

Martin's Edition

A Newsletter for the Village of Martin's Additions to Chevy Chase

January 2021

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From the Chair

Dear Residents,

As 2020 draws to a close, at last, it seems like a safe bet that we're breathing a collective sigh of relief. While our community has largely been fortunate to avoid some of the worst consequences, we've all been impacted in major and minor, yet life-changing, ways.

It is incumbent on Village Council members--your elected representatives-- to achieve a balance between our stewardship of Village funds, as well as the legal and governmental constraints placed on us, and our desire to improve the overall quality of life in our corner of the county.

Over the past months, the Council and Manager Niles Anderegg have tried to improve communication so that residents are better informed of the status and content of proposed changes to our Village laws and policies. We will continue to strive to communicate proposed changes clearly and concisely; a suggested change to our Village tree policy was brought up for discussion at the December meeting and will be considered, explored, and debated, as are all such legislative proposals, over a period of months and with multiple opportunities for resident comment and input. We will keep you all posted on developments.

For almost a year, the Walkability Task Force has diligently explored ways to improve pedestrian and traffic safety on our village streets and sidewalks. At its next open meeting in January, the task force will discuss possible recommendations.

A community forum in early January will offer residents another opportunity to

express their views on their topics of choice. Council members will be in attendance, but the discussion will be resident-driven.

At the January 21 meeting, the Council will vote on whether to adopt policies and a plan for the May 2021 VMA election. The Election Committee held two open meetings (one on August 31 and one on September 24) in which it discussed, reviewed, and suggested procedures for Council adoption in the event of another pandemic-impacted election cycle. These recommendations have also been discussed at Council meetings and were introduced at the December meeting. While we look forward to our community-wide Celebration on the Sidewalk voting event, the need for a contingency plan for another mail-in election is increasingly obvious.

The Community Engagement Committee held an open meeting on December 22 and discussed various ways of connecting the community in the absence of in-person events.

We're fortunate to have such a wealth of dedicated volunteers, and with their help and the support of the community, we all look forward to better things in the coming year.

All best wishes for a happy, healthy, and fulfilling 2021!

Susan Fattig,

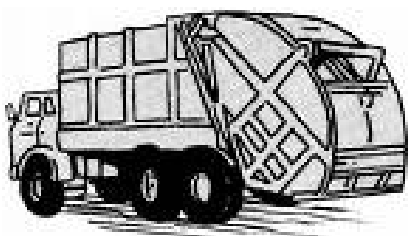
Chair

Upcoming Events

- **January 1:** New Year's Day-VMA Office closed
- **January 9:** Bulk Trash Pick-up
- **January (TBD):** Walkability Task Force Meeting, 7:00 PM
- **January 14 (Tentative):** Community Listening Forum
- **January 18:** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday- VMA Office Closed
- **January 21:** Village Council Meeting



Spotlight



Bulk Trash Pick-up

The next regularly scheduled bulk trash pick-up will be **Saturday, January 9, 2020**. Bulk trash is picked up on the second Saturday of every other month (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov). Items should be at the curb by 7:00 AM.

[What is bulk trash?](#)

Bulk items include furniture, toys, and common household "junk."

Items NOT accepted include automotive tires, batteries, building materials, dirt, hazardous materials, large tree stumps, liquids, recyclables, rocks, and sand. Paint will be picked up if the cans are dried out or filled with absorbent material such as kitty litter or sand and allowed to dry completely.

Appliances (such as refrigerators) must have the freon removed and a tag from a certified plumber that this has been accomplished. The Village Office must be notified in advance of any appliances and scrap metal because hauling them away requires a special truck for pick-up.

Special Instructions:

- Recyclable materials should not be disposed of in bulk trash. Recyclable materials are collected once per week at the curb on Tuesdays.
- Rugs must be cut up in sections that are rolled up and tied and are no more than 4 feet tall or wide, or they will not be taken.
- If you have a lot of items for bulk trash, please notify us a week ahead of time so that we can contact the contractor.

Notes from the Village Office

Village Council Meeting Highlights 12/17/2020

- The Village Council heard from residents on their ideas for improving Council communications with residents and on specific resident concerns regarding potential changes to the ethics ordinance, potential changes to the tree ordinance, and a potential Safety Committee.
- The Village Council appointed Anna Meenan to the Election Committee and thanked all 5 of the residents who volunteered for this position.
- The Village Council agreed to hold another community listening forum in January.
- The Village Council heard a report from the Ethics Committee regarding its recommendations on changes to the proposed ethics ordinance. The Committee stated that it was satisfied that it had done all the changes it could to the ordinance and was passing it on to the Council for their consideration.
- The Village Council passed a motion to direct the Village Attorney to draft an ordinance based on the Ethics Committee's recommendations for Council consideration at the January Council meeting. The Council also directed that the Village Attorney research other jurisdictions' ethics practices and share this information with the community.
- The Village heard a report from the Village's auditors regarding the FY 2020 audit. The firm reported that the Village once again had a clean audit and is in a very strong financial position.
- The Village reviewed the results of the 2020 Annual Survey. Topics included the Village's waste and recycling services, police services, and the Village newsletter.
- The Village Council voted to introduce the 2021 election plan, policies and procedures. Further discussion on this will be held at the January meeting.
- The Village Council discussed potential changes to the Village tree ordinance. However, the Council wants more community input on this topic before discussing it further.
- The Village Council heard a report from the Village Manager. Highlights

included noting that the final round of leaf vacuuming will be next week. Residents still interested in contributing to the holiday fund can do so. Also, the Village has received several proposals for the two outstanding RFPs.

*For more details on any of these items, please [click here](#) to listen to the audio recording of this meeting. Full minutes of this meeting will be shared with the community after the Village Council has approved them.

Agenda for Council Meeting(s)



----Draft Agenda for the Monthly Council Meeting----

Village of Martin's Additions
7013 Brookville Road (Suite B, 2nd floor)
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3263
Via Zoom

The Council may entertain a motion in open session to enter into a closed session, in accordance with Section 3-305(b) of the Open Meetings Act (Maryland Code, General Provisions Article).

7:30 PM Call to Order: Fattig

7:31 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Fattig

7:41 PM Committee Updates: Fattig

7:51 PM Discussion and Possible Adoption of the 2021 Election Plan and Policy

8:05 PM Discussion of Potential Changes to the Tree Ordinance: Alexander

8:15 PM Discussion of the Ordinance Process

8:20 PM Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer

8:25 PM Financial Matters, including Treasurer's Report: Alexander

8:30 PM Manager's Report: Anderegg

8:35 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Fattig

*Please note: Listed times are approximate.

Building Blocks



TO: The Council at the Village of Martin's Additions
FROM: Doug Lohmeyer

DATE OF MEMO: December 14, 2020

SUBJECT: Building Administrator's Report

3506 Bradley Lane.

Demolition and building permit applications were submitted to the Village office. The staff has initially reviewed the information. Waiting for MCDPS approval. The resident's information meeting was held on Wed. June 17th. The County has not issued their building permit, and the project is on hold until spring 2021.

6609 Brookville Rd.

The applicants have submitted an application to remove the existing porch and add an addition to the existing house. The Village has reviewed the plans. The County issued their building permit on Nov. 18th. The Village building permit was issued on Dec. 7th. Work has not yet begun on the addition.

7200 Chestnut

The applicants applied for a Village building permit to construct an addition to the existing house's west side. The County issued their building permit on Sept. 3rd. The Village virtual information meeting was held on Tuesday, Oct. 6th. None of the adjacent residents participated. The Village building permit was issued on Oct. 9, 2020. The construction has begun.

7210 Chestnut St.

The Village issued their building permit on Oct. 11, 2018. The County has closed their permits. Once the applicants finish the front yard improvements, we will do a final inspection and close the Village Building Permit.

7200 Delfield St.

The property owners (a partnership) have applied for a Village demolition and building permit for a new house. The Village staff has completed the initial review of the application and submitted their comments on the application. The County issued their building permit on Oct. 23rd. The Village held the virtual resident information meeting on Dec. 9th. The Village issued their demo and dumpster permits on Dec. 14th.

7220 Delfield St.

The applicants have submitted an application to demolish the existing house and rebuild a new house. The plans have been revised and are waiting for County approval.

The Village information meeting was held on Dec. 15th.

113 Quincy St.

The applicants have applied to build a detached garage at the left rear of the house. The MCDPS permit was issued on Aug. 10th. The Village permit was issued on Oct. 13, 2020.

163 Quincy St.

The homeowner is proposing to add additional parking along the side of the existing driveway. The parking area will be a different material than the driveway, and the preliminary non-vegetative analysis indicates that the non-vegetative area will not exceed 30% of the front yard. They have not filed for a Village permit.

3505 Raymond St.

The new homeowners have applied for a variance to relocate the existing HVAC units from the rear of the house to the right side of the house. The Village Code does not allow HVAC units to project into the minimum side yard setback, so a variance is required. The Variance Hearing on Oct. 29th was suspended, and a continuation meeting has not been scheduled.

3515 Raymond St.

The applicant has submitted plans to remove the existing house and to construct a new house. The County is reviewing their plans. The applicants have revised their plans to address the “Wall Plane Length” condition. The informational meeting with the neighbors was held on Tuesday, Nov. 17th. Waiting to the County to approve the plans.

3517 Shepherd St.

The applicant has submitted an application to add an addition to the existing house's right front side. The County issued their building permit on Nov. 10th. The Village issued the building permit on Nov. 24. Work has not yet begun.

7200 Summit Ave.

On April 28, 2020, the homeowners submitted a Variance Application for the front and rear setbacks to construct a new porch and bay window at the front of the existing house and an addition on the house's north (right) side. The Council approved the Variance on July 16, 2020. The applicants have not submitted to MCDPS or the Village.

3407 Thornapple St.

On May 29th, the building permit was extended, and work on the house appears to be complete. The Applicant revised the plans to show a two-car detached garage at the rear of the lot. The MCDPS and the Village have issued their revised building permits. According to the builder, the new homeowners may not construct the detached garage. The Village will contact the new residents to verify this information so that the Village can close out the building permit.

Miscellaneous Items

The staff is presently working with the following properties:

1. The MSHA has responded to the Village's letter regarding water ponding at the Village street intersections along Brookville Rd. They plan on making improvements to the intersections at Bradley, Quincy, and Cummings this summer. The MSHA staff stated they are working with WSSC and MCDOT and will get back to us soon.

Heard on the Sidewalk

Manna Food Center:

A Good December Manna Haul –
Let's Make January Even Better

The Village's ongoing project to benefit Manna Food Center – our County's largest distributor of food assistance – had a very good December, delivering an estimated 340 pounds of nonperishable items. Our YTD total stands at just over 3,300 pounds – down quite a bit from earlier years but still a very good number considering the limitations the pandemic has put on shopping. If all goes well, we will make one more delivery before the New Year begins.

Our hope is to keep the food drive, which began in the summer of 2008, going for yet another year. If you watch the nightly news, you're aware of miles-long lines of cars waiting to get groceries. The latest estimate is that some 27.4 million adults in the U.S. sometimes or often didn't have enough to eat in the last 7 days – 5 million more than in late August. At the same time, food banks across the country have been experiencing a 60 percent increase in demand.

In addition to the box by the stairs to the Village Office, we will leave a second box in place by the front door of the Brookville Market at least through January. Or you may leave things on the front porch of 3406 Turner Lane. Checks directly to Manna are also most welcome. Thanks to all of you good neighbors who give so generously.

Weather Outlook:

Winter is upon us, and winter storms can be deceptive killers. Here are some things you should know. Exposure to cold can cause frostbite or hypothermia. Frostbite is damage to body tissue caused by extreme cold. It causes a loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in extremities, such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, or the nose's tip. Seek medical attention. Hypothermia is a condition brought on when the body temperature drops to below 95° F. It can kill. For those who survive, there are likely to be lasting kidney, liver, and pancreas problems. Warning signs include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and exhaustion. Seek medical care immediately! Avoid overexertion, such as shoveling heavy (and especially wet) snow, pushing a car, or walking in deep snow. Strain from the cold and hard labor may cause a heart attack. Sweating could lead to hypothermia. Wear loose, lightweight, warm clothes. Remove layers to avoid perspiration and chill. Outer garments should be tightly woven, water repellent, and hooded. Wear a hat. Half your body heat loss can be from your head. Cover your mouth to protect your lungs from the cold. Mittens, snug at the wrist, are better than gloves. Try to stay dry. Remember that 50% of injuries related to the cold happen to people over 60, more than 75% happen to males and about 25% at home. Enjoy what mother nature brings in wintertime and stay safe—more winter safety tips in next month's newsletter. Stay warm, stay safe, stay

strong, stay healthy ... stay home! Happy holidays to everyone from Keith, Riley & David

Keith Allen, a longtime resident of Martin's Additions, provides weather forecasts by phone for cities across the U.S. Residents are encouraged to call 202-589-1212 for up-to-the-minute updates.

Keep our community walkable; please patronize the businesses in our Village!

Please also keep in mind these "Friends of the Village":

[A Wider Circle](#)

[Chevy Chase at Home](#)

[Friends of the Library, Chevy Chase Chapter](#)

[Live and Learn Bethesda](#)

[Manna Food Center](#)

CONTACT INFO

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Council Chair

Susan Fattig – (301) 951-9578

susan.fattig@martinsadditions.org

Council Vice-Chair

Todd Mann - (301) 642-6665

todd.mann@martinsadditions.org

Council Treasurer

Arthur Alexander – (301) 718-9787

arthur.alexander@martinsadditions.org

Council Secretary

Katya Hill – (301) 718-1920

katya.hill@martinsadditions.org

Council Member-at-large

Jeffrey Blander

jeffrey.blander@martinsadditions.org

VILLAGE OFFICE – Telephone 301-656-4112

Village Manager

Niles Anderegg– manager@martinsadditions.org

Manager Assistant

Martha Fessenden – avm@martinsadditions.org

To receive e-notifications from the Village Council, the committees, and the Office (i.e., any official communication from your Village government), please fill out the

Village Contact [webform](#). This is the best way to receive information on Village business (e.g., Council and Committee meetings), services (e.g., waste pickup and snow removal), and events (e.g., the 4th of July Celebration or the Movie Night in the Park).

The VMA monthly newsletter is distributed to the Village on the last Monday of the month. If you wish to submit an article or news item for the newsletter, please submit your item by 5 PM on the preceding Friday. Any article or news item must meet the VMA newsletter criteria. [Policy No. 09-16-01-Policy for Contents of Martin's Edition Newsletter](#)

Please note:

The Village Office does not administer the VMA neighborhood Listserv (a Google-Group). To receive Listserv emails, please contact Bill Lebovich at architecturalphoto@mac.com

Village of Martin's Additions
301-656-4112 (office)
301-656-0030 (fax)
www.martinsadditions.org