KENSINGTON AROUND TOWN JOURNAL

Date of Publication: March 4, 2010

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

CALENDAR

Town Council Meeting
Mon., March 8th 7pm

Sector Plan Work Session
Wed., March 17th 9:30am
To be televised on County Cable Mont.

KVFD Recruitment
Sun., March 21 4pm

Town Council Meeting
Mon., March 22nd 7pm
(Public Hearing)
*Additional Info on Page 5

County Council Town Hall
Wed., March 24th 7:30pm
HOC Building 10400 Detrick Avenue

Please check the Town’s website throughout the month for up-to-date information.
www.tok.md.gov

Kensington to be Featured by The Maryland Municipal League

The Town will be featured on the front cover in the up-coming Maryland Municipal League Magazine. The Magazine will take a look at the Town’s continuous efforts to enliven the commercial areas and raise the visibility of Kensington to visitors and shoppers. The article also discusses the Mayor and Council’s efforts to have the County update Kensington’s Sector Plan, while inviting the Urban Land Institute in to study the Town’s physical infrastructure and offer recommendations. The article should be published sometime next week and a few copies will be available at Town Hall.

The Town would also like to congratulate Alan Simon for having his picture of Antique Alley included within the story.

Tax Reminder

The Town of Kensington’s second largest revenue source is a repayment of the State’s income tax to the municipality. In order for the Town to acquire its share of the income tax and to continue to help fund the services the Town provides, it is necessary that the Town’s name is filled out ‘Town of Kensington’ in the appropriate box. A sample of the form is shown with the appropriate box labeled.

MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN

FORM 502  MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING  2009, ENDING

POLICE SECURITY #  SOCIAL SECURITY #

First Name        Initial        Last Name

Social Security #

AMOUNT

PRESENT ADDRESS (No. and street)

City or Town        State        Zip Code

Note of county and incorporated city, town or special taxing area in which you were a resident on the last day of the taxable period. (See instructions.)

Maryland County

City, town or taxing area
Mayor Peter Fosselman

I would like to remind Town residents about the following:

KVFD... The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department is always looking for dedicated individuals to volunteer within the Department’s EMT, Paramedic, Firefighter and Administrative divisions. The KVFD accounts for the highest number of volunteer hours of service for Firefighters, EMS and Paramedics of any firehouse in Montgomery County. KVFD will be holding an open house Recruitment on Sunday, March 21st at 4:00pm for those interested in volunteering. This is a perfect opportunity to help give back to your community. Please RSVP with Karen Ralston at 240.472.5832 or email kralston@kvfd.org.

Bethesda Cares... Serves the County’s homeless and working poor. They provide a wide range of critical services with minimal overhead. Their paid staff of three coordinate more than 450 volunteers, maximizing human resources and energy to meet the needs of the homeless. Office space and equipment are donated. I have helped with the program on Saturdays at their lunch kitchen for almost 10 years. Please consider helping as well:

Telephone 301.907.9244
7728 Woodmont Avenue Bethesda, MD20814
http://www.bethesdacares.com/donate.htm

I would like to thank Dr. Cindy Tracy (Director, George Washington University Hospital) for another successful Wellness Clinic. For the third year in a row, Dr. Tracy brought a dedicated staff to provide Town residents with free professional medical advise, health screenings and recommendations for healthy living. Thank you, Dr. Tracy!

MAYOR
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Mayor.fosselman@tok.md.gov

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Town of Kensington
3710 Mitchell Street
Kensington, MD 20895

Office Hours: 8am-4pm Monday-Friday
301.949.2424

TOWN PERMITS
Plyers Mill Road
‘Excavation’
Washington Gas
January 25, 2010 Meeting Summary:
- Approved the minutes of January 11, 2010 as submitted.
- Received the Audit Committee Report.
- Discussed WSSC repairs in Town.
- Removed from the Agenda the Resolution approving the MOU for speed cameras until it is revised.

January 25, 2010 Minutes, 7:05 p.m.

Mayor Fosselman, Council Members Barch, Donatelli, McMullen, and Thompson, Town Manager Sanford Daily, and Assistant to the Town Manager Matt Hoffman were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a Moment of Silence observed.

The Mayor reported he attended the MML Legislative Committee Meeting and a reception for the General Assembly which MML sponsored in Annapolis; attended the County Executive’s Martin Luther King Day Celebration at Strathmore, attended a third meeting regarding Park and Planning’s streamlining process for approving plans; attended the MML Chapter Meeting in which the Pepco increase was discussed, the Montgomery County Chapter will be working together with Prince Georges County Chapter to fight the increase and the Chapter also approved supporting a legal budget of $2,000; reminded Residents the first Public Hearing on the Town’s Sector Plan will be on February 2 at the County Council Building and the Third Annual Valentine Wellness Clinic will be on February 13 at the Armory.

Council Member McMullen reported he is drafting a letter suggesting any cuts to the Ride-On Route 33 be a reduction in service instead of the entire route being eliminated and is also trying to schedule a Historic District Expansion Committee Meeting with Fred Boyd.

Council Member Donatelli reported she has completed the work for the expansion of the Farmers’ Market.

Council Member Barch reported on the status of the bill to allow wine at farmers markets, he noted that this particular bill may not move forward because a more comprehensive bill is being considered which would include other issues for wineries; he is continuing to working with Park and Planning to draft Urban Design Guidelines; he noted that the Town is not eligible for grant money right now for a shuttle to the Metro but will continue to look for other grant/stimulus money that may become available.

The Town Manager reported he attended a meeting on speed cameras and is waiting for a revised MOU which will address cameras outside of the Town, he noted once the MOU is agreed upon the County will distribute revenue to the Town in the next fiscal year based on the prior year’s data; he noted the Town is taking pictures and keeping track of street cuts WSSC is making to repair laterals to property lines, WSSC will be temporarily patching the cuts in the street and will eventually make permanent repairs to the streets, he noted WSSC is being informed of temporary patches that have failed and need to be redone; and he is obtaining prices for solar lighting to illuminate signs on Connecticut Avenue as green environmental grants cannot be used for a new lighting.

A copy of the Audit Committee report was available. The Mayor noted a budget meeting has been scheduled to develop a long term plan as the Audit Committee suggested.

Continued on Page 4...
The approval of a resolution authorizing the Mayor to execute a Memorandum of Understanding between Montgomery County, Town of Chevy Chase View and the Town was removed from the agenda because the final revised MOU had not been received.

A Resident suggested the bill to allow wine at farmers markets be expanded to include beer; a Resident suggested parking spaces on Fawcett Street be marked to allow more parking for the apartments; the Mayor noted spaces were also not marked on parts of Howard Avenue, the Town Manager will address this; a Resident appreciated the Town looking into ways to expand parking on Howard Avenue; a Resident commented on the Mayor’s letter in the last newsletter, he suggested conservative budgeting, since he did not think the economy was improving, reviewing the public relations contract and the Mayor’s compensation.

Council Actions
Council Member Barch moved to approve the minutes from January 11, 2010. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Donatelli moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Town Elections Monday, June 7, 2010**

The Mayor and two Council positions will be open as of June 2010. The two-year term of Mayor Fosselman and Council Members Sean McMullen and John Thompson will conclude at that time and elections for their seats will be held at Town Hall from 6:00-9:00 pm on June 7. All three have the option to run for re-election.

**Referendum:** There will be a referendum on the June ballot regarding the off-sale of beer and wine within the Town.

**Nominations:** Individuals interested in running for elected office with the Town of Kensington may do so by filing a certificate of nomination with the Town’s Clerk, Susan Engels, by 4:00 pm on or before the second Monday in May (May 10, 2010).

**Voter Qualifications:** Every person who is a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, has resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days and is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Town Charter shall be a qualified voter of the Town and shall be entitled to vote at any or all Town Elections.

**Voter Registration:** Registration by a Town resident with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisor of Elections shall be deemed registered for Town Elections. Applications for such registration must be received at the County Board on or Before May 3rd. **Please Note:** You must be registered by the County with a Town address. Town citizens, who do not register with the County, may register with the Town Clerk by May 25, 2010.

**Absentee Voting:** Any qualified and registered voter may apply at Town Hall for an absentee ballot, if s/he cannot be present at the upcoming Town Election.

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Do I Need A Permit?

With the recent winter storms and spring right around the corner, the Town would like to remind residents that if you are planning to take down a tree on your property, and you live in a Historic Designated Area, you are required to get approval from the County’s Historic Preservation Commission (HPC). According to HPC, if you are planning on taking a tree down with a diameter greater than six (6) inches, dead or alive, you must apply for a Historic Area Work Permit. Please contact HPC at 301.563.3412 or email: MCP-Historic@mncppc-mc.org.

Charter Resolution Public Hearing
March 22, 2010 at 7:00pm

The Mayor and Council have proposed a Charter Resolution that would amend Article VIII, Sections 802, 806 and 807, allowing for the establishment of a Capital Improvement Expenditures Budget. Currently, the Town’s Code requires that expenditures within each Fiscal year have to be spent within that designated time. The Charter Resolution will not only establish a program for Capital Improvements, but allow the monies not spent to be appropriated until the budget has been expended.

The transferring of monies from one fiscal year to another will only be allowed under the Capital Improvement Expenditure Budget. The proposed budget will still need to be approved by the Mayor and Council each year. For a copy of the Charter Resolution, please contact the Town.

While Walking Your Dog...

The Town asks residents to please remember to curb your dog. There are waste bags available around Town if you forget to carry your own. Also, please only dispose of the waste into your own waste receptacle or one on Town property. It is not polite to use a private resident’s receptacle for your own waste.

Trash, Brush and Recycling

Monday—Brush
Tuesday—Trash and Special Collection Items
Wednesday—Recycling
Friday—Trash, Brush pick-up will only be on Fridays during April, May and June.

The British Players will be performing ‘Caught in the Net’ at the Kensington Town Hall from March 19-28. For ticket information, please visit: www.britishplayers.org.
Please join us every Saturday morning 8 am—12 noon at the MARC Train Station for the Kensington Farmers’ Market.