered. The Victim has been in contact with his bank, he was assigned an investigator and the money was refunded to his account. The victim will be forwarding all correspondence to bank officials.

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022, AT 2:50 AM, 'DOMESTIC'

On 11/16/2022 at approximately 0300 hours officers responded to 86\*\* 60th Avenue Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 for a domestic dispute. Once on scene, officers came in contact with the Victim who advised she had been in an argument with her boyfriend. The Victim stated they were returning home from a birthday party at her daughter's house. Someone at the party told the Suspect that the Victim had been with another man. Once they got home, the verbal argument started and then turned physical. The Victim alleged that the Suspect punched her in the face two times with a closed fist and then put her out of the house. The Victim's cheek was slightly swollen but she refused medical attention. The Suspect stated when the argument got physical, they both only pushed each other and did not strike her in the face. The Suspect had no visible signs on his hands that he had been in a physical altercation. The Victim did not want to press charges and only asked that officers speak to the Suspect. Both parties agreed there would be no more arguing and they will figure it out in the morning. There was no separation at that time. They were both advised.

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2022, AT 8:08 AM, 'STOLEN AUTO'

On 11/18/2022 At approximately 0800 hours. PFC Herriott #1454 received a station call to respond to 85\*\* Edmonston Road Berwyn Heights MD 20740 for a stolen vehicle. Upon arrival he met with the owner who advised that he parked his 2017 GMC SUV in his driveway, bearing MD Tag#5ET2842 VIN (1GKS2GKC9HR220459) at 1930 hours on yesterday's date 11/17/2022. The victim advised upon returning to his vehicle at approximately 0730 hours today's date 11/18/2022, he discovered his SUV missing. The victim also advised that he was current on all his car payments and that his vehicle was not repossessed. C1369 from Teletype was contacted. The vehicle was later recovered in Washington DC, victim notified.

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022, AT 8:48

### AM, 'LOST PROPERTY'

On 11/20/2022 at approximately 0846 hours PFC Herriott#1454 responded to 85\*\* 60th PLACE Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 for lost property. Upon arrival, he spoke with the resident who advised on last night 11/19/2022 approximately 2042 hours he exited the UBER and left his wallet on the back seat. The victim advised that he attempted multiple times to call the UBER driver however, he met with negative results. The victim also advised that his wallet contained \$200 dollars in US Currency along with his personal identification, 1 credit card and debit card. The victim advised that he canceled both cards and contacted UBER to advise them that he left his wallet in the driver's vehicle.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022, AT 9:00 AM, 'FRAUD'

On 11/21/2022, At approximately 0900 hours, while at headquarters located at 5411 Berwyn Heights Road, MD 20740. A resident of 61\*\* Seminole Street Berwyn Heights, MD 20740 advised that on 11/4/2022, he placed his mortgage check in the mail valued at \$2,062.77. On 11/14/2022, he discovered an unknown person increased the amount of the check to \$50,62.00 and cashed it at an unknown bank. The victim advised he spoke with Truist Bank Fraud Unit and was informed he would be reimbursed for the mortgage. Investigation continues.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022, AT 12:35 PM, 'FRAUD'

On 11/21/2022, At approximately 1235 PM, while at Berwyn Heights Police Station located at 5411 Berwyn Road Berwyn Heights, MD 20740. Resident of 59\*\* Pontiac Street Berwyn Heights, MD 20740, advised that he placed a check valued at \$750. 00 in the post office box on 11/19/2022 located on Edmonston Road. The victim advised today at approximately 1215 PM he discovered that someone changed the value to \$7,500 dollars and cashed it at Bank of America. Victim contacted the Truist Bank along with the Truist Bank Fraud Unit.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022, AT 3:45 PM, 'FRAUD'

A caller reported two people fighting on the street between a white male and a black female. BHPD officers responded and impounded their vehicle.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022, AT 3:50 PM, 'HIT & RUN ACCIDENT'

Caller advised a male in a vehicle hit several cars and drove away. BHPD responded and located the vehicle in College Park. Subject was transported to the hospital and charges are pending.

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022, AT 7:00 PM, 'FRAUD'

The victim responded to the Berwyn Heights Police station to report that her identity was stolen and used to empty her supplemental food account. The victim reports her food account was drained of \$580.00 U.S dollars. The victim reports she still has the supplemental food card in her possession.



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2022, at 7:39 AM, 'FRAUD'**

On 11/24/2022, Cpl. Hollowell #1449, Berwyn Heights Police was dispatched to 84\*\* 58th Avenue, Berwyn Heights, Maryland for a reported fraud. Cpl. Hollowell met with the victim who explained on 11/23/2022, he was notified by Bank of America of a possible fraud involving one of his checks. It was determined that check number 3900 was cashed in the amount of \$8,500 dollars to a person named Adriana Martin. Victim checking his ledger recalled placing that check, which was documented in his ledger, in the amount of \$10.00 to Maryland EZ pass administration. That check was placed in the remote mailbox located at the intersection of Berwyn Road and 57th Avenue, Berwyn Heights, Maryland., on 11/12/2022. In reviewing the copy of the check provided by Bank of America, clearly, it shows the amount and pay to block were manipulated. The memo box was listed with Adriana's school repayment.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2022, at 6:30 PM, 'THEFT'**

11/25/2022 at approximately 1830 hours, the Telephone Reporting Unit, spoke with the Victim who advised that she received notification that the listed Package containing the listed Watch was delivered to the location of the incident via UPS on 11/25/2022 at approximately 1530 hours. The Victim advised that as she returned to the location of the incident on 11/25/2022 at approximately 1600 hours, she discovered that the listed Watch had been taken out of the packaging and stolen. The Unknown Suspect stole the listed Watch from the packaging via damage to the packaging, stole the listed Watch, and fled in an unknown direction making good on their escape.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022, at 11:10 AM, '1<sup>st</sup> DEGREE SEXUAL ASSAULT [RAPE]'**

On November 29, 2022, at approximately 1110 hours, PGPD responded to the University of Maryland Health Center, located at 3938 Campus Drive, College Park, Maryland 20740 for a sexual assault report. The field interview advised she was treating the victim for an unrelated injury and observed other unrelated injuries on the victim's body. The victim expressed to the field interview that she was previously assaulted. While on the scene, the victim displayed visible abrasions and significant trauma to both her wrist and her neck. Further investigation revealed the victim was sexually assaulted by a suspect known to her. The victim advised the suspect arrived at her residence located at 6\*\*\* Osage Street, Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740. The victim met the suspect further down from her residence and entered a dark-colored pickup truck. The victim stated the suspect drove for approximately 20 minutes and stopped in an empty parking lot. The victim advised she was not familiar with the parking lot the suspect brought her to. The victim advised the suspect proceeded to tell her that he was upset and angry with her. The suspect proceeded to tie and bound her wrist with rope. The suspect also wrapped a rope around the victim's neck and proceeded to choke the victim. The victim advised the suspect proceeded to vaginally penetrate the victim with his penis. After the incident, the victim was dropped off several

houses down from her place of residence. County detective from the Regional Investigative Division was contacted and responded for further investigative assistance.

For  
Emergencies

**Call 911**

**CALL 301-352-1200  
For Non-Emergency  
Police Assistance.**

**Four Facts About Martin Luther King, Jr.**

(source: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/>)

- **Martin Luther King Jr. was named after Protestant reformer Martin Luther.**

In 1934, King's father, a respected Atlanta pastor known then by his birth name of Michael King Sr., embarked on a religious journey around the world. The trip to Germany, which occurred only one year after Adolf Hitler became chancellor, would have a profound effect on him. As he toured, the senior King gained a great respect for German monk and theologian Martin Luther, whose 95 Theses challenged the Catholic Church and ultimately split western Christianity. Upon his return state-side, Martin Luther King Sr. [changed his and his five-year-old son's names](#) in honor of the Protestant reformation leader. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birth certificate would reflect this change on July 23, 1957, when it was officially revised.

- **King entered college when he was 15-years-old**

King skipped two grades and entered college at the age of 15. He was admitted to Morehouse College in 1944 and [graduated in 1948](#) with a B.A. in Sociology at the age of 19. The Morehouse president, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, became an inspirational figure in King's life.

King continued his education at Crozer Theological Seminary in Chester, Pennsylvania. Despite receiving a C grade in a public speaking class, he was elected student body president and graduated valedictorian of his class in 1951. He enrolled in Boston University's doctoral program and was awarded his Ph.D. at the age of 25. While in Boston, King met Coretta Scott and became a member of the [Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.](#)

- **King was arrested 29 times**

His charges (many of which were dropped) ranged from civil disobedience to traffic violations.

- **King survived an assassination attempt a decade before his death**

On September 20, 1958, King was at a Blumstein's department store in Harlem for a book signing when a young woman slipped past the line of people to approach him. The woman, named [Izola Ware Curry](#), asked if he was really Martin Luther King Jr. and after he replied "yes," she thrust a seven-inch letter opener into his chest. Curry claims she had been after him for five years believing he had ties to the Communist Party.

The stab wound narrowly missed King's heart and he underwent emergency surgeries that lasted hours. King would later issue a statement affirming his nonviolent beliefs and stated he had no malice feelings towards his attacker.

## 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

## 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.

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](mailto: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](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)  
[www.thomasgentile.com](http://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.

# JANUARY 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 New Years Day Observed— Town offices closed 	3  Worksession 7PM Rec Council 7PM 	4  NW/EP 7PM	5 	6	7 Regifting Party (adults) 2-4PM
8	9  	10  	11  Town Meeting 7PM 	12  Green Team 7PM	13	14
15	16 MLK Day Town offices closed 	17  Worksession 7PM 	18 	19 	20	21
22	23   	24  	25  BHHC 7:30	26 	27	28 Community Shred 9-12
29	30  	31  				

The streetsweeper will be in Town from Jan 23-27. Please move your car off the street when possible.

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 21.

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