

Town Council Reports July 2014

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION – Georgette Cole

Permit review:

501 Brown Street, Winkler-Stopak: submitted completed permit application with boundary survey, drawings and elevations with photographs. House is not a contributing structure. The HPC discussed and approved the plans. Mimi Styles will write up the reviews and get it to Kathy by July 23.

301 Washington Grove Lane, Partington-Gillis: submitted plans for internal remodel. Planning Commission advised HPC review since several windows are involved which will change the appearance of the house. No permit is required by Washington Grove for this work.

201 Maple Road, Jim Snyder: building permit for enclosure of a garage. The HPC reviewed the material carefully and conclude the submitted material was not sufficient for a review of the proposed work and final structure. It would be helpful to have the plans Mr. Snyder will submit to the County.

346 Ridge Road, new resident. There was an email from Charlie Challstrom indicating a permit had been approved, but no permit form/plans were available for HPC review.

506 Brown Street, Wongkachonkitti: Solar panels. These will not be visible from a public way and thus do not require an HPC review.

402 Grove/207 Grove-moving shed. The HPC declined to review this.

SHADY GROVE CROSSING – Georgette Cole

The Shady Grove Crossing development is almost finished. I have contacted the site manager to clean up some pending issues and expect to have more information next month.

WASHINGTON GROVE MEADOW CONSERVATION PARK – Georgette Cole

Mayor McCathran and Georgette Cole met with Park Manager, Mike Jones, on July 24. The recent inspection of the meadow for Non-Native Invasive plants (NNIs) was discussed. The results are very encouraging. We then reviewed the Meadow Operations and Use Plan. It shows an oval walking path with a path crossing the oval from the front entrance to the lower field entrance. The Parks Department has limited personnel and plans to mow this path twice a month during the grass growing season. The Mayor said that residents had expressed a strong preference for more frequent mowing due to the tick hazard when the grass was higher. She suggested that Town Maintenance might be able to help with the process. We agreed this was a workable solution. Mike expressed concern over continued resident mowing of the Ridge Road edge of the field. A resident in Shady Grove Crossing has started a vegetable garden on the meadow next to his property. Mike will wait until fall then remind residents these activities must not continue next year.

FORESTRY & BEAUTIFICATION – Audrey Maskery

The deep drainage ditch by the lake in the West Woods has started to be filled with rocks and concrete. Once in place, the filling will be secured with a concrete mix; hard work in the summer heat by Steve Wertz and crew. Hopefully the filling will help to slow the velocity of runoff from Washington Grove Lane.

WOODS GROUP: Ann Briggs – Chair

Next meeting end of August.

MEMORIALS – Audrey Maskery

Nothing to report.

PLANNING COMMISSION – John McClelland

Building Permits:

501 Brown Street - screened porch approved

102 Center Street - shed approved conditionally (application not fully completed)

201 Maple Road - garage move, enclosure and connection to dwelling (waiting on final plans)

Public Ways & Property Permits:

407 Acorn – no longer excavating road. Owner will construct a concrete curb to redirect water away from home. Section of curb located on town/public property approved.

RR Bridge on schedule. Curved beam installation delayed due to cable wire location preventing crane access. They have been installed.

WSSC – Waste pipe along Maple Ave to be cleaned and have sleeve installed using man holes to minimize digging

Block Corner Survey Project:

Block 6 – Completed. Private fences in easement area noted

Building Standards Compliance Checklist:

- Progressing with approximately 12 properties completed
- Discussion on use of information, (i.e. PC building permits, ordinance review and evaluation, resident, real estate transactions, HPC etc)
- Public information to be retained by the Town and available to all
- Access to be advertised in the bulletin and on the web site

Zoning Text Amendment(s):

- Placed on hold as no urgency seen in regards to the clarification of Article VII Section 5.32
- Many potential ordinance changes are to be compiled in order to reduce Town costs (advertisement etc)
- September 17 work session scheduled

Road Safety:

- The parking of vehicles, plantings and other site hindering situations within 25 feet of a stop sign need to be addressed. Personal contact and notes in the Town Bulletin are recommended

Easement Process:

- The TC should review and adopt a set of procedures as they are the ones to grant the potential easement requests

McCATHRAN HALL – John McClelland

No report.

MAPLE LAKE- Carolyn Rapkivian

There were no geese at the lake during swimming hours. Deterrents included Nite-Lite (“AwayWithGeese”) and Green Laser. There were problems with "Duck Itch" noted by about 10 - 12 residents - the situation is being monitored and reviewed by the Committee for recommended action. On July 29, nyad (pondweed) was treated by NatureWorks using "Reward". Swim lessons were very successful thanks to Frank Barrett and Emily Cavey.

SAFETY – Carolyn Rapkivian

The Mayor created a new Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (the first meeting will be in August); its purpose is to address citizen concerns regarding the speeding of vehicles on Town roads and other safety concerns regarding vehicles and to report their findings to the Mayor and Council. The Committee is chaired by Kristin Perry and members include Melanie Davison, Donna Edwards, John Tomlin, and Mary Warfield.

Website – Carolyn Rapkivian

Nothing to report.

CONTRACTS – Greg Silber

Nothing to report. A number of residents provided kudos to Potomac Disposal this month for a job well done.

RECREATION – Greg Silber

Summer in the Parks camp has concluded. By all accounts it was another very successful year. Many thanks to organizers, counselors, volunteers, parents, and all others involved for helping to create a fun and educational environment resulting in many *happy campers!*

The Recreation Committee will meet again on Wednesday 20 August at 7:30 p.m.

PLAYGROUNDS – Greg Silber

The Council has established a Playground Committee to provide the Mayor and Council with information to develop a comprehensive playground improvement and maintenance plan. The

Committee's first meeting will be held Monday 18 August at 7:30. Town residents interested in this issue are welcome to join the discussion.

ROADS AND WALKWAYS – Bill Robertson

Mowing, as usual.

MAINTENANCE – Bill Robertson

Tree Maintenance Program continues.

Installed landscape timbers at the playground.

Work continues on the drainage ditch outside Maple Lake.

Maintenance of dirt tennis courts continues.

Mowing continues.