

Town of Sharpsburg

Town Crier



Volume 24 June 2014 Number 3

The minutes of the town meeting are not the official minutes; they are an overview of the business conducted. A copy of the official minutes can be obtained at the town office from the clerk.

The meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was called to order by Mayor Hal Spielman. All members were present. The minutes of the May meeting were approved as read. Treasurer's reports from April and May were both approved.

Committee Reports

Parks and Railroad: The roof of the railroad station is in need of repair. The July meeting will be held at the railroad station.

Building: The trim of the outside of the municipal building is in need of painting.

Streets: Fred Frederick from Frederick, Seibert and Associates will be meeting with the residents of East Chapline St. extended at the town hall on Wednesday, June 11th at 4:30pm to address the improvements to the street

Planning and Zoning: Nothing to report

Battlefield Advisory Committee: Mr. Jamieson reported the meeting would be on Wednesday and he will give the information to Kimberly for the Crier

Public Safety: Nothing to report

Mayor's Report: Tolson's Chapel is grateful for the spotlight in the parade book. They thanked the town for the opportunity. They are also very appreciative at the town's willingness to begin a fund for Miss Virginia Cook to finally have a headstone.

Old Business:

Legion Building – Still awaiting word from the county on grants, sustainability study, etc. Mr. Weaver will try to push this issue with Mr. Steve Goodrich at the county level.

Blacktopping – Now that the weather has broken, need to obtain new estimates to blacktop areas within the town. Hal will get these estimates.

New Business:

Canal Towns Representatives – Cathy is unable to be the representative and we have had no representation for quite some time. Brenda agreed to continue to be the representative for Sharpsburg.

Painting of trim of Municipal Building – Hal will obtain estimates to have the Municipal Building trim painted.

The next meeting will be **July 7, 2014 at 7:30pm at the Antietam Railroad Station, located at 17230 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg, MD 21782.**

Town News

Miss Virginia's Headstone Fund off to a great start!



When the fund to purchase a headstone for Miss Virginia was established, it was the hope of the Mayor and Council that there would be a positive response from within the community. Miss Virginia is a very fond memory to many of the long-time residents of Sharpsburg, however; many of those that knew Miss Virginia have either passed away or have moved from the area. The response to this effort has been extremely positive. What a wonderful feeling it is that so many of you have reached out to donate to this very special cause! Residents have not only sent in donations, but we are also receiving nice notes about Miss Virginia.

The following are two notes that were received at the town office. Perhaps they will bring many of you a reminder of this fine individual. For those of you that never had the pleasure of knowing Miss Virginia, maybe they will give you a glimpse of just how much this fine lady was respected and appreciated in our community.

"Miz Virginia was a "great lady," which is not a matter of cash, but of character. I am grateful to have met her. When our two sons did their local history project in elementary school, she was their source. I hope you get enough to put up a monument to her!"

Mrs. Ella Mose wrote: "Virginia Cook babysat my husband Jim when he was a small child in the 1930's – he adored her.

As an ICU nurse, I cared for Miss Cook in the early 1970's, when she was hospitalized with a serious heart rhythm disturbance. She was dignified, gracious and calm, even in the face of life-threatening illness.

I am honored to make a donation to the Virginia Cook Headstone Fund. My thanks to the Mayor and Council for creating this opportunity for the townspeople of Sharpsburg to honor a fine lady."

Donations are being accepted at the town office. You may drop off your donation during normal business hours, or mail your donation to the town office at PO Box 368, Sharpsburg, MD 21782. Please mark in the memo line that your donation is for Miss Virginia's fund. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

July Town Meeting Location Changed

The July meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Monday, July 7th at 7:30pm at the Antietam Railroad Station, located at 17230 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg, MD 21782.

Town Office Closure

The Town Office will be closed from Thursday, June 26th thru Friday, July 4th. We will re-open on Monday, July 7th at 8:30am. During this time, Zoning Administrator Howard Long will continue to have his regular hours. He will be in the office on Thursday, July 3rd. During this time, if you have an emergency, please call Mayor Hal Spielman at 301-432-6854.

Community News and Events



The Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area is currently holding a "Civil War Selfies" program. There are several sites right here in our back yard that are participating sites in the "selfies" program, including Tolson's Chapel, The Big Spring, Newcomer House and areas on the Antietam Battlefield.

Simply visit these sites, take your picture or "selfie" at one or all of the sites and share with the Heart of the Civil War Heritage Area on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram with the hashtag #civilwarselves. You could win a prize.

For more information, visit www.civilwarselves.com.

Sharpsburg Bible Church to hold “Gangway to Galilee” Vacation Bible School



The Sharpsburg Bible Church will be having Vacation Bible School on June 23-June 27th at 7pm at the church, located at 5134 General Stewart Court for ages 3 to adult. Everyone is invited!!

Events at the Sharpsburg Library

The Summer Reading Club, this year titled “Fizz Boom READ” is underway! It is not too late to sign up. Children of all ages are encouraged to sign up. There is also an adult program as well. See Barb Twigg, Librarian for more details and to sign up!

July 10th 2pm-5pm – Science on the Farm – Join the 4H extension office for a fun filled day learning about agriculture in the community and its strong connection to science at your local library. The program is for kids ages 8-12 and pre-registration is required. For a registration form, please visit the Sharpsburg library, or download one from

<http://extension.umd.edu/washington-county>

July 31st, 3:30pm – Dr. Fizzle and the Magic Bookmobile will be at the library. Come on out for a puppet show and an interactive Readers’ Theater performance, followed by a craft.

Antietam National Battlefield's Salute to Independence



The Antietam National Battlefield will hold their annual “Salute to Independence” concert and fireworks on Saturday, July 5th at 7:30pm. This event features the Maryland Symphony

Orchestra, with this year's event being titled "Red, White and Boom!" Pieter Bickford will serve as Master of Ceremonies and the Maryland Symphony Orchestra will be joined by special guests from the United States Marine Band. Sharpsburg resident Rob Tudor will be performing with the MSO as well. Mr. Tudor is the Director of Vocal Activities and Music Department Chair at Shepherd University. The evening concludes with Fireworks around 9pm.

Battlefield Advisory Committee



- Andria Timmer of the Park Service's National Capital Region will head a four-member team which will spend a month and a half conducting oral history interviews with people who live on or near the Antietam Battlefield, or are connected with it in other ways. If you or someone you know would like to be interviewed, you can reach her at andria.timmer@cnu.edu or 757-597-3436.
- The Antietam Battlefield staff is considering moving the Memorial Day National Cemetery ceremony from Saturday afternoon following the parade to Monday at 11 am. It is hoped that this will increase attendance at the event.
- The staff has begun planning and organizing for the Salute to Independence, which will be held on Saturday, July 5th. The program will be the same as in the past. Last year's sequestration of federal funds prevented having artillery pieces at the Maryland Symphony Orchestra's concert. This year a National Guard unit will fire during the 1812 Overture.

Founder's Day Picnic

The annual Founder's Day picnic will be held on Saturday, July 19, 2014 at 12noon in the council chambers of town hall. Everyone is invited. Please bring a covered dish to share. Chicken will be provided by the Sharpsburg Historical Society. Please call your reservations into Vernell Doyle at 301-992-9767 by July 15th. Hope to see you there!

Town Government

Town Office – 301-432-4428

Hours of Operation: Monday - Thursday 8:30am-2:00pm, additional hours available by appointment

Mayor and Council

Hal Spielman – Mayor	301-432-6854
Bryan Gabriel – Vice Mayor	301-432-2478
Darryl Benner – Councilperson	301-991-2230
Brenda Gabriel – Councilperson	301-432-2478
Cathy Hull – Councilperson	304-279-8440
Brandon Smith – Councilperson	301-491-4866
Russ Weaver – Councilperson	301-432-5907

The Sharpsburg Town Crier
PO Box 368
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

