



**VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2021**

APRIL VILLAGE MEETING

April 20, 2021 – 7:30 PM – Zoom platform
(instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of March Min *Treasurer’s Report
*Council member appointment *Permits *FY22 Budget Approval *Tax duplication resolution
*Capital improvements bid package
*Kensington Parkway traffic measures
*Children at Play Signs

CALENDAR (2021)

- April 20: Village Council Meeting
7:30 PM Virtual
- May 4: Village Annual Meeting/Elections
7:30 PM Virtual
- May 31: Deadline for New Sidewalk Request
- June 15: Village Council Meeting
7:30 PM Virtual
- June 17: Curbside Donation, Clothing Donation Nation
- June 18: Curbside Donation, Furniture/Non-Clothing Items Donation Nation
- June 19: Bulk Trash Pick Up

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

Village Council Elections: Election for two Village Council positions (2-year terms) will be

held on May 4, 2021. The current Council members whose terms are expiring are Brian Hoffner and Chas Stuart. In light of the pandemic, the Village Council adopted an emergency elections ordinance on February 16. Please note that the ordinance indicates that any Qualified Voter can seek nomination for the Council positions by Written Notice to the Nominating Committee up to March 31 and that if the elections are uncontested, the candidates will be sworn in at the Annual Meeting. The Village’s Nominating Committee received three nominations – from Brian Hoffner, Olga Joos, and Chas Stuart (bios attached). Furthermore, on March 23, the Village Council received a

<p>VILLAGE COUNCIL</p> <p>Chair: Adrian Andreassi chair@northchevychase.org</p> <p>Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner brianhoffner@gmail.com</p> <p>Secretary: Maury Mechanick secretary@northchevychase.org</p> <p>Treasurer: Chas Stuart treasurer@northchevychase.org</p> <p>Member: TBD member@northchevychase.org</p> <p>Manager: Dana Peterson nccinfo@northchevychase.org</p> <p>Fire Board Representatives: Dave Albinson, Abby Morris, Guim Barbour</p> <p align="center">Village of North Chevy Chase PO Box 15887, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 Mobile: 301-654-7084 TDD (MD Relay Service): 1-800-735-2258 Website: www.northchevychase.org</p>

formal resignation from member Ronald Jones, who was no longer able to serve on the Council. Per Section 5.08 of the Village Charter, "Vacancies on the Village Council: In the event of a vacancy on the Village Council for any reason, the Village Council, by a majority vote of the remaining Village Council members, shall appoint a Qualified Voter to fill such vacancy until the next regular election." The Council will be voting on the appointment of Olga Joos to fill the vacant spot at the April 20 Council meeting. Current Council members Brian Hoffner and Chas Stuart will then be sworn in for new terms at the May 4 Annual Meeting.

New Residents: The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents!!

3818 Inverness Dr: Anson and Janice Harris and their son, Trent (3rd grade, turns 9 in June) and mother, Beverly Gordon have moved from Shepherd Park in Washington, DC.

8801 Kensington Parkway: Mick and Jacqueline Flanagan and their son, Declan moved from N. Cleveland Park, DC.

8809 Kensington Parkway: Sean Kim, Silvia Wu and their daughter, Elysia (10 months old) moved from Logan Circle.

FY2022 Budget: The Village Council reviewed the draft budget for FY2022 at the March meeting. The draft budget and corresponding ordinance are uploaded to the Village website – part of the agenda packet for the March meeting. Attached to this newsletter is the draft as well. The Council will be voting on the budget at the April 20 meeting. Residents can submit written comments to the Village Manager in advance of the meeting. Please note that the proposed tax rate of \$0.045 per \$100 of assessed value remains the same as FY20 and FY21.

New Sidewalk Decision-Making Process: In light of recent interest expressed by some residents of the Village of North Chevy Chase for installation of a sidewalk on one side of the street for blocks within the Village that do not currently have a sidewalk on either side of the street, the Village Council has decided to establish a procedure for the submission of such requests. Specifically, the Village Council will consider as part of the current 10-year capital budget cycle a request for construction of a sidewalk that is submitted to the Village Manager by no later than May 31, 2021. To be considered by the Village Council, those requests must be submitted in writing and supported by a minimum of 60% of the property owners on the block (properties on both sides of the block count in the calculation) in order for it to be considered further. This request should take the form of a letter submitted by those property owners to the Village Manager requesting the installation of a sidewalk on that block. The letter should provide clear evidence of property owner concurrence (i.e. signatures, attached emails). The properties involved in the submission of this request include properties with street numbers on either side of the affected block, as well as any corner lots with a side yard facing on the block for which the request is being submitted.

Requests may be submitted by property owners with residences on any block in the Village that do not have a sidewalk on at least one side of the street. The following five blocks in the Village have been identified as falling into this category:

- 3700 block of Stewart Driveway
- 8900 block of Clifford Avenue
- 9000 block of Clifford Avenue
- 9000 block of Montgomery Avenue
- 3600 and 3700 blocks of Husted Driveway

A more detailed description of the full approval process, as well as how such requests would be considered in the future, is attached to this newsletter, posted on the Village website, and was shared through the Village email list.

New Stop Signs along Husted: Please note that the Village's lawn/landscaping contractor will be trimming back the shrubs this month near the new stop sign on the 3700 block of Husted before it intersects with Montgomery Ave.

Taxes: The federal tax filing deadline has been extended to May 17 and for Maryland state income tax, July 15. Please be sure to include the Village of North Chevy Chase as your "city" at the top of your State Tax Return. In the past, Village residents' income taxes have been sent to other municipalities in error due to misfiling. For electronic filers, the Political Subdivision Code for North Chevy Chase is 1618.

GENERAL INTEREST:

"No Turn on Red" from Jones Bridge Rd: Village management has spoken with MoCo Police District 2's community liaison officer about the ongoing traffic safety concerns with westbound traffic on Jones Bridge Rd ignoring the "no turn on red", resulting in significant safety risks for pedestrians and vehicles departing Kensington Parkway. The issue has been communicated to the "traffic complaint officer" for further review. In addition, the Village has reached out to the County's traffic marking division to look at additional signage options at that intersection to improve safety. Residents will be advised of what actions may be taken. Please note that MoCo Police have also been informed about the new 3-way stop at Husted/Montgomery, as they come through the Village – sometimes in unmarked vehicles – to monitor adherence to stop signs.

Salt Barn: After community outreach and support from the Village's State Delegates (Al

Carr, Jared Solomon and Emily Shetty), SHA has agreed to place green skates over the fence along Kensington Parkway to improve the aesthetics. In addition, SHA is installing "share the road signs" to enhance bicycle/pedestrian safety. SHA indicated that it is not able to move the fence further away from the street due to the need to protect materials including radio communication equipment and liability issues if individuals try to go up the hill.

I-495 Managed Lane Study: "A state vote on a contract to develop high-occupancy toll lanes on I-270 and the Capital Beltway...has been delayed because of a protest by a losing bidder. The contract with chosen bidders Transurban and Macquarie has to be approved by the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) board, before the state Board of Public Works is expected to vote in May. The partnership of Transurban and Macquarie was chosen over two other bidders." ("State Vote on Contract for Toll Lanes on Beltway, I-270 Delayed", Bethesda Beat, March 23, 2021)

County Council Re-Zoning

Considerations/"Missing Middle Housing":

The County Council has been considering a zoning text amendment (ZTA 20-07) that would allow property owners of R-60-zone properties within 1-mile of a metro rail station to build "missing middle" housing such as duplexes, townhouses, and multi-family structures. Additional draft legislation has been put forward to expand that to R-90 zones and to decrease the radius from metro rail stations to ½ mile. (Please note that the Village comprises R-60 and R-90 zones. Residents can clarify which zone their property is at via <https://mcatlas.org/zoning/>). At the same time, the Planning Board is finalizing the "Thrive Montgomery 2050 General Plan", which attempts to articulate a shared vision for the County and actions to respond to opportunities and challenges over the next 30 years. The Village has joined a coalition of other

municipalities, HOAs, and community groups that have emphasized the importance of transparency and thorough review of Thrive Montgomery 2050 and a delay in consideration of zoning amendments until the Thrive Montgomery 2050 deliberative process is complete. Additional information on the ZTA and “missing middle” concept can be found at: [Riemer Missing Middle ZTA FAQ \(govdelivery.com\)](#) and [Draft Missing Middle ZTA 2-4-20.pdf \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH COUNCIL

MEETING *(Please note that the official minutes will be posted to Village website upon approval)*

Secretary’s Reports for February 2021 Council Meeting - (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer’s Reports for February 2021 (Stuart) –Results for February 2021 included income of \$78,590, and operating expenses of \$11,957. Capital expenditures of \$300 were incurred during February 2021 for trees; fiscal year to date capital expenditures total \$13,300. Total current assets as of February 2021, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, came to \$1,932,050.

Permits:

- **3812 Inverness Drive**– approved backyard shed
- **8901 Kensington Parkway** – approved backyard patio

Action Items:

Draft FY 2022 Budget – The Council reviewed a draft Fiscal Year 2022 budget for operations and capital expenditures. Recognizing continuing fiscal uncertainties related to the impact of the pandemic on the various sources of Village revenue, the draft budget contains conservative assumptions regarding FY 2022

revenue. The proposed Village tax rate remains unchanged in the draft budget.

Bids for Audit Services – The Village received four responses to the RFP that it issued for audit services for Fiscal Year 2021, and after review of the bids, determined that the best bid, taking into account quality, cost, and references was that provided by LSWG Certified Public Accountants & Business Advisors, and entered into a one-year contract (with renewal options for up to four additional years) with LSWG.

Village Sidewalks Decision Making Process – Please see earlier section on “new sidewalk decision-making process” and attached document.

Kensington Parkway/Kenilworth Driveway Pedestrian Safety – The Village Council has under consideration possible traffic control improvements to address pedestrian safety issues at the Kensington Parkway/Kenilworth Driveway intersection. These measures include installation of a pedestrian-activated flashing light warning mechanism (similar to that installed at the Montrose/Kensington Parkway intersection) and conversion of the intersection into a four-way stop. Further consideration will take into account the extent to which such measures would have the desired effects and whether they would have any unintended consequences on pedestrian safety along Kensington Parkway. The Village Council will also consider re-striping current crosswalks at various Kensington Parkway intersections to improve their visibility. The Village Council continues to be mindful of resident interest in the future installation of bike lanes along Kensington Parkway, which can be best addressed in consultation with ongoing traffic improvement measures to be undertaken at the Jones Bridge Road/Connecticut Avenue/Kensington Parkway intersection by the State Highway Administration, and with County and State authorities with responsibility for Kensington Parkway maintenance beyond the Village’s northern boundary.

Children at Play Signs – Some concerns have been raised by some Village residents about the increased number of warning and traffic control signage on Village streets. The Village Council will review the situation, to ensure that necessary signage is installed at optimum locations and will consider other possible measures, in addition to warning signs, that could enhance pedestrian safety, particularly in the case of younger children. This may include the Village purchasing portable “children at play” signs and providing those to property owners who request one.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: (Courtesy of Environment Committee)

Village Earth Day Celebrations - Native Plant Sale and Art Show at the Pool

The Village is sponsoring a “Native Plant Sale” and “Nature in our Neighborhood Art Show” in celebration of Earth Day, organized by our Environment Committee. They will deliver a flyer to your door in early April with all the details. In the meantime, save the dates:

Native Plant Sale, pre-order for April 25 pick-up: Pre-order lovely native plants from our partner nursery. Order details and plant list will be on the flyer. The plants are especially

chosen for our area, to beautify our yards and support birds, bees and butterflies that are vital to the health of our environment. All plants can be picked up on April 25th at the NCC pool parking lot (8817 Brierly Rd).

Nature in our Neighborhood Art Show, April 25: Sitting at home with time on your hands? Try a little art. All of us have a pent-up artist hiding inside!

What do you see in your backyard? or on a walk? Draw, paint, or photograph what you find. We hope YOU will join us and share what you see in nature. It does not matter your age. All art is welcome.

If you would like to share your work, drop it off at 8827 McGregor Drive (Carrie Witkop's house, one block from pool) anytime before April 25 and it will be displayed at the Native Plant sale at the pool. Please include a title and location. You can take it home later the same day.

We also plan to have a mural for all to draw and paint favorite animals, trees, insects and flowers we see in the Village. Think about what lives in your backyard so you can help add details.



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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2021 VILLAGE COUNCIL CANDIDATES

BRIAN HOFFNER

My name is Brian Hoffner, I have been on the board for over ten years. I am the father of Gavin(10) and Cece(8). My wife's name is Wendy. My children have lived their entire life in the village, and I am proud to be a part of North Chevy Chase.

I am sure many of you may not know me by name but by face and what our dog looks like (Greyson, the Weimaraner) as I am walking throughout the neighborhood, sometimes solo, sometimes with the entire family, on a daily basis. In my spare time, outside of working with Dana and the board I enjoy coaching my children's youth sports teams and working in my yard.

The original purpose of me joining the board several years ago was to give a voice to the younger parents throughout the neighborhood who had concerns about unsafe drivers, lack of speed bumps and other traffic calming measures. I soon realized that this was not only a concern for younger families but for the entire NCC community. My approach hasn't changed, we have more families, animals, walkers, young children than we have ever had in the past 20 years and my goal is to continue to make smart decisions with your tax dollars to make this village more safe, walkable and enjoyable to live in.

OLGA JOOS

Olga Joos (8912 Montgomery Avenue) has lived in three villages in her life: in Viersen, Germany as a high school exchange student; in Wolonkotoba-Soni, Mali as a Peace Corps volunteer; and now as a mom and wife in North Chevy Chase, Maryland. You may have seen her at the bus stop with her children (Felix, 6, and Penelope, 9); on evening pandemic walks with her children and first husband, Nick; or working in the garden, regardless of the weather. Olga's passion is in helping low and middle income country governments produce better data- specifically birth, stillbirth, death, and cause of death data- for public health response. She is a Technical Advisor/Project Coordinator with the CDC Foundation supporting the Data for Health Initiative activities in India as a contractor in the Division of Vital Statistics at the National Center for Health Statistics. In addition to collaborating with city and state government stakeholders in India to improve the quality of cause of death data, she leads a global medicolegal death investigation (MLDI) community of practice with MLDI system stakeholders (doctors, lawyers, public health experts across 18 time zones from Albuquerque to Melbourne) to build clinical and administrative capacity for improved cause of death data. She also supports cause of death quality standards developments through her participation in two technical working groups at the World Health Organization. Prior to embarking on her career in public health, Olga pursued a second undergraduate degree at her alma mater, Georgetown (Go Hoyas!), and worked as a pediatric cardiac critical care nurse in Philadelphia and Los Angeles. When not living in a global pandemic, Olga travels frequently

for work and also enjoys exploring the world with Nick, Penelope, and Felix, visiting family in various places in the US and in Spain. To support community COVID19 efforts, Olga volunteers as a COVID19 vaccinator through Maryland Responds at vaccination sites run by the Montgomery county, Prince George county, and Baltimore City health departments.

Olga and her family are so happy to call 8912 Montgomery Avenue their home, and North Chevy Chase their neighborhood community. Olga is a Friend of the National Zoo and a member of the Horticultural Society of Maryland, Audubon Naturalist Society, and Maryland Native Plant society. She has been enjoying her efforts in developing her garden to grow predominantly native plants, and looks forward to the opportunity to be more engaged in the village through the council.

CHAS STUART

I would like to be considered for the member-at-large position on the Village Council. I have lived in North Chevy Chase since 1986. In 2010, we moved to our house on Kensington Parkway within the Village. Our neighbor, Lawrence Hirsch, asked me to join the Council several years ago when he moved away, and I have held his position of Treasurer since that time. Now fully retired, I am able to give more time and attention to Village business than in prior years and believe that my education, professional work and experience can bring value to the member-at-large position. I have been involved in municipal affairs since the 1980s when I was President of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce. I began my career at the law firm of Linowes and Blocher, followed by a few years at the Rouse Company. I then joined a US top 100 homebuilding company in Virginia, where, as vice-president and partner, I headed up the Legal Department and supervised land acquisition and the development of major projects. I have also taught the law of real estate finance at GW School of Law for 33 years as adjunct faculty. My longstanding interest in municipal affairs is demonstrated by my having served on several boards as well as the Maryland State Legislative Committee. A life-time resident of Montgomery County, I feel my contacts in both government and private business can be useful to Village work. I would like the opportunity to serve my town.

VILLAGE of NORTH CHEVY CHASE

Proposed Procedures for the Installation of a New Sidewalk on Village Streets That Do Not Have a Sidewalk on at Least One Side of the Street

In light of recent interest expressed by some residents of the Village of North Chevy Chase for installation of a sidewalk on one side of the street for blocks within the Village that do not currently have a sidewalk on either side of the street, the Village Council decided at the March 16, 2021 Council meeting to establish a procedure for the submission of such requests and their consideration. Going forward, such requests would need to be submitted during a specified time period in the year prior to the adoption of a 10-year capital plan by the Village. However, given that the current 10-year capital plan has already been adopted, the Village Council will consider requests submitted consistent with the arrangements described below (and the process described below will apply in the case of subsequent 10-year capital budget plans as well).

Eligibility: Requests may be submitted by property owners with residences on blocks in the Village which do not have a sidewalk on at least one side of the street. The following five blocks in the Village have been identified as falling into this category:

- 3700 block of Stewart Driveway
- 8900 block of Clifford Avenue
- 9000 block of Clifford Avenue
- 9000 block of Montgomery Avenue
- 3600 and 3700 blocks of Husted Driveway

Initial Submission:

- For requests to be considered in conjunction with the current 10-year capital plan, such requests must be submitted in writing to the Village Manager by no later than May 31, 2021.
- To be further considered by the Village Council, those requests must have the written affirmative support of a minimum of 60% of the property owners on the block (properties on both sides of the block count in calculation) in order for it to be considered. This request should take the form of a letter submitted by those property owners to the Village Manager requesting the installation of a sidewalk on that block. The letter should provide clear evidence of property owner concurrence (i.e. signatures, attached emails). The properties to be considered for this process would include properties with street numbers on either side of the block, as well as any corner lots with a side yard facing the street.

Subsequent Consideration:

- The Village Council will then arrange a demonstration of where the sidewalk would likely be installed (chalk paint markings) on either side of the street,
- If the Council believes it to be necessary, it will obtain at this time a fully-loaded cost estimate of the installation of a sidewalk on either side of the street.
- If after the demonstration of where the sidewalk would be installed, a minimum of 80% of the property owners on both sides of the block have, by September 1, 2021, confirmed in writing that they want a sidewalk installed, taking account of the impact on affected properties (as shown by chalk paint markings) and of any cost estimates obtained, a final decision would be taken at the September 2021 Council Meeting regarding the installation, including a decision as to which side of the street the sidewalk

will be placed and the timeframe for installation (which normally would be no later than 24 months after the decision has been taken).

Final Decision: In taking the final decision as to which side of the street the sidewalk will be installed on and the timeframe for installation, the Village Council will take into account the following considerations:

- The fully loaded cost estimate in each instance for the installation a sidewalk, including the costs of laying the sidewalk; removal or relocation of Village or property-owner owned trees, shrubs or other landscaping features; relocation of utility poles or other utilities (such as fire hydrants, gas lines, drainage grates, etc.); modification or relocation of existing structures (walls, fences etc.); surface regrading; and construction of any required retention walls.
- Applicable State and Montgomery County guidelines regarding sidewalk installation, including those related to disability accessibility, storm water management, environmental considerations and other related matters.
- Optimum sequencing of the installation of sidewalks in the event of a decision to install sidewalks on more than one block.

Any questions regarding this process should be directed to the Village Manager at 301-654-7084 or nccinfo@northchevy Chase.org.