

UNIVERSITY PARK NEWSLETTER

TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK, MARYLAND
 JULY-AUGUST 2018 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER VOL. XXXXIII, NO. 7

MAYOR'S COLUMN

After 45 years with the Town's Public Works Department, Warren Hall retires July 1. Just last week, Warren celebrated his 63rd birthday. With his hats and salt-and-pepper beard, Warren is easily recognizable in the cab of Town trucks, and we will miss seeing him there. Warren's sense of humor and rambunctious laugh, which seems to reach out the window and include us all, will also be missed. He takes his work seriously and encourages his co-workers to do the same. Warren is a jovial man who seemingly knows all town residents. He is known for his many kindnesses and regularly takes a few moments from the cab of his truck to see that a Town resident is carefully looked after.

Warren Hall came to work for the Town at age 17 as a laborer in June of 1973 and earned \$90 per week.

Warren worked alongside his older brother, Kerry Hall, his cousins and neighbors. His father, Leroy Hall, ran the Town Public Works operations for quite some time. While the Town's Public Works Department seemed almost a family operation when Warren came to work here, University Park wasn't considered a welcoming community to work in. Early deed covenants in University Park had precluded home sales to African-Americans and others. University Park and several other suburban Maryland communities had once been "sundown towns," all white municipalities that African-Americans had to exit prior to dark.

When Warren Hall first came to work in University Park, public works crew members were uncomfortable in University Park homes. There was no Town Hall then,

Town Meetings & Special Dates

Holiday	July 4
Town Council	July 9 & 23
Tree Committee	July 11
Helping Hands Committee	July 17
Development Overview Committee	July 18

Most Town Council meetings are at 7:30 at University Park Elementary School. Committee meetings are often at the Town Hall. Residents are encouraged to attend.

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FROM THE CHIEF & CRIME REPORT

and public works crew submitted their time slips and received their pay off the top of a trash can at the side or back door of the Town's Treasurer. Warren's father, Leroy retired in 1993. His brother, Kerry, also well known to residents, retired in 2016 after 50 years' service with the Town. Now Warren Hall, the last of the Hall family working for the Town, is retiring. We will celebrate Warren's retirement on Wednesday, July 25 at a lunch in the large room at Word of God Baptist Church. Please see the announcement below for details, and plan to come and participate.

We are appreciative that those earlier times are no more. We have become more welcoming and inclusive as a community, but that work is ongoing.

—Len Carey

Do you agree or disagree? Did I miss something?

Let me know: mayorcarey@upmd.org



**Warren Hall
Retirement Luncheon
Wednesday, July 25, Noon**
Please join us on Wednesday, July 25 to recognize Public Works employee Warren Hall for his 45 years of service to the Town upon his retirement. The luncheon will be held at the Word of God Baptist Church (6513 Queens Chapel Road) beginning at 12 p.m. RSVP to Andrea at amarcavitch@upmd.org or call Town Hall 301-927-4262.

Trash Collection Forum Monday, September 24, 7:30 PM

On Monday evening, September 24, Mayor and Council will hold a forum to discuss a proposal to collect trash once a week. The forum will be held at the University Park Elementary School beginning at 7:30 p.m. as a significant part of the Council meeting scheduled at that time. There will be ample time for information and discussion of concerns, so please plan to attend and participate.

The University Park Annual July 4th Parade is A wonderful event. Everyone riding their bicycle in the July 4th bicycle parade should wear a helmet! More children ages 5 to 14 are seen in emergency rooms for injuries related to biking than any other sport. Helmets can reduce the risk of severe brain injuries by 88 percent-yet only 45 percent of children 14 and under usually wear a bike helmet. Set the example for your children. Just like a seatbelt in your car, a helmet is the single most effective safety device available to reduce head injury and death from bicycle crashes. *Use your head, wear a helmet.*

Fourth of July Celebrations

Fireworks are illegal in Prince George's County and also a violation of our Town Code. Fireworks are not toys. They burn at a very high temperature and can cause serious injuries and ignite clothing if used improperly. July has traditionally been a very dry month, and fireworks will easily ignite grass, leaves, trees and homes. *Never* give fireworks to young children. Even sparklers can be unsafe. The safest way to enjoy this holiday is to attend a sanctioned fireworks display in the area.

UPPD Vacation Safety Tips for your home while you are away. Please contact the UPPD and we will check the exterior of your home daily.



- Stop mail, newspapers and other deliveries, or ask a neighbor to collect it.
- Turn your alarm on.
- Arrange to have yard work done, and have a neighbor set out trash on normal collection days. Trash & recycle bins should be removed from the curb on the same day.
- Avoid announcing on social media that you are away for extended periods.
- Set the air conditioner to a higher temperature, but

don't turn it off. A silent compressor on a hot day is a good indication that the house is unoccupied.

- If you have an alarm system, make sure it is in working order. A home protected by a security system is three times less susceptible to a break-in than one without. Use outside lights with motion detectors.
- Don't leave a garage door opener in your car, especially if you are parking your car on the street. It is recommended to unplug an electric garage door opener before you leave.
- Do not keep keys hidden around the outside of your home or in your garage. Intruders know all the secret places where keys could possibly be hidden.
- After everyone else is in the car, take one last walk around your house. Check to make sure all windows and doors are locked and the alarm system has been properly armed.

If traveling by car, make a safety kit for your vehicle, which should at minimum include some basic tools, jumper cables, emergency flares, a flashlight, a jug of water, a basic first-aid pack and a fluorescent safety vest. Remember that criminals take vacations too. They apply the same principles of opportunity and take advantage of the situation regardless of where they are. They know we are complacent in an atmosphere of relaxation. Keep your cars doors locked and valuables out of site at rest stops. Lock the doors of your beach cottage when you are out and about. Pickpockets are still very active and take advantage of crowded venues. Keep track of the credit cards you carry. Be aware of suspicious behavior regardless of where you are and report it to the police. Nothing ruins a vacation more than being the victim of a crime. Take precautions as a habit, even on vacation.

If you stay in beautiful University Park this summer to avoid the hustle and bustle of travel, be vigilant of our community. You know when your neighbor is going away and by keeping watch on their home it makes your own home much safer as well. Do not hesitate to ask unfamiliar faces if you can help them. Someone knocking on the front door and then walking to the rear of the home when there is no answer is *not* normal activity. Walking down the street and checking a car door to see if it will open is also *not* normal activity. If it doesn't feel right, it probably isn't. Please call the UPPD and we will help you resolve your suspicions, and please call sooner than later.

Tree Committee News

Tree City USA

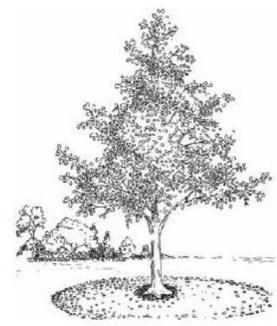
I had the pleasure of attending the Arbor Day ceremony at UPES on April 27. For the 17th year running, University Park was designated as a Tree City, USA. The care, maintenance, and regeneration of the Tree City is the shared responsibility of all its human residents. The Committee on Trees, Parks and Environment has implemented a Ward Steward Program in which individual committee members assume responsibility for monitoring the health and well-being of town trees in public right of ways and parkland within their ward. We ask that you assist us in this by reporting any concerns for your own trees. Are you worried for a large oak's health? Does your dogwood look "off?" We urge you to contact us with any tree-related question by writing the Committee on Trees, Parks and Environment at TreeComm@UPMD.org.

The Miseducation of Mulch

In the last several years improper mulching techniques have become endemic throughout the region and our town. Mulch is heaped 6-12" directly against the tree's trunk, creating a mulch volcano. The correct practice is for the mulch to look more like a donut, avoiding the trunk by 5" and applying to about 2" deep. Countless articles have appeared in the press urging correct practice, yet the mulch volcanoes continue to erupt, as the practice is observed by many landscapers.



Improper Mulch
Root flare buried &
Mulch piled high up against the trunk



Proper Mulch
Root flare visible at the base of the tree &
Mulch extends to dripline of canopy

Locally, the best examples of this practice as carried to its illogical extreme are the trees on Northwestern High School's property. I've also seen it around town, particularly where homeowners have employed a lawn service to maintain their property. This includes mulching of trees in the town's right of way bordering the homeowner's property. Whether the tree is on your property or on the town's curb strip, the end result is the same—death to the

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tree, immediate financial loss, and ultimately loss to your property value when established trees die. One side effect of banking mulch this high is that the heat kills the inner bark of young trees, not allowing hardening off for winter. The volcano also promotes growth of roots in the mulch vs the soil, which will eventually choke off the tree's primary roots. A single heavy rain can cause your tree to drown or rot from the moisture trapped in the giant sponge of mulch. Conversely, over mulched soils can be colonized by water-repelling fungi, inducing drought conditions despite receiving water.

Remember: After mulching, pull the mulch away from the tree trunk by five to six inches. The tree trunk and flare at the base should all be visible. The outer edge of the mulch donut should extend to the drip line of the canopy.

Ivy League, Saturday, July 14, 9 AM

Volunteers can help nurture the town's trees in our parks. Bring a set of garden clippers and a small prying tool—a large screwdriver, dandelion weeder, or sturdy trowel will suffice. No experience necessary. Meet at the terminus of Tennyson Street, in the park, north of the soccer field. Volunteers can earn one credit of five needed toward a limited-edition Ivy League bandana.

Ivy League, Saturday, August 11, 9 AM

Volunteers work for two hours with Tree Committee members to remove English ivy from the town's trees in our parks and public right of ways. Meet at the corner of Wells Parkway & Eversfield Drive, at the Veteran's Memorial.

-Chris Aubry, on behalf of the Committee on Trees, Parks, and Environment, TreeComm@UPMD.org



Helping Hands University Park
We have completed our smoke detector project, installing over 25 smoke detectors in HHUP members' homes. A gigantic thank you to the following HHUP Volunteers who removed old smoke detectors, checked CO detectors, and installed new Maryland state law compliant smoke detectors with 10-year batteries: Ned Goldberg, Laura Collins, Vance Livingston and Fernando Saldana, and thanks to Bob Saks who oversaw this project for HHUP. We are no longer installing free smoke detectors but are still glad to install smoke detectors you purchase—call 301-892-6636

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for further information.

As of June 1, HHUP has provided many services to nearly 20 HHUP members, sometimes assisting single individuals over a period of time. Requests have included snow shoveling to changing backyard flood lights to computer help to providing transportation to setting up phone buddies, etc. No request is too small! We've had members tell us, "Others need help more than I do ...," but if every one of our HHUP members feels that way, they won't get to know any of our 30 volunteers, and vice versa!

Thanks to Sabrina Meyers, HHUP has established a UP Walking Club. Are you a morning walker or an evening walker? You have two options with us: Tuesday evenings at 7 PM or Thursday mornings at 9 AM. Meet and finish at the Little Library on Queens Chapel Rd. (across from the Word of God Baptist Church). All are invited to join, especially HHUP members and volunteers. Questions? Call Sabrina at 301-641-0114 or email her at sab333rina@yahoo.com, or simply show up, ready to walk for 30 minutes.

The HHUP Committee has established two subcommittees: Membership and Programming. Interested in joining one of them? Call us at 301-892-6636 or send an email to HHUniversityPark@gmail.com for further information. Stay tuned for information on our still-in-development monthly Lunch Club.

Save the date: Saturday, October 13, 5-6:30 PM. HHUP & Dave Brosch's 2nd Saturday Lectures present at Church of the Brethren UP resident Jane Horvath speaking on *Learn How Medicare Works: Medicare Parts A, B, C, D and Medigap Supplemental*. What coverage is automatic? What coverage do you have to elect? What are your optional elections and how do you figure out what is best for you? She'll meet with people one-on-one to answer specific questions after her talk.

May 21 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Thompson, Schultz, Hess, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Alvarez.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the following consent agenda items.
Motion approved 7 to 0.

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Block party/street closure for the 5th annual 40th Avenue block party at the cul-de-sac at the end of 40th Avenue (Saturday, July 28, 2018 from 3-8 PM) Ward 2. The police department has been notified and supports this request.

Building permit to install an 8'x 8' shed located at 6708 41st Avenue.

Public Comment (Note: Responses from the Mayor are italicized.)

A resident is overwhelmed with the size of the new playground. He would like to know how it was justified. He is concerned with the age restriction of twelve years and younger allowed to play in the park since a large percentage of residents will not get any benefit from the playground. Who controls the park? Who pays for the maintenance, liability and other expenses? He would like to see, in the Town Newsletter, how much money residents had to contribute for the playground.

The playground is controlled entirely by the Town of University Park. The decision on the playground was processed through the Council and the Committee on Public Facilities and Services. Although the signs say for ages 2-5 and 5-12, it is really for kids of all ages. The Town contributed \$86,000 towards the playground and this information has been posted in the Town Newsletter.

In reference to the May 7 Council Meeting, a resident was very impressed with the work done in trying to save money in the FY2019 budget. He congratulated the Councilmembers for a good job.

A resident recommended eliminating the Friday trash pick-up in order to save money and offer an additional trash bin for larger families.

Pamela Boozer-Strother, a resident of Brentwood, Maryland is a candidate for the Board of Education. She is running for this position to address the important issues such as overcrowded schools, continuing the Arts Education in the schools and bringing more social services into the school buildings. She asked for everyone's vote on June 26.

New Business

Motion to authorize the Mayor and Town Attorney to write and submit a letter to the Planning Board on recommendation from the Development Overview

Committee, regarding Petro Services at 3599 East-West Highway in Hyattsville, Maryland to demolish current gas station and construct a new gas station, food and beverage store and offices on the property. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion to authorize the Mayor to write and submit a letter to Prince George's County Executive Rushern Baker, County Council Chair Dannielle Glaros, County Council Member Deni Taveras, County Board of Education Superintendent Dr. Maxwell, and to the Prince George's County Public School Board to express concerns with new developments exacerbating overcrowding in surrounding public schools and urging expedited planning and construction of additional school capacity on recommendation from the Development Overview Committee. The Mayor is asked to work with other north-County municipalities to bring a united front in addressing this concern. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: Per Section 304 of the Town Charter, to consent to a Special Session of Council on Wednesday, May 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the University Park Elementary School to discuss and approve a fiscal year 2019 Budget. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Continuing Business

Motion to approve the adoption of Legislative Resolution 18-O-03: Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is May 21, 2018.

Councilmembers received a copy of the Mayor & Council Version 4 of the FY 2019 Budget, which reflects the requested changes by the Council at the May 7 meeting. Mayor Carey said that after the May 7 Council meeting, he had discussions with staff and came up with a "Mayor and Council Version 4a Mayor's Preferred Alternative of the FY 2019 Budget" which he distributed.

Motion: To limit the hours to 25 hours for the Mosquito Program Coordinator and continue the Mosquito Program only through September of 2018 as contracted. \$6,000.00 should remain under line item W11 in the FY2019 budget and remove \$4,500.00. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: To accept the "Mayor's Preferred Alternative of the FY2019 Budget" proposal with the excep-

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tion of the Mosquito Program. Motion approved 6 to 1 (Schultz opposed).

Motion to approve the adoption of Charter Resolution 18-CR-01 to repeal and re-enact Article I, "General Corporate Powers" by adding Section 102, titled "Nondiscrimination." The earliest date this motion may be considered for passage is June 4, 2018.

Department and Council Reports

Mayor's Report

Mayor Carey introduced Mr. Roland Stephen, who has been elected to the Town Council for Ward 7, beginning June 18.

Council and Committee Reports

Development Overview Committee The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 23 at 7:30 PM. Discussion at the meeting will be on a minor revision at Riverdale Park Station, Zoning Rewrite Hearing and Vision 2045 Regional Planning Meeting.

Police, Traffic and Public Safety Committee The Committee plans to make recommendations to the Council at the June 4 Council Meeting.

Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson Ms. Ferguson reported that Comcast negotiations are about to resume. There is no update on the 7-Eleven monument sign. Ms. Ferguson recommended that this be looked into since it could be a small change that slides by. Mayor Carey said that he would look into this matter.

Town Clerk Tracey Toscano An email will be sent to Councilmembers with links to the MML programs that are being offered along with other important information. The Oath of Office will be administered on June 18, 2018. Family and friends are welcome.

Chief of Police Wynnyk

- The April 2018 Crime Report was distributed.
- Officer Greg Fuoco joined the University Park Police



Lost Pet Database To register your pet, report a lost or found pet, please call Laura Collins. She can be reached at UPPetDatabase@gmail.com or 301-785-2838. Have your pets wear their tags or a microchip at all times so they can be identified.

Department on May 17. He retired from the Prince George's County Police Department and then spent one year on the University of Maryland Police Department. He is currently in field training.

- The University Park Police Department now has their own firearms instructor.
- Chief Wynnyk was recently invited to Northwestern High School to take part in a crash reenactment for the juniors and seniors. The goal was to encourage the students to make the right decision when driving.
- Chief Wynnyk replied to CM Hess's question about the house on 44th and Underwood. Chief Wynnyk said that the court has sent over the eviction notice to the Sheriff's office and now is just waiting to hear for the scheduled date.

Director of Public Works Michael Beall

- The playground has officially been dedicated and is open to the public. The ribbon-cutting event was well attended.
- The parking lot next to the playground is being used.
- The playground is being cited on property listings for houses that are on the market.
- Warren Hall will retire from the Public Works Department on June 30, 2018 after forty-five years of service. A sixty-two-year-old employee with forty-two years of service to the Town will likely retire in a few years. This information may help the Council with their concern of hiring a new Public Works employee before a Town Manager study is completed.
- To clarify the questions on overtime during the budget discussion, Mr. Beall explained that \$31,000 was spent last leaf season on overtime and contract labor and \$10,000 was spent for snow removal and other minor expenses such as electronics, tree planting, etc.
- Mr. Beall said that one of his employees who was collecting bulk trash found a gold watch and a pair of rings and turned these items over to Mr. Beall who in turn contacted the homeowner. Mr. Beall pointed out that this is the type of staff he has working for him.
- Gave an update on Warren Hall's health.
- Mr. Beall responded to CM Alvarez's question on the bridge. He said that there have been many obstacles with the permitting of the bridges. It is being considered to install both bridges at the same time to save money. The goal is to have the project completed before the next snowfall.
- CM Hess asked how much the sculptures cost that are

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in the park. Mr. Beall said that the two sculptures at the playground cost \$3,500 for both and the money comes out of the Park Upkeep budget.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:40 PM.

May 30 Council Special Session Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Thompson, Schultz, Hess, Verrill, Wells, Alvarez. Excused: Caskey.

Public Comment

- A resident asked the Council to consider a change to the proposed budget for the Mosquito Program. He would like the program to be funded (\$4,000) through June 30, 2019. The program is working, but the University Park volunteers need the support of the Town as well as an Intern. The mosquitoes are a nuisance and having the program is a way of making life a little better throughout the Town.
- A resident said it is very important for the Town to help support the Mosquito Program. The Town is currently at 50% coverage in terms of traps, but the Town needs to be at 75% trap deployment in order for the program to be effective town-wide.
- A resident said that the volunteers for the Mosquito Program would like to report to the proper Council Committee periodically through the end of October 2018. The goal is to have enough information on the program so that Council can decide whether to continue with the program through June 30, 2019.
- A resident was outraged by the proposal of hiring a consultant for the Town Manager Study. He suggested the Mayor have a standing fund to allow him to hire consultants when needed. He also said that it would be nice to use local consultants.
- A resident expressed that he has a problem with spending \$35,000 for a consultant on a Town Manager study. He pointed out that the two directors (Police and Public Works) manage most of the staff and the secretary could be delegated to do additional paper work. He suggested the Council vote against the \$35,000 towards a consultant study. He said that some residents feel that the decision to hire a consultant for a Town Manager study was in retaliation to those who were against hiring a Town Manager. Resident said if the Council decides to hire a consultant, the process needs to be done correctly. If bidding limits are exceeded again with no-bid contracts, some residents will take this issue to State and Bar Eth-

ics officials. CM Hess asked to set the record straight. It was his proposal to hire a consultant for a study of whether the Town needs additional resources and how they should be organized. It was his recommendation alone; the idea did not come from any other Councilmember or the Mayor.

Continuing Business

The Mayor presented the Council with Mayor & Council Version 5 of the proposed Fiscal Year 2019 Budget, reflecting changes made to date by the Council, and which would result in a Town Real Property Tax Rate of .5380 per \$100 of assessed value, which is the Constant Yield Rate, therefore no increase in the Town Real Property Tax.

Motion: To approve the adoption of Legislative Resolution 18-O-03: Fiscal Year 2019 Budget. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Note: CM Alvarez asked Mr. Baden to update the definition of line item W19 to read: Street Improvements and Traffic Control to include a Traffic Plan and Comprehensive Street Plan. This would encompass the recommendation from the Police, Traffic & Public Safety Committee made on April 10, 2018 to add a line item for a "Traffic Plan and Comprehensive Street Plan for the Town with the possibility of hiring a consultant or working with students and/or faculty at the University of Maryland." The Council expressed concurrence.

Motion: To amend the proposed Legislative Resolution 18-O-03 to set the tax levy on real property at \$0.5380 per one hundred dollars (\$100) of full assessed value as opposed to \$0.5900. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Motion: To adopt the amended Legislative Resolution 18-O-03. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Meeting adjourned by consent at 8:15 PM.

June 4 Council Meeting Highlights

Present were Mayor Carey; Councilmembers (CM) Thompson, Schultz, Hess, Verrill, Caskey, Wells, Alvarez.

Presentation

Trees, Parks and the Environment Committee Annual Report

Chair Chris Aubry presented the 2017 Annual Report,

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which included all of the activities the Committee had completed throughout the year.

Mr. Aubry was asked if the Committee does anything about a declining tree on private property. He replied by saying he would like to be able to at least note declining trees to the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Young reported that the Committee modified the Tree Reimbursement Program (Chapter 16 Section 104). Currently there are fifteen approved shade trees on the list and the Committee is proposing to add twelve understory trees to the list.

CM Wells asked if the Tree Committee could forward the names of the Ward Stewards to Councilmembers. This would be helpful in reporting directly to Ward Stewards with any tree concerns in their wards.

Mr. Aubry asked how the Committee could better market the Tree Reimbursement Program. Mayor Carey suggested this be discussed at a future Tree Committee meeting, which he would participate in.

Mayor Carey responded to a question about Pepco coming through Town to trim trees, to clear the electric lines. Mayor Carey said that he would like to find a way to encourage and enable homeowners to get a second opinion before Pepco removes trees from private properties. Mr. Aubry said that he is heavily for intervention and would like to be given the opportunity to offer a second opinion on Pepco's rulings, if this is legally possible.

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the following consent agenda items.
Motion approved 7 to 0.

Building permit application to install a 30"x 42" egress window in place of an existing double hung window and add a window well located at 6713 Queens Chapel Road.

Building permit application to repair and replace existing 16.4'x 10' enclosed porch and egress window well located at 4306 Van Buren Street.

Permits

Motion to approve the request for a building permit to install a 360 square-foot backyard patio located at 4324

Underwood Street. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Public Comment

A resident who lives on Wells Parkway near the playground is requesting Restricted Parking signs on her street since cars are now beginning to park in front of her home to visit the playground. She also suggested installing a sign at the playground that says children need to be supervised. She has witnessed young children alone at the playground and she said this could be a liability on the Town.

In reference to the revised Motion on the closure of Sheridan Street, this resident suggested adding "and members of the Council" to the following sentence: (2) request that the Mayor work with the Town of Riverdale Park and the State Highway Administration (SHA) and members of the Council to develop options.

Continuing Business

Motion to approve the adoption of Charter Resolution 18-CR-01 to repeal and re-enact Article I, "General Corporate Powers" by adding Section 102, titled "Nondiscrimination." Motion approved 7 to 0.

New Business

Motion to authorize the Mayor on behalf of the Town to apply for membership with Sister Cities International and to work with their support services toward initiating a Sister Cities relationship between the Town of University Park and City of Yabucoa, Puerto Rico with the understanding that, beyond the membership fee to Sister Cities International, no further commitment of funds is envisioned. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Public Comment (Note: Responses in italics)

A former Mayor of University Park urged Councilmembers to vote in favor of University Park joining this group, to help Puerto Rico recover from the extraordinary disaster.

A volunteer of the Solar Power for Puerto Rico group said they have raised \$32,000. A fundraiser will be held on June 9 at University Park Elementary School to raise money for more projects in Puerto Rico. This group wants to gain some legitimacy and becoming a member of the Sister City International will accomplish that. The goal is to get money from FEMA and HUD to help with the projects.

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A resident said that the physical education teacher from University Park Elementary School has personally delivered supplies to an elementary school in Puerto Rico. Thank you notes from the children in Puerto Rico are posted in the hallway of the University Park Elementary School. The goal is to get solar panels in the school, which will also be a shelter and community center.

A resident asked what the membership fee is for Sister City International and what is the connection? *There is an annual fee of \$185. The Solar Power for Puerto Rico group has enlisted a gentleman who is the head of a nonprofit organization called Global Solace, Inc. All the money raised will go to him and he will go to Puerto Rico and build the project. The Town has already begun a relationship between the schools, and its membership in Sister Cities International will show that Solar Power for Puerto Rico is a legitimate group.*

Why doesn't Solar Power for Puerto Rico file for a 501 (c)(3)? *This would take time and commitment and the group already has an establishment with Global Solace, Inc. that does this very thing and this is an excellent partnership.*

Is there a contract between The Solar Power for Puerto Rico group and the gentleman who will do the project? *No.*

Motion: Per Section 2-105 (b) of the Town Ordinances, to override sealed bid procedures for good cause and approve a three-year contract with the incumbent Newsletter Editors, Todd Stewart and Bridget Warren under current terms and conditions, renewable for an additional two years at option of the Town to perform the Newsletter Editor services consistent with the Scope of Work adopted by the Town. Good cause is that this continues, under the same terms and conditions, an existing contract with the incumbent editors, who are doing a good job. It is therefore in the Town's interest that this contract with the current editors be continued. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Motion: On recommendation of the Committee on Police, Traffic, and Public Safety, to approve closure of Sheridan Street at Baltimore Avenue and request the Town Attorney draft a closure ordinance for vote of Council. Prior to closure, the Mayor should report to the Town Council on the effects of such closure with respect to emergency services and Town services such as snow plowing, trash collection, and other public works activities, and needed changes to State Highway Ad-

ministration signage.

NOTE: Motion dies for lack of a second.

Motion: To (1) return the proposed closure of Sheridan Street at Baltimore Avenue to the Council Committee on Police, Traffic, and Public Safety for further study and consideration of options prior to recommendation to the Council, and; (2) request that the Mayor and the Chair of the Police, Traffic, and Public Works Committee work with the Town of Riverdale Park and the State Highway Administration (SHA) to develop options (a) for safe pedestrian crossing of Baltimore Avenue South of the light at Van Buren, including the potential for a traffic signal, specifically considering the intersections of Baltimore Avenue with Wells Parkway, Tuckerman Street, and Sheridan Street; and (b) to re-configure traffic lanes, markings, and other engineered solutions on Baltimore Avenue to address documented sight distance safety concerns at the intersection of Sheridan Street and Baltimore Avenue, and; (3) report recommended options developed with SHA and Town of Riverdale Park to the Council and its Committee on Police, Traffic, and Public Safety. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Public Comment (Note: Responses in italics)

Can a motion from the floor be introduced to oppose what was just said? *There is no procedure for motions from the floor for this, but you can state your objection.*

This resident said there is a group on Sheridan Street and neighboring streets who feel this issue has been misrepresented. The issue of closing Sheridan Street is one of security and safety. Closure of Sheridan Street will increase the security in terms of accidents, and the residents feel that not closing Sheridan Street has worked against the safety of their street. They believe the closure of Sheridan Street is a reasonable approach. This is not an issue of who is liberal and who is not welcoming of people as this issue has been presented by some.

A resident said that she lived through the closure of Queens Chapel Road which was inconvenient, but it was the best thing for the whole community and she went along with it. This is how residents should approach everything that is done.

A resident on Tennyson Road claimed that nobody is for the closure of Sheridan Street. By closing a path, this

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pushes the resistance onto other streets. The resident believed the traffic study was done wrong since it was focusing on the closure without looking at other options. There are other options and please listen to what the majority of the Town is saying. *Mayor Carey noted that the initial motion had failed due to lack of a second, and that the Council was considering a different motion.*

Motion to approve installation of a painted sidewalk and parking areas along the south side of Clagett-Pineway, from Clagett Road to Pineway, restricting parking on the north side of Clagett-Pineway, between Clagett Road and Pineway, and paint a crosswalk at the corner of Clagett-Pineway and Pineway. This configuration should be reevaluated after six months in place. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Public Comment (Note: Responses in italics)

How do you reevaluate, what are the metrics that you will consider? Is there any data in hand to make a comparison? *Input from residents, accident reports, reports from the Chief of Police and public safety. There is no sidewalk data since there are no sidewalks and currently people are walking in the street. The goal is to have people walk on the sidewalk and not the street.*

Motion: On recommendation from the Committee on Police, Traffic and Public Safety, to approve installation of one new stop sign on Pineway at Beechwood Road, with painted stop bars at each of the three stop signs in the intersection; and placement of two temporary speed bumps at the curve on Pineway in the areas of 6807 and 6814 Pineway. This configuration should be reviewed six months after installation. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Note: Mayor Carey said that Clagett Road in that complex has not been addressed at all. He has asked staff to explore putting a crosswalk at the “paper street” and Beechwood to slow cars down. There will need to be an ADA access ramp put there also.

Motion: On recommendation from the Committee on Police, Traffic and Public Safety, to support development of a Town sidewalk plan over the next year including where connectivity is missing, where sidewalk repairs are needed, where safety is a major issue on the higher traffic streets, and where walkability can be enhanced with minimal cost, so as to gradually, over time, add additional sidewalks where needed. The Town

should consider creating painted sidewalks on the streets before constructing concrete sidewalks. Motion approved 7 to 0.

Mayor and Council Reports

Mayor’s Report

- Mayor Carey would like to schedule a Town Forum on once-a-week trash pick-up. The plan is to schedule this at the same time as the Council meeting on September 24.
- In reference to the completion of the Van Buren and Beechwood bridges, Mayor Carey has sought to expedite this project. The Van Buren bridge should be installed by December.
- Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot was involved with the approval of the playground project as a member of the Board of Public Works. He will be in Town on Tuesday, July 3 from 12:15-12:45 PM to look at and review the playground project. Mayor Carey encouraged Councilmembers and residents to attend this event.
- On June 1, Mayor Carey and Council Chair Dannielle Glaros cut the ribbon for the opening of the Capital Bikeshare Stations. At the request from University Park, the County plans to put a bike share station on the Hyattsville side of Adelphi Road near Northwestern High School. At Riverdale Park Station, there will be a Capital Bikeshare Station and a Zagster mBike Station.
- The Crossing at Riverdale Park Station plans to open by Father’s Day.

Council and Committee Reports

Development Overview Committee CM Wells attended the meeting on the County Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. The major points at the meeting were that 1) the procedures will be inserted into the ordinance itself; 2) there are concerns about the standards and the rules that are expressed in the Subdivision code; 3) there are concerns about who says “it’s to the greatest extent possible or has been done adequately”; 4) there are concerns about how pending projects with partial approvals are going to be handled if the new code goes into effect; 5) the cut-off between major and minor subdivisions. The meeting was streamed live and can possibly be found on the County website. Mr. John Tabori said that all of the meetings are recorded and can be found on the County’s website.

The meeting adjourned by consent at 9:30 PM.

TOWN NEWS & EVENTS

4th of July Parade & Picnic Wednesday, July 4, 10 AM-1 PM



Decorate your bikes, join the parade, play some games and enjoy a neighborhood potluck as the UP Civic Association celebrates Independence Day with our Annual 4th of July Parade and Picnic!

10-10:15 AM Arrive at UPES gazebo and drop off food and blankets for your family. Please bring a side dish or dessert to

share and water or drinks for your family.

10:15-10:45 AM Walk to the top of Queen's Chapel Road (near Town Hall) to decorate your bike, stroller, or pet and gather for the parade.

10:45-11 AM The Parade!

11 AM Back to the gazebo for lunch, Italian ice, games and prizes!

Please contact Connie Visnic at connie.visnic@gmail.com and Michelle Pintur at mpintur@gmail.com with any questions or to volunteer.

Second Saturday Lecture Saturday, July 14, 5 PM

Tim Canty will speak on air quality in our area. The Healthy Air Act significantly reduced sulfur dioxide, which is not only an air pollutant but also contributes to the formation of acid rain and aerosol pollutants. Still, much work remains to be done. Tim Canty is an associate research professor in the Department of Atmospheric & Oceanic Science at the University of Maryland. His research focuses on air quality science and policy, stratospheric ozone and climate change. This lecture will take place at the Church of the Brethren. For more information or if you would like to be a future speaker or know of someone with an interesting topic contact Dave Brosch at 301-779-3168 or davidcbrosch@comcast.net.

UPCA July Pool Social Tuesday, July 17, 10:30 AM-9 PM

Have a free swim on us! The UPCA will pay your guest fees at the Adelphi pool. The event is all day: stop in for a morning swim or come later and stay 'til closing. Don't dare worry about dinner, as BBQ Bill will be serving up dinner that evening.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Riversdale

A National Historic Landmark, Riversdale is a restored, five-part, stucco-covered brick plantation home built between 1801 and 1807. 4811 Riverdale Rd., Riverdale Park, 301-864-0420.

Shakespeare in the Parks: A Midsummer Night's Dream, Wednesday, July 11, 7:30 PM Pack a picnic and enjoy Shakespeare in the Parks. Faeries, mischief and a mystical boy converge in a modern interpretation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, an enchanting summer adventure where love is lost, then found, and fools rehearse their wedding play, only to lose their lead actor to a magic spell. This timeless comedy is complete with juggling acts, live music, dance and Shakespeare's language accessible to all. Free. In case of inclement weather, performance moves to Riverdale Elementary School.

Jazz on the Lawn, Wednesdays, 7 PM Bring a blanket or lawn chair and your picnic basket to enjoy an evening of entertainment. *July 22: Seth Kibel Quartet, August 8: Brulee, August 22: Susan Jones and the Extension Cords.* These performances are made possible in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. Free. All ages welcome.

College Park parkrun, Saturdays, 9 AM College Park parkrun is a free weekly, timed 5k run/jog/walk on the beautiful Paint Branch Trail. Get to know the welcoming community at College Park parkrun. After the 5k, join us for our famous post-run meetup for coffee and treats at The Board and Brew, 8150 Baltimore Ave. Get your free personal barcode by registering at parkrun.us/collegepark. 4289 Metzert Rd, on the Paint Branch Trail at Acredale Park .

Yoga in the Parks at Lake Artemesia Park, Saturdays, 9-10 AM Prince George's Parks and Recreation yoga classes run Memorial Day through Labor Day at M-NCPPC sites throughout Prince George's County. Classes are designed for all levels with certified yoga instructors. Free! For more info visit mncppc.org.

Downtown Hyattsville Arts Festival Exhibitors Applications Now Open Applications are now available online at hyattsvilleartsfestival.com. The Festival will be held Saturday, September 22, 12-6 PM. This is a juried festival. Only original artwork, photography, handmade jewelry, handmade crafts and creative literary arts are allowed. Deadline is 6 PM on Friday, July 13.



TOWN OF UNIVERSITY PARK
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 Town Clerk Tracey Toscano ttoscano@upmd.org
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 Chief Michael Wynnyk upchief@upmd.org

Police

Emergency 911
 Non-Emergency 301-352-1200
 Police Dept. Direct 301-277-0050
 Police Dept. Cell Phone 240-375-1077
 Chief Michael Wynnyk 301-277-0051

Town Council

Ward	Council Member	Phone
1	David Brosch	301-779-3168
2	Joe Schultz	301-892-6314
3	Laurie Morrissey	301-906-0726
4	Linda Verrill	301-927-6743
5	David Caskey	301-699-8785
6	Martha Wells	301-864-1735
7	Roland Stephen	919-522-5589

NEWSLETTER

The September newsletter deadline is Monday, August 6. The *University Park Newsletter* is published monthly, except for a combined July-August issue. Newsletter submissions, questions and comments may be emailed to univparknews@gmail.com or sent via www.upmd.org > Communications > Contact. The *Newsletter* publishes the milestones of current and former UP families (births, weddings, obituaries, graduations, awards, etc.) plus events of interest to residents. Political or commercial advertising is not accepted. Please send letters of opinion or Town suggestions to Town Hall. The *Newsletter* is online at www.upmd.org > Documents.

Subscriptions Former residents may subscribe for \$15/year by contacting Town Hall. Subscribers must renew each year before the month that their subscription ends. No reminders are sent. The address label indicates your renewal date.

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