

NOTE ITEMS IN THIS REPORT: Annual Meeting, Revision of Constitution, Status of Development in the Friendship Heights Sector, Web Site, Annual Dues

DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS SECTOR

On or about July 9, a hearing examiner will receive testimony on the request from property owners to rezone parts of the sites under the Friendship Heights Sector Plan. In particular, GEICO will request the TSM zone along Friendship Blvd. and Willard Ave. for office and apartment buildings. Questions have been raised regarding if and how Brookdale should try to influence those hearings. (See Annual Meeting, below.)

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

A committee of the Brookdale membership has reviewed the Association's Constitution and By-laws and proposed revisions. Thanks go to Kaspar Hunkeler, Lisa Sams, William Geiger, and Maryn Goodson for their work. After its further review, the Executive Committee recommends that the Association accept changes to the old version. We will present amendments to the Association for approval at the Annual Meeting. To optimize the members' knowledge of the proposed revisions before the meeting, we are relating the proposal in several forms:

First, a summary of the changes follows.

- (1) Division of "Brookdale" into slightly different areas north of River Road for purposes of organization.
- (2) Clarification of the Executive Committee - Membership limited to elected officers; Duties of officers: Eliminating rotation of "first" Vice President etc. (which Brookdale has not done in recent years) and Generalizing of delegates to other civic associations.
- (3) Procedures for establishing and voicing a "position" on issues affecting Brookdale - Removing the restriction that the Association is "non-political" but clarifying other related limitations, e.g., prohibiting political contributions and requiring communication to the membership when the Executive Committee takes positions.
- (4) Increasing the level of expenditure that the Executive Committee is able to approve without action by the full Association to \$2000.
- (5) Clarifying that dues collection is based on properties but voting is based on people. (The current constitution is vague on this.) In working through various scenarios, the Executive Committee found it necessary to limit membership to residents.
- (6) Eliminating the Membership Committee (which has not existed in recent years) as a standing committee but allowing it or other committees established by the President.
- (7) There are many other wording changes intended to clarify meaning that I do not think are significant in policy terms.

As a second means of circulating the proposal before the Annual Meeting, the Brookdale Website (see below) has a copy of the text as revised. The site shows the entire proposed text, and the easiest way to read the proposed version is on the Web.

Finally, to see the actual changes, i.e., the original version with deletions and replacements, each Vice President has

a few copies of the details (nine pages). You may ask your area representative for a copy.

Copies in the complete, latter form will be available at the Annual Meeting.

WEBSITE - BROOKDALE ON THE WEB

The Brookdale Citizens' Association has its own site. Point your browser to

www.capaccess.org/brookdale

where you will find community news and links, officer contacts, and some archives of the Association. (Make it a bookmark.) As stated above, the proposed constitution and by-laws are posted there. Give me your requests for additional links and information.

ANNUAL MEETING AND DUES

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27, 1998, at 7:30 p.m., in the Westbrook Elementary School. (Door in the rear.)

In addition to the annual election of officers, the agenda now includes the revision of the constitution and by-laws and two requests from the Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights for expenditures requiring membership approval. The first request involves legal expenses in opposing a car wash on River Road at the corner of Little Falls Parkway. The second request addresses legal expenses and representation in the hearings coming up on rezoning the GEICO site, as above. As part of the discussion on the proposed expense, there will be an update on the development process.

Both the old and the proposed constitutions require that members must pay annual dues before they can vote on Association business. If you have not paid dues this fiscal year (since June 1, 1997), whether you intend to attend the meeting or not, please send in your payment now. Write a check payable to "Brookdale Citizens Association" for \$20 and send it to

Andrew Colyer, Treasurer
4625 River Road
Chevy Chase MD 20815

KNOW YOUR OFFICERS - ALLISON FULTZ

Allison serves as Vice President for Brookdale East (or Brookdale North). She is an architect, working with Bowie-Gridley Architects in Washington, and has been known to bike to work via the Capital Crescent Trail. Allison and her husband, Steve Langer, have a daughter, Naomi, who is an avid pedestrian and user of Brookdale Park.

I hope you read the article about Brookdale in the Washington Post of April 11. If not, see the link to it on our web site.

Dave Montgomery, President