



KENSINGTON AROUND TOWN JOURNAL

Date of Publication: **July—August 2010**

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

REVITALIZATION UPDATE

What's the truth about height? What is the CR Zone?
What's the status of the Sector Plan? What are the Design Guidelines?

FACT: Only 3 areas along Connecticut Avenue will be designated for an increase to 75 feet; 2 areas are actually being lowered from 94 feet.

For more information, please see *KENSINGTON REVITALIZATION Fact Check* insert.

CALENDAR

Town Council Meeting
Mon., Aug. 9th 7pm

**At-Large County Council
Candidates' Forum—Town Hall**
Hosts: CKC and TOK
Wed., Sept. 1st 7:30pm

**At-Large County Council
Candidates' Forum—4H Center**
Hosts: Chevy Chase and TOK
Thurs., Sept. 2nd 7pm
7100 Conn. Ave, Chevy Chase

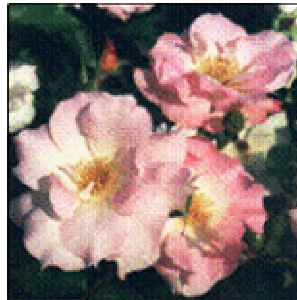
Paint the Town
Sat., Sept. 4th—Mon., Sept 6th

Labor Day Parade and Festival
Mon., Sept. 6th

Kensington 8K Race
Sat., Sept 25th

Town Council Meeting
Mon., Sept. 13th 7pm

Design Guidelines Roundtable
Updates @ www.tok.md.gov



Kensington: Not Just A Town, A Rose?

Ben Williams, a Wheaton resident and the son of rose hybridizer J. Benjamin Williams, recently contacted the Town about his desire to name a rose in honor of Kensington. Mr. Williams, who has taken over his father's company, presented the Town with five roses he felt would best represent Kensington. The Mayor and Town Staff decided on the rose pictured above to merit the name of 'Town of Kensington'. Mr. Williams and the staff agreed this particular rose brought out the best in Kensington. Mr. Williams has submitted the 'Town of Kensington' Rose to be registered with the American Rose Society and will be featured in an upcoming publication. Mr. Williams has also stated that he will make the rose available to local nurseries.

Notes from Mayor Peter C. Fosselman



New Town license plates: Seen them around Town? The first 25 official plates from the State, with the Kensington logo, have arrived and are on residents' vehicles. If you are interested in ordering tags in our next batch, please contact Matt Hoffman (mjhoffman@tok.md.gov or 949-2424). The cost is \$25.

Special thank you to Mark Hudson of McEneaney Associates Real Estate (markhudsongroup.com) for sponsoring the annual 4th of July Kids' Parade. Also thank you to **Council Member McMullen** for MCing the event; as well as all of the participants and volunteers.

A **Liquor Referendum** allowing carry-out beer and wine passed in our June election. The next step will be a Council Meeting to determine the guidelines and restrictions such as hours of sale, refrigeration, and percentage of annual sales. The State legislature must sponsor a new bill and it would be considered during the 2011 General Assembly Session for law.

Sector Plan Update: After public discussions (May 5th, 18th, June 1st, 10th, 12th), including roundtables with Residents, business owners, property owners, and Planning Staff, the Town Council agreed to a delay in the County Council's final approval of the Plan. The decision was made in order to work out issues in the CR Zone. The CR Zone is a new zone, universal to the County, and areas of concern were raised by Kensington and Takoma Park with respect to properties characteristic of small towns. Appropriate amenities for small towns and development incentives for property owners were lacking. The County Planning Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee may address the issue this fall and make a recommendation to the full Council on the CR changes. The County Council will most likely take up the Sector Plan in early 2011. Thank you to **Council Members Barch and Donatelli** for their assistance with the Plan and Zone.

Two new businesses coming: The KTown Bistro (Howard Avenue) and the Itsy Bitsy Bakery (Armory Avenue) will be opening late this summer.

Regulation Reminders: Canines—While on public property, dogs must be leashed. This is the law. Public properties include Town parks, sidewalks, streets, and common areas. One must also dispose of their pet's waste properly. **Yard sale and activity signs** are permitted if posted on individual stakes and must be removed after the event. Signs are not permitted to be attached to utility poles or street signs. **Contractor signs** are not permitted anywhere in the Town or on private property. **Traffic time restrictions** are being enforced. The Traffic Committee revisited this item last year and overwhelmingly decided to keep the restrictions in place. All drivers – including Town residents – must abide by the law. Restrictions are in the AM and PM and are clearly marked. Tickets are **\$90** each. **Parking restrictions** are also being enforced. Please abide by the hourly parking signs, No Parking signs and other posted policies. Residents living on streets marked "permit only" may purchase permit decals for \$20 (two vehicles) at the Town Hall. All property owners are responsible to care for their **grass strip along sidewalks** (public right-of-way), as well as weeds in the sidewalks and curbs. However, plantings or structures in the right-of-way are not permitted.

If you experience a theft, please report the crime to the County Police **no matter how small you think the incident may be**. The Police maintain statistics and formulate their annual budget based on these numbers. **Low stats receive low funding** which means less patrolling by officers. Non emergency crimes may be reported to (301) 279-8000.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

June 14, 2010 Meeting Summary:

- Approved the minutes of May 24, 2010.
- Approved Resolution R-16-2010 Designating Signing Authority
- Approved Resolution R-17-2010 Amending the Defined Benefit Plan
- Discussed CR-Zone Amendments and supported delaying the Sector Plan in order to amend the CR-Zone correctly.

June 14, 2010 Minutes 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Donatelli, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Sanford Daily, Clerk-Treasurer Susan Engels, and Assistant to the Town Manager Matt Hoffman were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. A Moment of Silence was observed for Fred Zusy who passed away.

The Town Manager explained the two resolutions to be passed, he noted the Resolution relating to the Towns Defined Benefit Plan would help minimize the Town’s liability by terminating the plan for new employees and providing a provision for lump sum distributions; existing employees on the plan would not be affected and a new defined contribution plan and deferred compensation plan would be established for new employees; he will follow up on removal of the trailers on the Burka property; and paving will begin on Frederick Avenue from Kensington Parkway to Frederick Place after July 4th.

The Council congratulated Lydia Sullivan on being elected and thanked Council Member Thompson for his dedicated service to the Town.

The Mayor thanked everyone for voting him in for a third term, congratulated Sean and Lydia for being elected and thanked the other candidates that ran. He reported the annual Organizational Meeting will be on July 12th at 7 p.m. followed by the regular Town Meeting; there will be only one meeting in June due to MML conference; noted some new legislation which was passed *Continued on Page 4 . . .*

MAYOR

Peter C. Fosselman, 3607 Dupont Avenue
301.929.5399

Mayor.Fosselman@tok.md.gov

TOWN COUNCIL

Mackie Barch, 10303 Montgomery Avenue
202.270.5404

Mary Donatelli, 10400 Montgomery Avenue
301.962.5356

Sean McMullen, 3423 Wake Drive
301.221.0940

Lydia Sullivan, 10310 Detrick Avenue
301.942.2332

Mayor.Council@tok.md.gov

TOWN STAFF

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

Clerk-Treasurer
Susan Engels
Susan.Engels@tok.md.gov

Assistant to the Town Manager
Matthew J. Hoffman
MJHoffman@tok.md.gov

Code Enforcement Officer
Louise Hamilton
Louise.Hamilton@tok.md.gov

Facility Manager/Event Coordinator
Shirley Watson
Shirley.Watson@tok.md.gov

Town of Kensington
3710 Mitchell Street
Kensington, MD 20895
8am-4pm Monday-Friday
301.949.2424 www.tok.md.gov

TOWN PERMITS

10400 Detrick—Driveway
10703 Lexington Street—Shed
3606 Farragut Avenue—Fence
Plyers Mill Road—Washington Gas
10546 Wheatley Street—Shed
10609 St. Paul Street—Addition

Continued from Page 3

affecting municipalities includes a Public Ethics Law requiring financial disclosures of elected officials, a law to allow the ability to enter into agreements with other municipalities for joint funding and management of projects and a law requiring municipalities to register and mark underground facilities to prevent damage; thanked Kensington Arts Theatre who helped to revamp the Town's sound system; discussion on Town services and cost comparisons will be at one of the upcoming July Town Meetings; he attended a Marketing Meeting with Maier Warner, the Explore Kensington website has been updated, Safeway window displays are almost complete, the Farmers Market is being expanded, and a recent article was in The Washington Post about Kensington; the Town will be discussing renewing the contract with Maier Warner; the second roundtable was held on the CR Zone; he testified before Planning Board on the amendments; attended the retirement of Chair Dr. Hanson; the Annual 4th of July Bike Parade will be organized and sponsored by Mark Hudson; and a new Bistro and Bakery will be opening in Town.

The next steps on the alcohol referendum were discussed; the cut off dates for new bills will be determined and a Town Meeting to discuss conditions for off-sale alcohol scheduled.

A discussion was held on the amendments to the CR-Zone for the Sector Plan. Council Member Barch explained the CR-Zone did not fit the Town because parking requirements and provisions for incentive density were geared toward larger properties. He explained amendments were needed to make it work for the Town and allow for development. A handout of the proposed amendments was available. The amendments include municipal shared parked, a list of additional public benefits that can be used to achieve density in each required

incentive categories and elimination of the BLT requirement under specific recommendations of the Sector Plan.

Fred Boyd, from Park and Planning, was present and explained the CR-Zone amendments and answered questions from the Council and Residents.

William Kominers, an attorney from Holland & Knight, expressed concern over the methodology proposed for incentive density provisions but agreed the amendments were an improvement over the existing CR-Zone for the Town.

The Council noted the importance of the CR-Zone being amended correctly for Kensington before the Sector Plan is approved. The Mayor explained the timing constraints of the next PHED Committee Meeting and the need to delay the Sector Plan to amend the CR-Zone properly. A formal resolution addressing this will be presented at the next Town Meeting.

The Mayor thanked Council Member Thompson and presented him with a gift certificate from the Town.

A Resident, on behalf of a Business Owner, noted they thought the outline of the proposed island on Montgomery Avenue blocked the turning path into the owner's parking lot. The Mayor noted the concept was brought before the Traffic Committee and designed by a professional engineer.

Council Actions

Council Member Barch moved to approve the minutes from May 24, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve Resolution No. R-16-2010 designating the Clerk-Treasurer as an additional signee for check signing authority. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to approve Resolution No. R-17-2010 authorizing the Town Manager

Continued on Page 5 . . .

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to pursue the implementation of a defined contribution retirement and deferred compensation plans for all new full-time employees and implementing a “soft freeze” to the existing Town of Kensington Defined Benefit Plan and to allow participants to be receiving benefits prior to normal retirement age and add cash lump sum options to the existing plan. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Barch moved to support getting the CR Zone correct for the Town, not meeting with the PHED Committee on June 28th and delaying the Plan until January 2011 or as time dictates. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Warner Circle Vandalized

Warner Circle was recently vandalized on the kitchen side with spray paint. Along with this, the Town has noticed that Warner Circle has become an increased hang-out and drinking spot for kids during the night. The Town asks that if you see any suspicious activity at Warner, to please call the **Montgomery County Park Police: 301.949.3010**

May 10, 2010 Meeting Summary:

- Approved the minutes of April 26, 2010 and May 3, 2010.
- Montgomery County Police gave a Crime and Safety Review and noted crime was down.
- Adopted Resolution No. R-15-2010 supporting amendments to the Zoning Text Amendment for Costco.
- Held a Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget. No action was taken; the record was held open until May 24.
- The Town will be meeting with Park and Planning to customize the CR Zone for the Town.

***Please Note:** The full Minutes are available online: <http://www.tok.md.gov/e/386>, or by contacting the Town. Audio recordings of all meetings are also available for \$2.00.

May 24, 2010 Meeting Summary:

- Approved the minutes of May 10, 2010.
- Concurred on referendum language for off-site beer and wine.
- Adopted the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Budget with a tax rate of .136 for real property and .55 for personal property.

*** Please Note:** The full Minutes are available online: <http://www.tok.md.gov/e/403>, or by contacting the Town. Audio recordings of all meetings are also available for \$2.00.



Trash, Brush and Recycling

Monday: Brush

Tuesday: Trash

Wednesday: Recycling

Friday: Trash



Please visit our website for additional information on what can be recycled and what may and may not be classified as trash and brush. <http://www.tok.md.gov/c/259/public-works>

PAINT THE TOWN ART SHOW

Once again the Town of Kensington is happy to celebrate the Labor Day Weekend with our annual Art Show and Sale. Artists from all over Montgomery County converge on Town Hall displaying their creativity via their original art works through the Labor Day Weekend. Art in all mediums: watercolor, acrylic, oil, pastel, mixed media and sculpture, is displayed at the show.

In addition, plein air artists will be painting around the Town of Kensington all day on Saturday, September 4th to vie for additional awards.

An Art Reception and Award Ceremony will be held on Saturday evening, September 4th from 6-7:30 pm where you can listen to the judge's comments and meet the artists in person. Drinks and Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

Show Hours:

Saturday, September 4th: Noon-4:00pm

With Reception from 6-7:30pm

Sunday, September 5th: Noon-4:00pm

Monday, September 6th: 9:30-4:30pm

43rd Annual Labor Day Parade

Please join the Town on Monday, September 6th for the 43rd Annual Labor Day Parade.

The Parade begins at 10am at the intersection of St. Paul St. and Plyers Mill Rd. The Parade will include exciting dance groups, equestrian show groups, circus groups, and of course local marching groups from area schools, churches, and other organizations.

All this is followed by an afternoon street festival along Antique Row with great musical entertainment, a wide variety of tasty foods, and lots of crafts.

Thank You Parade Sponsors:

BCTGM

Long and Foster—The Ditto Group
Hardware City

Kensington House Apartments

Cherner Brothers Auto Brokers

Kensington Foot Center

Moose, Green and Korom, PA

If you would like to be a sponsor of the Parade, please contact the Town.

NEED TO RENT SPACE FOR AN EVENT OR MEETING?

Town Hall has rooms available for special occasions or meetings. Capacity ranges from 20-200. Please contact Shirley Watson for more information at:

Shirley.Watson@tok.md.gov

Chartered/Code Committees

Auditing Committee: Jeff Capron, Leslie Olson and Kerry Thompson

Board of Supervisors of Elections: Spencer Harrill, Jennifer Smith and Robin Watson

Ethics Committee: Dave Beaudet, Jack Gaffee and Linda Silberg

Town Committees

Green Task Force: Dave Beaudet, Louise Hamilton (Staff), Andie Murtha, Barbara Scharman and Tim Willard.

Historic Preservation: Chris Bruch, Gloria Capron, John Doherty, Chris Schiponi, Doug/Jenny Smith, Toni Ward and Helen Wilkes.

Revitalization: Gloria Capron, Val/Martha Deale, Sabina Emerson, Tracey Furman, Ken Goldsmith, Judy Hanks-Henn, Dennis McCurdy, Matt/Cindy Merz, Jimmy Mizel, Laura/James Richardel and Barbara Scharman.

Traffic: Darin Bartram, John Doherty, Lindsay Field, Charles Haughney, Harley Higgins, Brian Imirie and Gunther Stern.

Warner Circle: Glenn Cowan, Steve Cohen, John Doherty, Ken Goldsmith, Duane Thompson and Helen Wilkes.

Council Areas of Interest

Mayor: Council, Personnel and Strategic Planning.

Barch: Business Development*, Business Liaison*, Land Use*, Charter & Code Review*, Parks, Streetscape/Revitalization/Town Signage*, Farmers' Market*, Traffic and Public Safety, Trees and Environment*

Donatelli: Business Development*, Business Liaison*, Land Use*, Charter Code Review, Streetscape/Revitalization/Town Signage* and Farmers' Market*

McMullen: Finance/Infrastructure Services, Historic Preservation*, Legislative*, Street Lighting, and Trees and Environment*

Sullivan: Historic Preservation*, Legislative*, Special Events and Technology

***Denotes a shared interest.**



The Town would like to thank KENCLEAN INC., of 10540 Metropolitan Avenue, for their Pro-bono service in dry-cleaning the Town's American Flag.



Don't miss this year's **17th Annual Kensington 8K Race, 2-Mile Challenge and 1K Fun Run on Saturday, September 25.** This year's race again will benefit the Town's three public schools: Kensington Parkwood E.S., North Bethesda M.S. and Walter Johnson H.S. Race start times at 7:45 am for the 2-Mile, 8:30 am for the 8K and 8:35 am for the 1K. You can register by going to www.kensington8k.org. From there you can either register online or you can register by mail by clicking on "Download a printable application here" in the lower left-hand corner. To volunteer as a course marshal, please email Jenny Smith: jenny.kensington@verizon.net.

To volunteer for other than course marshal, please email Beth Seabreeze: jakechasemom@msn.com.



Saturdays 8:00 am—12:00

The **Farmers' Market** has now expanded to include nearly 20 vendors. New vendors are:

Stonyman Gourmet: cheeses, meat and milk;

Banner Bees: honey and honey based products;

Blue Fire Grill: spices ; **Kramer's Peanuts:** extra large peanuts; **Gunpowder Bison:** bison meat.

Extra parking is now available at M&T Bank and other lots per signage.



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To Our Kensington Neighbors