

Town of Sharpsburg

Town Crier



Volume 24 October 2014 Number 7

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 monthly meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was called to order at 7:30pm by Mayor Hal Spielman. The minutes of the August meeting were approved as read. The treasurer's reports from both August and September were approved.

Public Comments

Meredith Poffenberger of the Marketplace of Sharpsburg spoke to the council about sponsoring the Jr. Historical Society. The society would like to meet at the school, however; they need a sponsor with insurance in order to do so. The Town does not have the type of insurance to allow this, however; Ms. Poffenberger was given the Town's support with the newly formed group. She was offered the town hall as a meeting place and council members offered suggestions about different organizations that she could perhaps approach to be affiliated with. GE Ingram of the Sharpsburg Little League spoke with the Council about adding bleachers to the softball field at the park on High Street. They asked the Town to purchase a set of bleachers and the little league would purchase the second set. This was approved.

Steve Goodrich, Director of the County Planning Department gave the council several suggestions on the old Legion property that the town purchased, where to begin with determining the structure of the building and if it is salvageable and also provided a packet with possible funding and grant avenues. He offered the services of the County Building Inspector to come and go through the building to give the Town a rough idea of what would need to be done.

Committee Reports

Parks and Railroad Station – Nothing to report

Building – Nothing to report

Streets – Some of the newly paved areas may need to be corrected, some of the areas appear to have been hastily completed. Bryan stated that when it snows, these areas will most likely not withstand the snow plows. These will be checked and Antietam Paving will be notified if the council feels they need to be re-done.

Planning and Zoning – The Planning and Zoning Committee will be having an organizational meeting on Tuesday, October 7th.

Battlefield Advisory Committee – They will not be meeting this month.

Public Safety – Nothing to report

Mayor's Report – The Mayor shared an invitation from the Christ Reformed Church, inviting the members to their 250th Anniversary celebration on November 2nd.

Old Business:

Christmas Tree Lighting – This will take place on Friday, December 5th at 7pm. Kimberly and Brenda will work on the details and advertise for any interested parties that would like to help with the tree lighting to contact Kimberly. Bryan and any other interested council members will get the tree on Saturday, November 22nd.

New Business:

Snow Plowing Contract – It was moved to have B&B Automotive continue their contract for the next two years for the plowing and salting. Both Brenda Gabriel and Bryan Gabriel abstained from commenting or voting on the contract renewal.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 3rd at 7:30pm.

Town News

Town Office Closure

The town office will be closed on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 in observance of Veteran's Day, and Thursday, November 27th for Thanksgiving.

Zoning Administrator Hours

Zoning Administrator Howard Long has office hours on Tuesdays from 10am-6pm. His office is located in the town office, second floor of Town Hall. If you need to speak with him, he may be reached at 301-432-4428.

For November, Mr. Long will not be in on Tuesday, November 4th or Tuesday, November 11th. In place of these two Tuesdays, he will be in on Wednesday, November 5th and Wednesday, November 12th from 10am-6pm.

Third Annual Christmas Tree Lighting



Save the date!! The third annual Christmas tree lighting will be held on Friday, December 5th at 7pm in front of town hall. More details to follow. This has become a fun-filled event for the community and has become a fun way for friends and neighbors to ring in the Christmas season. If you would like to help with planning and organizing the event, please call Kimberly at Town Hall at 301-432-4428. We hope to see everyone there!

Town Elections



This year is an election year for the Town of Sharpsburg. The position of Vice Mayor and three (3) councilpersons is on the ballot. If you would like to register to run for one of these positions, forms may be picked up from the Town Office Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-2:00pm. Deadline to register to run is Monday, November 3rd at midnight. The election will take place on Tuesday, November 18th at Town Hall. In order to run for office, the following criteria must be met:

1. Must be a United States citizen
2. Must be at least 25 years of age
3. Must be a registered voter in the town of Sharpsburg
4. Must have lived in the town of Sharpsburg for the one year preceding the election

TRICK-OR-TREAT



Trick-or-Treat will be held on Thursday, October 30th from 6pm-8pm within town limits. Parents are asked to accompany their children and to use caution and crosswalks when crossing the street. If homes and businesses wish to participate, please turn on your porch light. During trick-or-treat, Girl Scout Troop 40051 will be collecting retired eyeglasses to give to the Lion's Club. They generally are only able to hit Main Street while trick-or-treating, however; if you live on a side street and have glasses to donate, contact Kimberly at Town Hall, and she will come and pick them up from you so that they can be given to the Girl Scouts on the evening of trick-or-treat.

Community Events

Lego Club at the Sharpsburg Library



On November 1st at 10am come take the pirate challenge! Children ages 5-8 can have fun trying the building challenge, or can come up with their own design!
On November 1st from 10am-12 noon, children ages 8-14 can enjoy the Pirates and Robots unite challenge! Build an autonomous robot designed to seek out treasure. Teams will compete to see who can collect the most treasure from the challenge mat. **Registration for this event is required!** Contact Barb at the Sharpsburg Library to register, 301-432-8825, or for more information. This event is provided by the University of Maryland Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

Holiday Coupon Class



Save the date! Come out to the Sharpsburg Library on Tuesday, November 4th at 7pm and learn how to save on decorations, food, travel and gifts from blogger Jennifer Ward of the Nifty, Thrifty Lady. Not only will you learn some valuable money saving tools, but participants will also receive a holiday planner for attending! **Registration for this event is required, so call Barb at the Sharpsburg Library today to reserve your spot!!! She can be reached at the library at 301-432-8825.**

Minecraft Night

Children ages 8-10 are invited to the Sharpsburg Library on Wednesday, November 5th from 6pm-7pm to play Minecraft. Children ages 11-18 are invited to play from 7-8pm. Holiday cards will also be available for you to sign to send some holiday cheer to our military men and women who are serving overseas.

Family Movie Night at the Sharpsburg Library “MALEFICENT”



On Thursday, November 6th, the Sharpsburg library will be showing Disney's "Maleficent", starring Angelina Jolie and Elle Fanning. Maleficent is a sci-fi/fantasy adventure that tells the tale of how the evil witch from Disney's "Sleeping Beauty" came to be. The movie is rated PG and will be shown in the Council Chambers, second floor of Town Hall, at 6pm.

American Legion Auxiliary to host Veterans Day Program



Antietam Unit 236, American Legion Auxiliary will be holding their annual Veterans Day Program on Tuesday, November 11th at 11am. All veterans are asked to attend and be recognized. The public is encouraged to attend and honor these men and women that have served our country.

Community News

Sharpsburg American Legion Auxiliary Earns Awards



American Legion Auxiliary Members at their monthly meeting on October 14, 2014

Front Row: Marlene Cougar, Ginny Wagner, Darlene Hoffman, Ava Gift and Darlene Eichelberger

Back Row: Doris Shoemaker, Judy Mason, LouAnn Eichelberger, AltaMae Crampton, Ashley Grimm, Tina Grimm

Western Maryland District American Legion Auxiliary President Shirley Cool and Bonnie Rae Lamson, past Department American Legion Auxiliary President, presented Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary with Certificate of Merit awards on Sunday, September 28, at the Western Maryland District American Legion Auxiliary meeting.

Out of 119 Units statewide, Antietam was awarded the most revered award which is the Bessie L. Mercer trophy, given to the most outstanding unit of the year. At the district level the unit received first place for All Around Activities, Americanism, Children & Youth, Community Service, Gold Star, Poppy, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, third place for Blood Donor Program and Junior Activities. At the department level the unit received first place for Americanism, Cancer Control, Community Service, Education, Field Service, Gold Star, Legislative, National Security and Poppy. The Unit received second place for Chaplain, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation and third place for Past President's Parley, Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation-Home Service and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Most Outstanding.

Unit President Ava Gift humbly accepted the awards and trophy on behalf of all the unit members and gave credit to the community for their support of bake/food and flower sales

that allowed the unit the funds to support the many worthwhile American Legion Auxiliary Programs. With the downturn of the economy these past years, there has been more need. The unit members are the eyes and ears of the community and they network resources to meet needs of the community whether it be for an active military member, veterans, children and youth or senior citizens. The auxiliary motto has been "serving others not self".

Anyone wishing to learn more about joining the American Legion Auxiliary or how they can help in the efforts of the unit they may contact Ava Gift, Unit President, at 301-432-6658.

- Ava Gift

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program



MISSION:

The mission of the U. S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

GOAL:

The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate youngsters that will assist them in becoming responsible, productive, patriotic citizens.

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable resources – our children; to unite all members of local communities in a

common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future

A Toys for Tots drop off box is located at B&B Automotive. B&B Automotive is open Monday-Friday from 8am-5pm. This holiday season, consider donating a new unwrapped toy for this worthy cause.

Town Government

Town Office – 301-432-4428

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

Office of the Zoning Administrator: Tuesdays from 10am-6pm, additional hours are 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
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