

COUNCIL REPORTS

December 2011

RECREATION COMMITTEE – Alice Negin

Next meeting is December 21st at 7:30 in the Council Room.

Holiday Spectacular Show - December 17, 2011 7:30 pm in McCathran Hall

Caroling in the Grove – Sunday, December 18, 2011, 5pm, meet at McCathran Hall

Dance/Exercise Class– Wednesdays 4:15-5 pm, McCathran Hall ages 5-10, 5 dollars a class, drop-ins welcome

MCCATHRAN HALL – Alice Negin

Ants – The Hall has been treated and the ants are gone.

Steve will clean and paint the map case in the Council room. He recommends removing the whole case to the garage for refurbishment. The case must be emptied. A tentative date of December 19th has been selected for emptying the map case.

The McCathran Hall Committee will schedule their next meeting for January.

Hall and Office closed between Christmas and New Years for floor refinishing.

WEBSITE – Alice Negin

Nothing to Report

MAINTENANCE – Joe Clark

As fall duties begin to wind down, the last of mowing and collection of leaves was completed. At Woodward Park, the area around the soccer goals had top soil spread and grass seeded. At the playground area, the old wooden barriers around the equipment were replaced with new 6"x6" beams which were secured to the ground.

The holiday decorations were put up at the gazebo, railroad station and McCathran Hall. Also at the Hall, the gutters were cleaned, bad light switch replaced, weather stripping put on doors and the Council room was cleared for the floor work which happened between Christmas and New Years Day. The large map cabinets were sanded and repainted, all the drawers cleaned and painted and everything was moved back into working order as 2012 began.

The walkways were cleared for the winter of debris, trash and brush. Particular attention was given to Chestnut Ave where it was cleared all the way to McCauley Street. This walkway is now clear from McCauley to Brown. There were a total of 16 trips to the transfer station with brush and trash for the final cleaning up for the winter. The public areas look much improved.

The mowing equipment was serviced and winterized and the winter blowers and machinery was readied for ice and snow.

The tennis courts had some cracking which was caulked and surfaced. An area where a few tree sprouts appeared was covered and secured so that the vegetation would be killed.

This is my last report as a council member responsible for maintenance supervision. It has been a privilege to work with Jim Fletcher and Steve Werts. The maintenance of the Town of Washington Grove is a huge task, far more than what one person can manage. The assistance of one part time employee to help Steve Werts is critical and the efforts of volunteers Bruce Rothrock, Bill Robertson, Terry Cox, Don Henninger and Charlie Challstrom have made the Town better and our lives easier. Please give them a voice of appreciation when you see them.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Joe Clark

Permits for 201 Cherry Ave (addition), 407 Acorn Lane (fence) and 342 Ridge Road (fence) were approved. The fence between 119 & 127 Maple Ave. was determined to need a boundary survey before approval could be given.

The issue of the Towne Crest redevelopment was discussed and a work session to deal with several issues raised by the proposal was scheduled for the Planning Commission on January 11, 2012.

Other Town permitting issues were discussed and letters will be forthcoming regarding compliance issues. Also, the HPC proposal was considered and a letter expressing the Commission's concerns will be written. Finally, the status of the CSX/Deer Park Bridge issue was reported.

HPC – Joli A. McCathran

Permit Review Procedure: The HPC received a letter from the Planning Commission Chair Charlie Challstrom dated Dec. 8, 2011. The letter was discussed. The HPC recommends informal follow-up with Charlie to try to address the Planning Commission's concerns.

Next workshops: The HPC discussed the possibility of sponsoring a workshop led by one or more architects to respond to homeowners' questions regarding how to make appropriate additions and other exterior changes to Grove houses.

Planning Commission Liaison: The HPC discussed the idea of having an HPC liaison present at each PC meeting to observe and contribute if asked. All agreed it was a good idea. In addition, the idea of having a PC liaison to the HPC was discussed. All agreed this was a good idea too. The HPC recommends as part of the informal follow-up to the PC letter, addressed above, that the idea of a PC liaison to the HPC be discussed with Charlie. Margot volunteered to participate. Gail attended the September PC meeting as HPC liaison.

PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS – Joli A. McCathran

Nothing to report.

WASHINGTON GROVE CONSERVATION MEADOW PARK – Joli A. McCathran

The scheduled meeting with Brenda Sandberg, M-NCPPC is rescheduled for January 10 at 6:30 p.m.

A resident express a concern the plant material debris left by the invasive removal contractor for M-NCPPC. I contacted Georgette Cole, Mayor and Ernie Kawasaki, Chair, of the Washington Grove Meadow Conservation Park Committee asking for a direct contact to request removal. They will follow up on this request.

ROADS AND WALKWAYS – Bill Robertson

Nothing to Report

CONTRACTS – Bill Robertson

Leaves- The final collection for the winter collection occurred on January 4, 2012. There will be an early spring collection, usually the first week of April, which will complete our current contract with U.S. Lawns.

Trash & Recycling- The current contract will expire this spring and we will need to solicit bids. I feel that the language should be changed to require a recycling pickup following a Thursday holiday. Skipping that collection is too confusing for all concerned.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL – Bill Robertson

Nothing to Report

FORESTRY AND BEAUTIFICATION – Audrey Maskery

Nothing to Report

MEMORIALS – Audrey Maskery

Nothing to Report

MAPLE LAKE – Sylvie Favret

Nothing to Report

SAFETY – Sylvie Favret

Nothing to report