



# Kensington Around Town

December 2012

## CALENDAR

**Mon., Dec. 24th**

Town Offices closing at  
12:00 noon

**Tues., Dec. 25th**

Town Offices Closed  
Christmas Day

**Mon., Dec. 31st**

Town Offices closing at  
12:00 noon

**Tues., Jan. 1st**

Town Offices Closed  
New Year's Day

**Town Council Meeting**

Mon., Jan 14th 7 pm

For up to date  
information:

[www.tok.md.gov](http://www.tok.md.gov)



**Thursday!**

**December 20th**  
**Additional information**  
**on Page 9.**

## **Town Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting**



Residents joined together for the Town's annual lighting of the Christmas Tree and Menorah on December 9th. Warm cider, cookies, and caroling by the British Players, along with Santa, escorted by the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department. A special thank you to the Carrs, Gersons, Sachs, Furmans, David Gregg's Tree Service, and staff members Shirley Watson and Susan Engels for their help with the event.

## **Holiday Trash, Brush, and Recycling Schedule**

Wed., Dec. 26th: Trash, Brush, and Recycling  
Fri., Dec. 28th: Trash

Wed., Jan. 2nd: Trash, Brush, and Recycling  
Friday., Jan. 4th: Trash

*Collections will resume to Tuesday and Friday beginning Jan. 8th*

## **2013 Town Directory**

Last month you should have received the 2012 Town Directory. We are aware of a number of omissions, however, we ask that you please look over your listed information and send any corrections, via email, to Matt Hoffman at [MJHoffman@tok.md.gov](mailto:MJHoffman@tok.md.gov). Once the changes have been made, we will publish an updated version in early 2013.

**Please have all corrections sent in by  
Friday, January 4, 2013**

**Town Permits**

10421 Mannakee Street  
Shed

**Do I Need A Permit?**

In most cases, yes, you will need a Town and County permit for any interior or exterior structural changes, with the exception of landscaping and repairs.

Residents living within the Historic District will need a HAWP in addition to the Town and County Permit.

We ask that you please contact the Town staff first for any permit related questions you may have.



**From Town Manager Daily**

- NZI Construction has started the curb and gutter repair work along Dupont Avenue and will move to sections of Detrick, Warner, and Wheatley over the next month. Once the concrete repairs have been completed, NZI will mill and pave. We do not expect paving to begin until well after the New Year.
- The Town staff continues working with the State Highway Administration to help with the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Howard Avenue to prevent northbound vehicles from blocking the turning lane.

**MAYOR**

Peter C. Fosselman  
*Mayor.Fosselman@tok.md.gov*

**COUNCIL**

Mackie Barch	Sean McMullen
Tracey Furman	John Thompson
<i>Mayor.Council@tok.md.gov</i>	

**Town Manager**  
Sanford W. Daily  
*SWDaily@tok.md.gov*

**Asst. Town Manager**  
Matthew J. Hoffman  
*MJHoffman@tok.md.gov*

**Town of Kensington**  
**3710 Mitchell Street**  
**Kensington, MD 20895**  
**Office: 301-949-2424**  
**Fax: 301-949-4925**  
**Office Hours:**  
**8:00am ~ 4:00pm**

**Clerk—Treasurer**  
Susan Engels  
*Susan.Engels@tok.md.gov*

**Facility Manager/Events**  
Shirley Watson  
*Shirley.Watson@tok.md.gov*

# TOWN MINUTES

## October 22, 2012 Town Council Summary

- Approved Town Meeting Minutes from September 24, 2012.
- Proclaimed November as Pulmonary Awareness Month.
- Agreed to return the State CPP grant award for the tennis court.
- Approved Option 4 of Phase II Intersection Improvement at Montgomery Avenue and Kensington Parkway.
- Agreed to draft an agreement to allow construction in the storm drain easement at 10714 St. Paul Street.
- Approved Resolution R-25-2012 to restore a single polling location for the Town.
- Approved Resolution R-26-2012 to support wine and beer tastings for Class A license holders.
- Held a closed session to discuss a legal issue with respect to code enforcement with the Town Attorney.

**October 22, 2012**—Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Furman, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Daily, Clerk-Treasurer Engels, Assistant Town Manager Hoffman, and Town Attorney Suellen Ferguson were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed for the Mayor's father who had open heart surgery and Sharon Roelvink who passed away.

**From the Mayor & Town Council** –The Mayor reported he attended the Town Picnic, which 150 people attended; thanked all volunteers including Barrie Carr, Susan Gerson, Al Lacey, Katie Rangos, Stowe Teti, Judy Beach-Uhlman, Detta Voesar, Council Members Furman and Thompson, Jason Swain, Curtis from Mid Atlantic Professional DJ Association, the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, and St. Paul's Church; the first phase of ornamental tree lights has been completed on Howard Avenue; attended the opening of St Paul's Church Pumpkin Patch; was a host at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Interfaith Works; and attended the Fall MML Conference in Hagerstown, which included a beneficial session on social networking.

Council Member Thompson attended the MML Fall Conference and Town Picnic.

Council Member Furman attended the October 9<sup>th</sup> County Council Hearing on the Zoning Text Amendment, which passed; attended the Town Picnic; and announced the next Design Guidelines Task Force meeting will be meeting on Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

The Mayor read a proclamation designating November as Pulmonary Awareness Month. Alex Fupse was present and spoke about pulmonary hypertension.

The Mayor and Council discussed the on-site tennis court meeting held on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor stated the majority in attendance were opposed to the tennis court; however there were a few Residents supportive of the court. The Mayor explained the grant is restricted to a tennis court within the Town boundaries and has a three year time limit. He stated one option would be to hold the grant for the three years to see if a suitable location becomes available from a revitalization project.

Mark Wegner thanked the Council for the on-site meeting and stated he was not necessarily opposed to a tennis court but to the location; Darin Bartram suggested an open design for the tennis court which would be less intrusive and stated a tennis court would support . . .

## TOWN MINUTES

another demographic in Town; Leslie Olson spoke in opposition to the tennis court and its maintenance, noted the backstop at the park is in need of repair, and questioned whether the grant could be used to repair the courts outside of Town; and Chris Bruch spoke in opposition to the tennis court and stated there was not enough demand over competing uses. After discussion of whether there was an appropriate location or need for the court, the Council concurred to notify the State that the Town would not be using the awarded grant. See Council Actions.

Phase II of the Intersection Improvement for Montgomery Avenue at Kensington Parkway was discussed. The Mayor explained the Council agreed to complete this project in two phases and the importance of completing Phase II for traffic calming and pedestrian safety. The Council noted existing drainage problems with the intersection, poor lighting, and confusing street name signage, which also needs to be addressed within the project. Arlene Antonicelli and Dennis Kilcullen spoke in support of Option 4 for the intersection improvement; and Chris Bruch spoke in support of the project and noted it was similar to the successful Armory Avenue reconfiguration. Council Member McMullen noted the only concern is additional funding for the project. Town Manager Daily explained \$40,000 has already been approved in the Capital Expenditure Budget and additional funds will have to be added in the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget. The Council concurred to move forward with Option 4, once funding is determined.

Council Member Furman discussed current Town communication and the importance of improving communication with Residents. She stated when the Town's new website is up, the Town will have the ability to send constant contact messages; suggested working with Maier Warner on a new map for the Town similar to what other cities have done

by showing businesses, parking, recreation areas, restrooms, etc; and suggested a dedicated person, such as a communication intern, be hired to enhance communication efforts in the Town.

Kris Warner and Kariann Zentz, of Maier Warner Public Relations, spoke on their communication efforts with Explore Kensington and Eblasts, and stated they can solicit pricing or design artwork for the map Council Member Furman suggested.

The date of the Tree and Menorah Lighting was set for December 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Appearances** - Sabina Emerson questioned whether a permit was issued for the noncompliant fire house sign; expressed concern over signs worn or carried by people; questioned how code enforcement was being handled; and questioned the reason for construction drums at Howard and Armory. The Mayor stated the fire house sign was being addressed; the Town Attorney will research if any authority exists over signs worn or carried by people; Assistant Town Manager Hoffman is performing code enforcement duties as required; and construction drums are an interim measure until the jog in the curb is properly marked.

**From the Town Manager and Staff** – Town Attorney Ferguson explained the storm drain easement at 10714 St. Paul Street and the request from the Gray's attorney for the Town to allow the proposed porch to be constructed. Town Attorney Ferguson stated an agreement would have to be recorded to indemnify the Town for any property damage and to allow for removal of the structure by the owner or by the Town at the owner's expense, if maintenance of the storm drain is needed. The Council concurred to have Town Attorney Ferguson draft an agreement for review.

# TOWN MINUTES

Town Attorney Ferguson stated the State Ethics Commission will be considering whether to continue the Town's full exemption from Subtitle 8 of the Maryland Public Ethics Law on October 25<sup>th</sup>. She will attend the meeting along with the Town Manager.

**Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations –** Resolution R-26-2012 to support an amendment to allow wine and beer tastings to off-sale Class A license holders was discussed. The Council also discussed the request from Old Town Market to allow refrigeration and the sale of singles. Rob Cooper, owner of Old Town Market, spoke in support of selling craft beer singles. The Council concurred to take only incremental steps on any alcohol legislation and support the resolution as written for beer and wine tastings. Resolution R-25-2012 to restore a single polling location for the Town of Kensington was discussed and supported. See Council Actions. The Council thanked Delegate Carr for pursuing this for the Town.

A Closed Session was held. See Attached Closed Meeting Form.

## **Council Actions:**

Council Member Barch moved to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2012 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to return the Community Parks and Playground award for a tennis court explaining the original site chosen for the tennis court had a storm drain problem and the Town does not have an alternative location at this time. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to approve Option 4 of Phase II of the Intersection Improvement at Montgomery and Kensington Parkway with the provision of finding adequate funding for the project.

The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member McMullen moved to approve Resolution R-26-2012 as written to support an amendment to Section 8-216 of Article 2B, Alcoholic Beverages Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, to allow wine and beer tastings. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to adopt Resolution R-25-2012 to request the Montgomery County Delegation of the Maryland General Assembly to introduce MC 1-13 to restore a single polling location for the Town of Kensington and to request the Board of Education and Board of Elections support MC 1-13. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to enter a closed session for the purposes of consulting with the Town Attorney on a legal item with respect to code enforcement and to indicate they will not be coming back to an open session. The motion passed unanimously.

\*\*\*

## **November 19, 2012**

### **Town Council Summary**

- Approved Town Meeting Minutes from October 22, 2012.
- Discussed timeliness of minutes and concurred to provide a summary of actions by list serve and post approved minutes once the Town's new website is active.
- Discussed a Town Hall Museum and concurred to form an ad hoc committee to investigate the merits including space and assets.

## TOWN MINUTES

- Approved Resolution R-27-2012 to update the Town's schedule of fees, charges, and expenses.
- Approved Resolution R-28-2012 to authorize the submission of the CPP grant proposal for a brick pathway at Clum-Kennedy Gardens.

**November 19, 2012**—Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Furman, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Daily, Clerk-Treasurer Engels, and Assistant Town Manager Hoffman were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed.

**From the Mayor & Town Council** – The Mayor reminded the Council the retreat with Jill McCroy needs to be scheduled; reported he will be meeting with the Noyes Foundation Board for an update on finances and future plans; thanked Asst. Town Manager Hoffman for arranging the meeting at Dupont Avenue with Pepco representatives to discuss tree removal and for the additional canine station at St. Paul Park; and was honored to speak at Rock View Elementary School for their Government and Community Day.

The Mayor and Council discussed an inquiry received regarding timeliness of publication of approved minutes. The Council concurred to send out a summary of actions by list serve as soon as possible following a meeting and post approved minutes on the new website once it is active.

The Design Guidelines Meeting was rescheduled for December 11th at 7:15 pm and will be held at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Room 109.

The Christmas Tree and Menorah lighting will be on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Thompson discussed creating a Town Museum. He suggested forming a study group to consider the adequacy and availability of the Armory garage and to determine what type of assets there are for public display. The Mayor stated other suitable spaces should be identified besides the armory garage; neighbors should be consulted if considering use of armory garage; suggested finding corporate or outside funding as the fire safety changes alone would cost over \$55K; and he noted the space is currently used for Town equipment and a new location would have to be identified before any changes were made. The Council concurred to form an ad hoc committee to study this and report back in approximately 90 days. Council Member Thompson will send a list of names for the committee to the Mayor.

**Public Appearances** – Jack Gaffey stated he supports sending out a summary of actions taken, suggested providing a link to approved resolutions, suggested an agenda be provided directly on email instead of through a link, supports a Town Museum, and requested Residents be reminded to spread leaf piles out instead of blocking the street with one large pile; and Al Lacey stated Residents should be encouraged to attend meetings, he supports a Town museum, and announced the Kensington Book Festival will be on April 21, 2013.

**From the Town Manager and Staff** - Town Manager Daily gave an update on leafing which encountered some schedule delays due to equipment repair and weather. Council Member Barch suggested an analysis of the current leaf collection process to determine if outsourcing would be beneficial for next year.

**Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations** - Resolution No. R-27-2012 updating the Town's schedule of fees was discussed. Town Manager Daily explained the Resolution covers all fees the Town charges and a . . .

## TOWN MINUTES

majority of fees have been increased based on the November Urban CPI for Washington/Baltimore Metropolitan area. The increases will be effective January 1, 2013. See Council Actions.

Resolution No. R-28-2012 was discussed to authorize submission of a Community Parks and Playgrounds Grant proposal for a brick pathway at Clum-Kennedy Gardens. Town Manager Daily explained the project would replace existing mulched pathways with a brick pathway to allow for improved access to the park. Council Member Furman noted the importance of either closing the park during inclement weather or ensuring the bricks are properly cleared of ice and snow so they are not slippery. Jack Gaffey suggested a slight incline and space between bricks so water runs off properly. See Council Actions.

### **Council Actions:**

Council Member Barch moved to adopt the minutes from the October 22, 2012 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to approve Resolution No. R-27-2012 updating a schedule of fees, charges, and expenses as provided for in the Ordinances of the Town of Kensington. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to adopt Resolution No. R-28-2012 to authorize and ratify the submission of a Community Parks and Playgrounds Grant proposal for a brick pathway at Clum-Kennedy Gardens and receipt of grant funds. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

\*\*\*



### **When It Snows. . .**

**The Town requires all of its residents and businesses to clear a path on the sidewalk in front of their properties within 24 hours of each snow fall. If**

a path has not been cleared within 24 hours, a notice will be sent to the resident or business reminding them it needs to be done. If a path still has not been cleared within 24 hours of the notice, a citation will be issued—\$65 for residential and \$195 for businesses. Businesses are reminded NOT to pile the snow at sidewalk corners or block pedestrian right-of-ways.

**Exceptions:** residential sidewalks located on Conn., Summit and Knowles Avenues will be cleared by the Town.

If you are traveling during the winter months, please make arrangements before leaving to have someone clear your sidewalk.

The Town is also accepting names of individuals who wish to be contacted to help with snow removal by residents. If you are interested, please contact the Town at 301.949.2424

Homeowners **who have not filed a Homestead Eligibility Application** have until **December 31, 2012** to submit an application to continue being eligible for this credit. You can find out if you have already filed the Homestead application by looking up your property on the SDAT.

**Please visit the following for more info:**

[http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead\\_app.htm](http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead_app.htm)

## EXPLORE KENSINGTON



For all that's happening in Kensington, *Explore-Kensington.com* is the place to go to learn more about it. This holds true for any promotion, event, sale or fundraiser: Find out when Weisser Glass is having a class or what the featured items are at The Growing Years. Learn where you can take your dog to learn basic manners and who can clean your carpets after the holidays. You can discover how to entertain the kids at the many events in Town, and much more. If it's happening in Kensington, it's on *ExploreKensington.com*.

*Third Thursday* elevates the entertainment on December 20. Visitors and residents can look forward to later shopping from 5-8p.m. when Town merchants open their doors to offer discounts and entertainment. Come listen to Holy Redeemer School's Children's Choir on Howard Avenue, take a holiday hayride past Kensington's beautiful historical homes decorated for the holidays, and pick a gift card from a grab bag for spending \$100 or more in Kensington through December 20. And look for our beautiful new banner that will be installed soon on Connecticut Avenue.

Eblasts in November and December featured a holiday guide for Kensington. Merchants sent in their pictures with a brief description of a featured item from their shop and we compiled them in two eblasts for November and will create more in coming weeks.

We've worked closely with multiple merchants and we appreciate their ideas, participation and enthusiasm. It's all part of bringing the best of Kensington to light.



## COMMUNITY

### *A Time Remembered*

This day in history, will and should always burn; so that we always remember the sacrifice of those brave men at Pearl Harbor. I was there on my honeymoon in 1979 and will never be from that time forward a bystander of history.

To still feel the ultimate sacrifice of our soldiers and sailors is to give thanks for what was paid then and is still being paid forward today that we might continue to know that our liberties are precious and should never be taken for granted.

Today especially, let us bow our hearts and bend our knees in a time of prayer and thanksgiving for that which our Lord has granted us. Freedom is never free; we owe great debt this day and year for all our nation has accomplished. Let us learn that we in this generation need to carry forth the bravery, courage and fortitude of our forbearers. May God grant this and may we acknowledge His mercy.

~

Richard H. Rice  
Town Poet Laureate





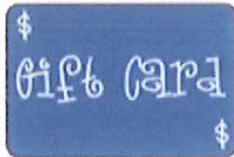
## Kensington Third Thursday Night Out December 20 from 5-8pm

Kensington



Thursday  
Night Out

Start shopping in Kensington Dec 1 and save your receipts! Bring your receipts adding up to \$100\* or more to Howard Ave during Third Thursday and pick a gift card from a grab bag.



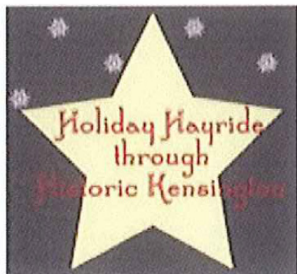
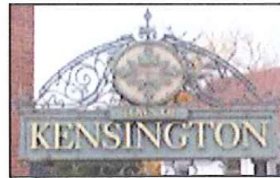
Gift cards range from \$5 - \$25 from Kensington stores and restaurants.

\*Chain stores excluded.



Come listen to the Holy Redeemer School's Children's Choir on the corner of Howard Ave and Fawcett Street. Sponsored by Realty Investments Corporation of America.

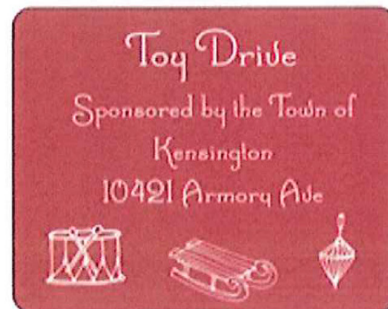
Kensington merchants will have events and specials going on throughout the evening. Stop by, say hi and check out their amazing gifts!



**Enjoy a hay ride through town, riding past Kensington's beautiful historical homes decorated for the holiday. Bam's Landscaping will load passengers at the parking lot of the Train station on Howard Ave.**



Keep warm as you shop with free hot chocolate on Howard Avenue  
Sponsored by  
Maier & Warner PR



For a complete update of all the events, times and promotions for Kensington Third Thursday Night Out go to [ExploreKensington.com](http://ExploreKensington.com)



[www.facebook.com/KtownThrdThursday](http://www.facebook.com/KtownThrdThursday)

For more information, please visit:

Thursday, December 20th!

Please join the businesses along Howard Avenue the Third Thursday of each month for great specials.

**THIRD THURSDAY!**



# Kensington Around Town

DECEMBER 2012

3710 Mitchell Street Kensington, MD 20895 Office: 301.949.2424 [www.tok.md.gov](http://www.tok.md.gov)

**To Kensington Residents**