



VILLAGE OF MARTIN'S ADDITIONS

A SPECIAL NOTICE FROM THE ELECTION COMMITTEE: MARTIN'S ADDITIONS COUNCIL VACANCY

Dear Neighbors,

Martin's Additions is inviting you to put your name forward to serve on the Village Council. Due to the sad loss of Richard Krajeck, there is now a need to fill his open seat on our 5-member VMA Council for the remainder of his term (until mid-2021). Richard provided many years of exceptional public service here. He is greatly missed by his many friends and colleagues.

Under Section 408 of the Village Charter, the Election Committee is responsible for compiling a list of at least three interested residents to fill the vacancy. From that list of people, the Council will then elect the new member by a simple majority vote. On September 19, the Council began the process to amend Section 408 to have the new member serve for the remainder of the 2-year term.*

All eligible VMA residents are invited to apply. Any resident of VMA age 18 or over is eligible to serve on the Council. This is a very open process. We'll be glad to add your name.

Martin's Additions is a self-governing community, and now is the time to contribute. Your participation in our community leadership is important. Are you a newcomer who'd like to get more involved in the neighborhood? Or someone who has enjoyed living here for many years? Either way, please consider volunteering to join the Council.

Process: If you'd like to be considered for the Council position, please send a short written statement of interest describing your background to the Election Committee at VMAelections@gmail.com. You can also drop off a copy of your statement at the village office in an envelope marked "Election Committee," or mail it to us c/o the village office at 7013-B Brookville Rd., Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3263. We'll send the Council the names and statements of everyone who applies. **Please respond by 5 pm on Monday, October 21.**

Council members meet once a month and spend about four hours a week taking care of village business. There's no pay for serving, but the workload is generally manageable and sometimes very interesting. You don't have to make a long-term commitment. If elected by the Council, you would serve until mid-2021. You'd be welcome to run in the May 2021 village election, but you'd not be obliged to do so. If you have any questions, please call the Election Committee chair at 301-654-0176.

Please consider stepping up to respond to this community need. It's very doable.

With best regards from your Martin's Additions Election Committee,
Marty Langelan (chair), Lauren Shweder Biel, Lorie Mitchell, Halie Soifer, and Jesse Tampio

* The Council is amending Section 408 to prevent the problem of having 4 seats up for election next May and a lopsided 4-seat / 1-seat electoral imbalance from then on. Instead of having someone serve only until the next election, the Council decided it was better to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term, so VMA can continue to elect half the Council seats each year and maintain the annual 2-seat and 3-seat election schedule required by the VMA Charter. The Election Committee analyzed all of the possible options and unanimously recommended that action.