

Kensington Around Town

January/February 2013

CALENDAR

Town Council Meeting

Mon., Feb. 11th 7 pm

Town Offices Closed

Mon., Feb. 18th
Presidents' Day

Town Council Meeting

Mon., Feb. 25th 7 pm

Design Guidelines

Tues., Feb. 26th 7 pm

For up to date
information:

www.tok.md.gov

**NEXT 3RD THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 21st**



January 14, 2013 Council Summary

- Approved Town Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2012.
- Delegate Carr presented Al Lacey an Official Citation of the Maryland General Assembly for a courageous act.
- The Audit Committee Report was accepted for Fiscal Year 2011-12.
- Historic Area Work Permit Application for 3923 Washington Street for an addition was reviewed and supported.
- Historic Area Work Permit Application for 3904 Washington Street for a fence was reviewed and supported.
- Approved Resolution R-01-2013 supporting the subdivision application for the property located at 10514 Metropolitan Avenue as amended with a mountable curb not to exceed three inches, a 5 foot wide concrete sidewalk level with existing asphalt, and grass planted between the mountable curb and concrete sidewalk.
- Approved Resolution R-02-2013 supporting the continued full exemption of the Town from the requirements of subtitle 8 of the Maryland Public Ethics Law and COMAR 19A.04.02.

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FROM MAYOR FOSSELMAN



SILVER CREEK: The flooding from Silver Creek has been an ongoing issue in the Town for decades and has only gotten worse in the last 5 years. As development continues in Wheaton and structures (additions, backyard sheds) without permits are built in communities north of us, the volume and the velocity of the water continues to increase, but the capacity of the Creek does not. The Town is currently working with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources in efforts to find answers and funding for the overflow. We had a very promising meeting at the Town Hall and on-site at Silver Creek this month. DNR is planning a staged strategy for addressing the problem that will allow us affordable solutions.

REVITALIZATION: Now that our Sector Plan is complete and has gone through the last body of approval (September 2012), we are “open for business”. I have been meeting and working with various builders, developers, property owners and real estate agents who have expressed interest with a few sites along Connecticut Avenue, but most of the attention has been focused on Metropolitan Avenue from Plyers Mill Road to Wheatley Street. Much of this area includes vacant properties, used car dealers or industrial facilities. During the initial beginning of the Sector Plan process in 2007 and at the Urban Land Institute’s panel discussion, we heard from residents as to their wishes for the Town. Most were centered on new amenities and services such as more green space, pedestrian/bike connections, restaurants, art galleries, and upscale shops to enhance and complement our existing businesses. **I am reaching out to you, again, for more detailed ideas and desires for Kensington, as well as resources.** Do you know someone who may be interested in redeveloping in our Town? Do you have a business connection with a prospect who might wish to locate in Town? Please share your information at Mayor.Fosselman@tok.md.gov or 301-949-2424. I welcome all thoughts, large and small.

MARYLAND STATE BILLS FOR KENISINGTON: Last year the State’s redistricting divided the Town’s voting locations into two. We have voted together for decades. The Council and I sent a letter of support for the proposed bill to bring our voting location back to a single location at the Town Hall. **I testified in Annapolis and the bill received a unanimous vote from our Montgomery Delegation.** Special thank you to Delegates Al Carr and Jeff Waldstreicher as well as Senator Rich Madaleno for their sponsorship of the bill. In addition, our bill allowing wine tasting in Kensington is also progressing in a positive fashion.

3rd Thursdays: The third Thursday of the month events on Antique Row continue in February on the 21st. The theme will be “*Girls’ Night Out*” with the shops and restaurants open late and live entertainment on the streets. Please take this opportunity to spread the word about our positive changes in Kensington and patronize our local establishments.

Town Permits

Summit Avenue
Detrick Avenue
Warner Street
Washington Gas

3809 Farragut Avenue
Interior

10545 Wheatley Street
Addition

10231 Carroll Place
Demolition, M-NCPPC

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. Historic District properties will also need a HAWP Permit. Please contact the Town with any questions.



From Town Manager Daily 2013 Town Directory

- The Town staff asks that you please look over your information within the 2012 Town Directory (delivered in November) and contact Matt Hoffman with any changes. MJHoffman@tok.md.gov. Please have all corrections sent in by February 28, 2013
- Please be reminded that the Town requires all pet owners to properly dispose of their pet's excrement when it is deposited on public property. A violation of Section 7-502 (a) of the Town Code has a \$45 fine.
- NZI construction is finishing up the concrete work along a number of streets within the Town. We expect paving to begin in early spring for Detrick, Warner, Dupont, and Wheatley.
- Pepco's tree contractor, Asplundh, continues to prune and remove trees along the public right of way that are within the primary power lines. Asplundh is permitted by the State to complete the work.
- Town staff is finishing up the final touches of our new website design with Towson University. We hope to have the new site up soon and will also have a new Town notification system through Constant Contact. Additional info will be provided as we progress.

MAYOR

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

COUNCIL

Mackie Barch Sean McMullen
Tracey Furman John Thompson
Mayor.Council@tok.md.gov

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

December 10, 2012 Town Council Summary

- Audit Committee met with Mayor, Council Member McMullen, and Staff prior to Town Meeting.
- Approved Town Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2012.
- Discussed revised Kensington Cabin Park plans and noted concerns to be expressed to Park and Planning on their proposed location of the path.
- Discussed Connecticut and Metropolitan Avenues and suggested improvements to be recommended to SHA.
- Approved Staff recommendation to accept the offer from Dunigan Landscaping to purchase the 1995 GMC and 1998 Chevrolet Dump Trucks.
- Approved Resolution R-29-2012 supporting Charles and Helen Wilkes application for an easement on a portion of their property at 3923 Prospect Street.

December 10, 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 thanked everyone that attended and helped with the Menorah and Tree Lighting Event including Rob and Anna Sachs, Barrie Carr, and the British Players; reported he attended the County Executive's Annual Arts Ball in which the Town is a sponsor; met with the Audit Committee and thanked Members, Jeff Capron, Leslie Olson, and Kerry Thompson; met with Noyes Library Foundation to go over progress; attended the Governor's Marriage Equality Celebration; attended the GROWS breakfast, in which Town Resident Detta Voesar volunteers, GROWS assists the elderly and handicap in the County; attended the Wheaton Kensington Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party, and thanked the Chamber for the letter they sent in support of the Sector Plan; attended the Board of Education's induction for new members; and attended the County Council Budget Hearing.

Council Member Thompson reported he

attended the Tree Lighting and Historical Society Holiday Party and thanked all associated; spoke on behalf of the Town on bills for the single voting location and wine and beer tastings at the State Delegation's hearing; and will be attending the Committee for Montgomery Breakfast which will provide an opportunity to lobby for a single voting location.

Council Member Furman reported she attended the Tree Lighting and Historical Society Holiday Party and thanked the Petersons for opening their home; and stated the Design Guideline Task Force will be meeting tomorrow night at 7:15 at St Paul's with guest speakers, Bill Kominers and Chris Bruch.

Public Appearances – Sharon Scott requested the Town have SHA repaint the crosswalk approach signs at Metropolitan/St. Paul and Metropolitan/Wheatley and requested the status of the intersection improvement at Howard and Connecticut. The Mayor stated the Staff will be meeting with SHA tomorrow and will discuss the intersection. Improvements including relocating the bus stop, a brick crosswalk, an underpass, and an additional turn lane on Connecticut from Howard to Plyers Mill Road were discussed.

Julie O'Malley suggested another lane for a

TOWN MINUTES

bus pull off on Connecticut; informed Residents the Victorian Room was decorated by the Woman's Clubs; provided a chart with the history of Cornelius Clum's house; and presented a booklet Bertha Clum wrote in 1981 with historical tidbits.

Jack Gaffey stated the bus stop helps to block traffic for those turning and suggested adding reflectors to mark the intersection.

From the Town Manager and Staff –

Town Manager Daily discussed options for disposing of the 1995 GMC and 1998 Chevrolet dump trucks. He explained the County was unable to advertise the vehicles on the government site prior to snow season and in the meantime the Town received an offer to purchase the trucks from Dunigan Landscaping for \$16,000. An estimated value of \$15,000 for both trucks was obtained from Wolfe Auctions. He recommended accepting the offer from Dunigan Landscaping since it exceeded the estimated value and other costs would be incurred with the auctions. See Council Actions.

Council Member McMullen discussed revised plans for Kensington Cabin Park and expressed concerns on the usefulness of the proposed location of the ADA compliant path. He will contact the engineer to determine the reasons for the location and suggest a path on the front side of the park. Council Member Furman suggested a walking path around the park. Julie O'Malley stated the proposed path intrudes on the baseball and soccer fields. Jack Gaffey stated the proposed location of the path was not useful.

Ordinances, Resolutions, and Regulations –

Resolution No. R-20-2012 to support the application of Charles C. and Helen C. Wilkes for a preservation easement on their property at 3923 Prospect Street was discussed. Helen Wilkes was present and explained the

easement would be the third one in the Town and the importance of preserving the open space on her property in perpetuity. Julie O'Malley thanked the Wilkes and stated it preserves the garden atmosphere of Kensington. See Council Actions.

Council Actions:

Council Member Thompson moved to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2012 Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to sell both the 1995 GMC and 1998 Chevrolet dump trucks to Dunigan Landscaping in "as is" condition for \$16,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to approve Resolution No. R-29-2012 providing comments with respect to and supporting the application of Charles C. and Helen C. Wilkes to the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission to accept an easement on a portion of their property located at 3923 Prospect Street. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

EXPLORE KENSINGTON



What were you doing in 2012? You may have been among the many who found interesting things to do on the Explore Kensington website. *Explore-Kensington.com* was “hit” 638,987 times in 2012. That’s 1,723 hits per day, or more than a hit per minute of each day! People searched in Kensington for sales and promotions, farmers’ market vendors, merchants, art and history. Be a follower and find out how to enjoy Kensington in 2013.

Despite wet, chilly weather, *Third Thursday* was very busy in December. Maier & Warner created a banner for *Third Thursday* that is hung on Connecticut Ave a week before the monthly event. Highlights included the Holy Redeemer School’s Children’s Choir – which performed to an appreciative audience – and BAM’s Landscaping treated families to a holiday hayride through town. Two Pears Café was packed with patrons listening to Kensington’s own Silver Creek band, the chess master at Kensington Row Bookshop left undefeated and Maier & Warner PR passed out hot chocolate and gift cards to shoppers who spent \$100 at local stores.

In January our theme for *Third Thursday* was “Girls Night Out.” Merchants had special deals for those who brought a girlfriend into their stores: Allay Yoga let patrons share their pass with a friend; Sage Consignment held a drawing for a gift certificate if you brought a friend, and The Sweat Shop offered two memberships for the price of one.

What’s new for 2013? *Third Thursday* is February 21 and we are bringing back the gift card grab for purchases made in Kensington. “Fire February” is the theme and we are working to enlist a local Boy or Girl Scout troop to set up a fire pit with Smore’s kits to sell. We are also talking to KVFD about displaying its antique fire truck at the train station for the kids to explore.

Also in 2013, look for our blog on *Kensington Patch* which will feature pictures of events along with special announcements.



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



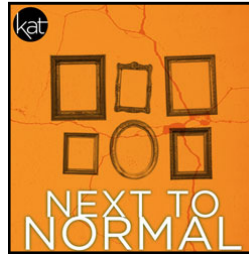
Recycling, Bulk Pick-ups and Trash Collection

- Tuesdays: Brush, Recycling, Bulk Pick-ups and Trash
- Bulk Pick-ups are for items such as furniture and appliances; **staff notification is required** and there is no fee for these items
- Fridays: Trash

COMMUNITY



PORTRAITS
+
EVENTS
+
CORPORATE



The Kensington Arts Theatre Presents: **Next to Normal**

A rock musical concerning a mother who struggles with worsening bipolar disorder and the effect that her illness has on her family. The musical also addresses such issues as grieving a loss, suicide, drug abuse, ethics in modern psychiatry, and suburban life.

Schedule: Feb. 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, and 23rd. Shows start at 8:15 pm except for Sunday shows, which start at 3 pm.

Ticket and additional information may be found at www.KATonline.org



Weekdays 9am—9pm
Weekends 9 am—6pm
10540 Connecticut Avenue
Kensington, MD 20895
1-800-607-4683
www.urgentcaredcmd.com



Mark Hudson
301.641.6266





We are open year-round and have 16 vendors during the winter months.

Please join us for the Kensington Farmers Market every Saturday between 8 am – 12 noon at the Howard Avenue Train Station.



Kensington Around Town

January/February 2013

3710 Mitchell Street Kensington, MD 20895 Office: 301.949.2424 www.tok.md.gov

To Kensington Residents