

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **APRIL 2012**

#### **RECREATION COMMITTEE – Alice Negin**

The Recreation Committee meeting was on March 21, 2012.

#### **April/May Events:**

April 11- May 30 – Zumba Dance class

April 15 – Barry the Magician

April 25<sup>th</sup> Mousetrap Concerts McCathran Hall – 3pm, Sunday

Dina Kuznetsova – Soprano with Lydia Frumkin - Piano

#### **June Events: Music Weekend**

Friday June 15<sup>th</sup>, McCathran Hall

Polka Dance with The Continentals No charge

Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> – McCathran Hall

Children's Recital

Sunday June 17<sup>th</sup> – Gazebo

Baroque Breakfast with The Homewood Brass Bring a dish to share.

#### **MCCATHRAN HALL – Alice Negin**

The windows and screens have been washed.

Steve (Maintenance) has painted the exterior doors of the Hall and painted and refurbished the McCathran Hall sign.

The Hall committee recommended that we buy a buffer for the floors. Steve is now buffing the floors on a regular basis.

#### **WEBSITE – Alice Negin**

On going – the minutes of the TC meetings, the McCathran Hall use calendar, building permit info and much more available on the website.

#### **PLANNING COMMISSION – Joe Clark**

Planning Commission meeting of April 4, 2012

The Planning Commission approved survey work on Block 3 (Center St. to Washington Grove Lane) and a building permit application for a fence at 358 Ridge Rd.

The field along Ridge Road which was the subject to the protracted law suit will now be known as the Washington Grove Meadow Park. This will help clear up any confusion with the staff at M-NCPPC.

The Commission was brought up to date on the rezoning application for Towne Crest Apartments and the subsequent rescheduling of the hearing before the County Planning Board to September, 2012. The Town will continue to negotiate with the developers for a smaller, less intrusive redevelopment.

The sidewalk along Washington Grove Lane will be rebuilt by the County and work should begin in June of this year.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL – Joe Clark**

The Town will host the Montgomery County chapter of the MML on May 17 at McCathran Hall. The Council is encouraged to attend.

## **HPC – Joli A. McCathran**

The Commission was asked to consider the current concerns regarding street lighting from a historical perspective. It was decided to add to the agenda for the May 2102 meeting.

The HPC discussed the annual HPC award. Eligible projects were discussed.

Pat Patula, Town Archivist, provided the HPC with her first report: Highlights state:

Wendy Harris has provided hours of professional assistance and Kathy Lehman has been invaluable in finding needed information and moral support.

**Past Perfect (PP) Museum Software:** The database has been working well; however, last week it started to develop some program blocks. The Town purchased the multimedia component for the database.

**Storage/Safety of Records:** We have developed a simple system for storing the Town's "digital" records that will also address the fire/theft issues. This flash drive will be kept in the Town's fire proof safe. A small box, with a hanging file interior holding 80 CDs, will hold the CD's of materials as they are scanned. This box will also be kept in the fire proof safe. Any documents 8 ½ x 11 and under we can scan and put on a CD ourselves. Anything larger, we will have to have done elsewhere. It is anticipated there will be one CD for every box/container/file drawer in the archives.

**Historic Maps/Plats:** All of the historic maps are now numbered for Past Perfect (PP) entry with just a few remaining to be entered into the database in detail. They are individually numbered in the flat files and are protected in large heavy paper folders.

**Other Research:** Wendy's project regarding a proposed expansion of the Town's historic district has expanded our research regarding the forest and Town boundaries. Therefore we have added a list of annexations to the Archival Locator binder

**Historic Minutes:** We are taking the Town's original minute book (1904-1910) to ARC for a set of paper copies (so we can work with that for PP) and a CD for the State Archives and one for us. The minute book preceding this we can scan ourselves.

The HPC discussed the annual HPC award. Eligible projects were discussed.

## **PARKS and PLAYGROUNDS – Joli A. McCathran**

I communicated further with Community Police Officer Scott Zimmerman. He stressed the importance of proper signage. I will follow up on the installation of rules and regulations on the kiosk in the ball field.

## **WASHINGTON GROVE CONSERVATION MEADOW PARK – Joli A. McCathran**

Committee Chair Ernie Kawasaki received a draft of an Operation and Use Plan for the park from Brenda Sandberg. Ernie met with Brenda to review the plan. He then submitted the draft to the committee for individual review. The Committee was reminded to ignore any land ownership comments (page 4), and mention of a "hard surface commuter trail" (page 12) to connect to Metro as there will not be any such trail within the meadow boundaries.

## **ROADS AND WALKWAYS – Bill Robertson**

Initial spring cleaning and debris pick up was completed on all walkways.

## **CONTRACTS – Bill Robertson**

The final bulk leaf pickup by U.S. Lawns was completed per the contract terms.

## **MAINTENANCE – Bill Robertson**

Three loads of brush and debris from the walkways and parks were taken to the transfer station.

The storm water drainage structure at Chestnut and Acorn was cleaned of accumulated sediment

The Lake was treated with an algaecide.

The Council Room lighting was improved by replacing some very expensive bulbs.

Extensive effort was put forth in the planting beds around Town Hall. Several loads of top soil were incorporated into the existing beds with a tiller. Several azaleas, both donated and purchased, were planted. Five truck loads of mulch were purchased and spread in the beds.

The split rail fence on Cherry Ave. was repaired.

The exterior of the hallway door between new and Old Council Chambers was sanded, primed and painted.

The mowing season has begun in earnest. All public areas have been cleaned of tree debris and trimmed with a string trimmer then mowed.

Brush was removed from Oak Ave. between Hickory Rd. and Grove Rd.

The playground equipment was inspected and repairs made and/or parts ordered.

## **FORESTRY AND BEAUTIFICATION – Audrey Maskery**

F&B had a successful Arbor Day. The main objective was to re-vitalize the McCathran Hall gardens. With the assistance of Town volunteers, an assortment of annual plants, plugs of Vinca for ground cover and new azaleas to replace and augment existing shrubs plus spreading of mulch achieved the desired effect. Three late blooming azaleas, donated by Mr. Terry Cox, were also planted in garden.

Stadler's planted three new shrubs/trees in the Morgan park garden; one Styax Japonica; one Star Magnolia; one Redbud (White) plus two Sweet Box shrubs. The trees were needed to replace three dead native Dogwoods. A Crape Myrtle was planted next to the Town tennis courts (this completes a line of Crape Myrtles planted in years past) and two Pieris Japonica were planted at McCathran Hall.

One dead oak tree on Grove Road will be topped by Pepco, the remaining trunk to be removed by Maintenance. Pepco has not indicated when the next tree trimming by Ashland will take place.

## **MEMORIALS – Audrey Maskery: Nothing to report**

## **MAPLE LAKE – Sylvie Favret**

At the meeting of April 18, the following was discussed:

Lake combo to change on April 22 and Hutch to notify Officer Scott Zimmerman

Volunteers will prep the geese eggs for oiling

Hutch received 6 applications for the Life guard positions

Tom Land is contacting Grove residents to be swimming instructors.

The Algae situation is not good. The bubbler was turned on already but we will have to treat soon depending on the weather. A new person to apply the aquicides must be identified since the previous one (John Mudre) will no longer be able to do this job.

Budget :

Phone land-line - We are discontinuing it.

Picnic table - It would be nice to have an additional one near the spring if the budget would allow.

Parking Lot "Security Cameras" are damaged and may need replacing.

There is a new "Kiosk" inside the gate which needs posters about rules.

Many items for the lake should be in the Budget, such as the Padlocks, fence work, the Kiosk, etc.

Normal operating expenses for chairs, umbrellas, first aid stuff, etc.

Sand for next year (April, 2013) should be included - \$1,000 - 1,500 ?

Supplies - Barley Bales and Cutrine+ (ordered?)

Clean-up date was Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**SAFETY – Sylvie Favret – Nothing to report.**

**OUTDOOR LIGHTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Sylvie Favret**

Carolyn Rapkivian and Charlie Challstrom will make a presentation at the Annual Town Meeting on May 12th. The Committee continues to accommodate residents with shield requests.