

**Village of Martin's Additions  
7013 Brookville Road, Suite B  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815**

**Council Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2023**

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL AND IN-PERSON

**Council Members Present:** Andrew Kauders; Susan Fattig; Arthur Alexander; Katie Howard; Jeff Blander

**Residents and other Attendees:** Village Manager: Michael Silliman; Building Administrator: Doug Lohmeyer; Village Attorney: Ron Bolt; Keith Allen (Turner Ln.); Marty Langelan (Chestnut St.); Lorie Mitchell (Cummings Ln.); Susan Kahn (Bradley Ln.); George McAleese (Melville Pl.); Peter Kahn (Bradley Ln.); Paul Weller (Raymond St.); David Saulter (Brookville Rd.); Naomi Naierman (Quincy St.); Jean Sperling (Shepherd St.); Paul McGowan (Brookville Rd)

**7:30 PM** Call to Order: Andrew Kauders.

**7:30 PM** Weather: Keith Allen reported that it was unlikely that there would be snow in the foreseeable future; rather, unseasonably mild temperatures and the threat of rain every 2-3 days.

**7:31 PM** Motion to approve December 15, 2022 Meeting Minutes: Jeff Blander; Motion. Katie Howard; Seconded. Unanimous vote to approve meeting minutes.

**7:32 PM** Building Administrator's Report: Doug Lohmeyer delivered his report. Highlights were the plans that have been submitted for 3417 Cummings Lane to build two separate houses and the proposal at 3412 Raymond Street to close off the garage and create a driveway that slopes down the street.

Andrew Kauders indicated that Eva Webb was previously scheduled to review the audit at this meeting, but she was absent due to illness. Her review is postponed until the February Council meeting. Arthur Alexander added that the audit is included in the meeting packet.

Andrew Kauders explained that the Council had received the petition signed by a large number of residents regarding the Election Plan that was introduced at the December Council Meeting. He mentioned that the submitted comments and feedback have been reviewed by the Council and will be discussed later in tonight's agenda.

**7:37 PM** Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Kauders

Susan Kahn shared concerns that more volunteers are needed to serve on committees and that committees need more oversight and accountability. She further suggested creating an ethics interest group.

David Saulter requested an update on walkability and street improvements, specifically the budget. He also inquired about the budget and roles for police in the Village.

Peter Kahn shared his support for the proposal from Jeff Blander regarding the Ethics Ordinance; he recommended examining the Committee's operations. Peter Kahn also expressed concern regarding the differences between the two December 2022 versions of the Election Plan.

Paul Weller shared his interest in a fair election process and recommended that the Election Plan not be changed from year to year.

Susan Kahn emphasized the importance of residents having a say in elections and of an independent election committee.

Marty Langelan suggested a speed monitor, shared concerns about the procedure for reviewing the Election Plan, and asked that it be reviewed item by item. Andrew Kauders explained that everyone will have a chance to speak and Arthur Alexander mentioned that the Council has reviewed everyone's submitted comments.

Naomi Nairman posed questions regarding the changes that were made to the Election Plan. As well, she questioned the need for the current Ethics Committee Ordinance. Last, she inquired about sidewalk snow shoveling.

#### **8:10 PM** Committee Updates: Kauders

##### Community Engagement Committee: Keith Allen, Chair

Keith Allen gave the report highlighting a planning committee meeting next Tuesday, 7 PM to discuss the community party at La Ferme to take place later in February or in March. Paul McGowan requested approval for the event, and Arthur Alexander indicated that the committee has a budget, so they do not need approval for this event.

##### Ethics Committee: Lorie Mitchell, Chair

Lorie Mitchell discussed Ordinance 2022-10-1, the Ordinance to Amend the Ethics Ordinance to Expand the Definition of "Official" to Include Members of All Committees and Ad Hoc Committees Appointed by the Council. She shared the rationale being consistency and conforming the code to the 2019 policy requiring committee members to execute oaths.

##### Election Committee: George McAleese, Chair

George McAleese gave the committee's report, explaining that committee has grown to operational strength with two new members and that they will be meeting soon.

**8:30 PM** Jeff Blander raised questions about the Ethics ordinance and suggested a separate, public listening session with residents. Ron Bolt answered questions raised about the Ethics Ordinance.

Motion to introduce the Ethics Ordinance 2022-10-1. Susan Fattig; Motion. Arthur Alexander; Seconded. Jeff Blander voted against with reference to his proposal. Katie Howard abstained. Jeff Blander agreed to submit comments and questions to Ron Bolt.

**9:26 PM** Andrew Kauders explained that it would be helpful to simplify the Election Plan process, year after year. The Council took a 5-minute break prior to the review of the Election Plan.

**9:31 PM** Review of 2023 Election Plan

The Election Plan was reviewed and edited, line by line, with recommended edits from residents.

**10:58 PM** Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Kauders

Peter Kahn, Marty Langelan, and Susan Kahn shared clarifying questions regarding the Election Plan.

**10:54 PM** Motion to approve the 2023 Election Plan: Arthur Alexander; Motion. Jeff Blander; Seconded. Unanimous vote to approve 2023 Election Plan.

**11:03 PM** Treasurer's Report: Arthur Alexander

Arthur Alexander called attention to his written report and asked that any questions be directed to him.

**11:04 PM** Village Manager's Report: Michael Silliman

Michael Silliman gave his report, with specific emphasis on the subsequent Council meeting, the date of which will be February 9, 2023. The review of the audit and the annual community survey will be moved to that meeting's agenda.

**11:05 PM** Adjournment: Kauders