

The Brookeville Times

June 2007

Results of the Town of Brookeville Election May 8th

On May 8th the Town held an election for commissioners from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the **BROOKEVILLE ACADEMY**. Election Supervisor, Margaret Van Gelder presided over the election. Bob Heritage was the only candidate and was re-elected to another two-year term. **Congratulations, Bob!!**

Michael Acierno Selected as New President of the Town Commissioners

At the Commissioners May 15th meeting, Commissioner Michael Acierno was selected to serve as the new President of the Commissioners. He succeeds retiring President, Rick Allen. **Congratulations, Michael!!**

Katherine Farquhar Appointed to Fill the Vacant Commissioner Slot

At their June 11th meeting, the Commissioners appointed North Street resident, Katherine Farquhar to be the third Town of Brookeville Commissioner. As you may recall, the third position was open when only one resident, Bob Heritage, became eligible to fill the two positions up for election. After the May 15th Town Meeting the Commissioners asked interested resident to express their interest and provide a statement of qualification to the Town Clerk. Following review of the submissions received, the Commissioners made their selection. **Congratulations Katherine!!**

Annual Town Meeting Held on May 15th

The Commissioners held the Town of Brookeville annual meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the lecture hall on the second floor of the Academy. The Commissioners presented highlights of the 2007-2008 budget, Town goals and objectives for the coming year, and updates on the bypass and the progress on the Academy grounds landscaping, Powers' Woods Park, Thomas Mill Race restoration, and the SHA sidewalk projects. In honor of his 23 years of service to the Town, before the meeting the Commissioners voted to designate Rick Allan Mayor until June 1st the remainder of his term in office. Rick gave his final State of the Town address, in which he outlined the Commissioners accomplishments during the previous year, thanked his colleagues, Planning Commission members and Town staff for their support. This was his final address as Brookeville's Mayor, as he retired from public life, at least in Brookeville.

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Work on Powers' Woods Park

Following a March presentation by John Slater of Slater & Associates, Inc. to design the new Powers' Woods Park, the Commissioners decided to undertake a phased development of the park. As part of the first phase, a mini-stone amphitheater at the base of an existing rock outcropping in the park has already been completed. Additionally, the Commissioners have decided to move forward with a fence near the schoolhouse along North Street and proposed plantings for the park. Trails/pathways and several parking slots for the schoolhouse have been laid out and a number of residents have already used them. The pathways being developed at the Powers' Woods Park will tie into the path along the Thomas Mill Race from Market Street to Georgia Avenue that was recently cleared by the Montgomery County Conservation Corps. The Town intends to develop an informal nature and history walk along the mill race.

The Town has applied for a grant under the Montgomery County's Open Space Program to fund future work on the park. The Commissioners appreciate the vital assistance of Richard Kirby, the developer of the Powers' Wood subdivision, in identifying the vendors who both could design the spaces and supply the plantings. The Commissioners would also like to thank Planning Commission Member Bruce Evans for acting of liaison between the town and the Powers' Woods Park landscape designers.

Improvements to the Academy and Grounds

Bradley Site Design has developed a preliminary landscape concept and planting program for the Brookeville Academy grounds. Sharon Bradley had originally proposed two plans for the Town's consideration and the less formal one was selected. The designers have received feedback from the Historic Preservation Commission. The designers will next ask for input from the Planning Commission, who will provide advice to the Commissioners before they make decisions regarding the final design. This process will include walking the ground by all parties to get a feel for the layout of the space. The overall approach for this initiative is to make the Academy space more welcoming to residents and visitors alike as well as providing an attractive diversity of trees and plantings.

Lights Out in Town - PEPCO Notified

PEPCO has been notified to replace a number of overhead streetlights in town that are currently out. Town Clerk Paul Geib is the point of contact regarding street lights that are out. He has made a list of the type of streetlights in town and can notify PEPCO on-line about any outages. Let him know if you see any lights out

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New Trees for Town Gateway at Cemetery

Four beautiful Willow Oaks have been planted by the Commissioners with the professional help of Jon Clark of Acorn Nursery and Marty Kelly of Kelly Nursery. The Willow Oaks replaced the diseased trees that were removed last year from in front of the cemetery on High Street. We want to thank Paul Howes, owner of Paul Howes and Sons Plumbing, for providing us with water for the new trees.

Meeting With State Highway Administration Staff Regarding Plans for High Street Sidewalks

State Highway Administration (SHA) staff presented preliminary plans to the Commissioners for the design of sidewalks along the west side of High Street from Church Street to the Longwood Recreation Center. While providing residents safe access to the recreation center, a key purpose of the sidewalk design was to deal with water runoff problem on High Street. In May, Commissioner Acierno and Clerk Geib walked the proposed area with SHA designers. Following the walk, the Commissioners provided comment on the proposed design to the SHA engineer. The main objection to the proposal was that the design would take much more of the residents' property than originally envisioned.

At their June meeting, the Commissioners presented the plan to interested residents and took note of their concerns. As a result of the concerns raised, SHA staff have offered to meet with the impacted homeowners. We are working to set up those meetings in early July.

Town of Brookeville
P.O. Box 67
Brookeville, MD 20833

President of Commissioners	Michael Acierno	301-260-2897
Commissioner	Bob Heritage	301-774-0457
Commissioner	Katherine Farquhar	301-633-1122
Treasurer	Susan Johnson	301-924-5979
Clerk	Paul Geib	301-509-8533
Town Office/Fax Number	301-570-4465	301-570-0355

Town E-mail Address: townofbrookeville@comcast.net
Town Web-site: www.townofbrookevillemd.org