

**Kenwood Park Community Association
Annual Winter Community Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2024**

The KPCA held a virtual community meeting from 4:15-5:30pm on Sunday, January 21, 2024. Board members present were Foroud Arsanjani, Hannah Elson, Ed Elson, Ken Nankin, Mandana Tavakoli, Herb Rosenthal, Dr. Issa Kozeimeh, Sinaly Roy and Patty McAllister. Sandra Gust, Chair of the Book Club was also present. A total of 33 people attended the event. The Board was pleased to be joined by Ruth Carbonell, Multi-Family Recycling Program Manager (TRRAC), Waste Reduction and Recycling Section, Recycling and Resource Management Division, Montgomery County Dept. of Environmental Protection. She provided remarks and answered questions from the group. The meeting commenced at approximately 4:18 pm and items discussed included the following:

Remarks by Ruth Carbonell, Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection

Ms. Carbonell provided an overview of the County Recycling program including its purpose and the recycling process from start to finish, noting that the County had a recycling rate of 57% of waste collected in calendar year 2021. She reviewed what items can be recycled and what cannot. She noted that cans, jars, etc. should be free of any refuse but do not have to be 100 percent clean as they will be cleaned as part of the process.

She also reviewed items that are accepted at the Shady Grove Transfer Station including electronics, batteries, hard plastic items (such as old lawn chairs), mattresses and box springs and sheets and blankets and many other items. It was noted that the Transfer station is not that close to Kenwood Park and it would be good if a periodic collection of items could be arranged. Ms. Carbonell also described a relatively new Single Family Residential Food Scraps Recycling program and Backyard Composting program that is underway. Upon request, the County will provide rodent proof composting bins to residents interested in participating in the pilot program. In follow-up communications with KPCA, she provided the contact information for the Recycling and Refuse Collection Team as follows:

Name: Joe O'Donnell

Email: Joe.O'Donnell@montgomerycountymd.gov

Overview of KPCA Activities in 2023

Foroud provided an overview of KPCA activities last year. He noted KPCA's success in achieving a clean-up of the Radnor School property, specifically the removal of unsightly trailers and improved property maintenance. Next steps for the property include installation of a new playground and a pavilion. He also noted the successful Fall Festival held last November on Marbury Court which included 3 bands. Last year Front Yard Fridays were also revived and there are plans to have more of them this year. Montgomery County Thrive 2050, approved by the County Council in 2022 will continue to present initiatives that will require close

examination and engagement by KPCA as needed. Foroud urged all meeting participants to be engaged in this process.

Utility/Community Projects

Patty McAllister noted that this past December, WSSC awarded a \$3.7 million contract for the Tanglewood Water Main Replacement Phase I Project that will affect the following: Highboro Drive, Shady Oak Lane, Highboro Court, Kenhill Road, Eastview Street, Clearwood Rd., Whittier Blvd., Lenox Rd., Hopewood St., Durbin Rd., Robinwood Rd, Goodview St., and Plainview Rd. She also noted that WSSC has plans for a project around the Radnor Water Towers and KPCA is awaiting further information on this.

Treasurers Report

Hannah Elson noted that KPCA has 22 fewer members this year than last year resulting in about a \$7,000 reduction in revenues. This reduction in revenues may necessitate cutting security patrol hours. Foroud noted that KPCA will undertake a concerted effort to obtain more members. Mandana suggested making personal visits and perhaps sharing a welcome basket with new families in the neighborhood.

Security Report

Ken Nankin noted there were 7 crimes reported in our area last year and these were all vehicle related. This number is down from about 20 crimes the previous year. A KPCA Neighborhood Watch (NW) program is on hold pending certification of our assigned Police Officer to become certified to administer the program.

Events Report

Mandana Tavakoli provided additional details on the successful Fall Festival and Front Yard Fridays. She suggested having a new event this year (Spring Forward Movie Night) for residents and families.

Trees and KP Sidewalk Proposal

Sinaly Roy reported on a recent visit she had with a representative of the company hired to put in the proposed sidewalks. This representative believes there is an 80% chance the sidewalk project will go through with work to begin this spring/summer. As envisioned, the plan is to replace every tree removed with three saplings. Unfortunately, not every yard will be able to accommodate all the saplings they are allocated due to space limitations. Thus, Sinaly has proposed undertaking a campaign to ensure the County follows through on their promise to replace every tree with 3 saplings by making the extra tree saplings available for planting on other properties around the neighborhood. Sinaly noted that the County will not automatically provide saplings and people will have to request tree plantings if they have a tree cut down.

The Meeting participants viewed this proposal favorably and it will be discussed at an upcoming KPCA Board meeting.

JoAnn and Michael Harrison

Foroud shared that JoAnn and Michael will be moving out of Kenwood Park. JoAnn, a former KPCA Board member, has been a tireless worker on behalf of improving Kenwood Park. Foroud thanked JoAnn and Michael for their service and community support and we all wish them well in their next chapter of life.

Q&A

Kent Mason asked about coordination of work between the WSSC water project and the sidewalk replacement project given that these are likely to overlap. It was noted that the issue arose during the Zoom meeting on the proposed sidewalk project that was organized by the County and Patty will address it with the WSSC as well.

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm.

Notes prepared by Patty McAllister 1-24-2024