

Parkwood

Residents Association Newsletter, Winter 2017*

The next meeting of the PRA will be held on Monday, February 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Kensington Parkwood Elementary School
Topics: Cedar Lane (and 355), Regional Transportation, Schools, and more

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Part of the KVFD 9-11 Memorial

[*Editor's Note: Parkwood membership dues are renewed annually, beginning in January. To make this process easier for residents, we distribute the Winter Newsletter in two formats, both of which include the registration form: 1) printed copies mostly in black and white (the cost of full color copies is prohibitive) hand delivered by hardy PRA volunteers and 2) digital copies in full color emailed to all registered members who have provided their addresses. The digital version is also posted on the PRA listserv, website, and Facebook page.]

PRA Winter Meeting

We have a full agenda for the Winter meeting. In addition to our speaker, we have several items to discuss and some to vote on.

1. **Recommendations regarding traffic management in the Parkwood area.** We had an informative meeting in October about some of the options for managing traffic more effectively and safely in Parkwood. One positive result already has been the placement of better warning signs at the crossing to the elementary school at Oldfield Drive on Cedar Lane. In addition to learning more about the traffic islands on Cedar, many residents expressed their opinions at the meeting and on the listserv regarding the intersections of Cedar Lane at MD 355, and Beach Drive at MD 355. **PRA President Kira Lueders will be able to report on a recent meeting at which a state official gave an update on the status of the intersection at Cedar Lane and 355. You don't want to miss this.**

The executive committee has drafted several recommendations included in this newsletter (see page 8) for residents to consider and vote on at our winter meeting. If these recommendations are approved, the committee will continue to work with County and State officials in an effort to get them implemented.

2. **Treasurer's Report and Possible Additional Expenditures in 2017.** The report of our treasurer, Gerald Sharp, on 2016 income and expenses and the proposed budget for 2017 are attached at the end of this newsletter. 2016 ended with a **positive balance of more than \$16,000**. As Gerald notes in his narrative summary, the **PRA needs to consider how best to use its limited resources** to make Parkwood a better place to live. For example, should we spend funds to buy a radar unit that would tell motorists their speed to encourage drivers to slow down in our neighborhood? Should the PRA sponsor a Halloween party at the Wildwood Garden with free hotdogs and hot chocolate and prizes for the best costumes? Should we enhance and improve our community gardens in Parkwood? Members of the PRA have been generous in supporting our residents association. How should we spend our funds to improve Parkwood? Recommendations made at the meeting could be voted upon or referred to the executive committee for further study.
3. **Walter Johnson Cluster Position Statement.** In response to a request from our Kensington Parkwood Elementary School representatives, the executive committee sent an email to all members of the PRA asking whether the association should support the position of the Walter Johnson (WJ) Cluster (representatives from all the schools whose students eventually attend WJ) regarding the need to plan for adequate school facilities. **We will report on the results of that survey**, which were overwhelmingly positive, and **ask for a vote to formally endorse the Cluster's Position Statement and its work to ensure adequate educational facilities for our students.**
4. **Traffic issues and options in the coming decade in the Washington region.** At the fall meeting we focused on traffic management in Parkwood. We turn now to the broader picture for the Washington area. Our speaker will be Mr. Richard Parsons, Vice Chair of the Maryland Suburban Transportation Alliance. Mr. Parsons will present data that suggests that **even if all of the currently approved transportation initiatives are completed, traffic in the Washington area will still increase by 70%.** His data also indicate that while the D.C. region leads the nation in carpooling and telework and is second in transit ridership (NYC is first), it is also one of the most congested areas. He will discuss **some of the options for our region that will require both financial and political support.**

Feature Article: The Kensington Volunteer Fire Department 9-11 Memorial

Jeff Griffith, editor

“This twisted and scarred piece of steel...”

It is an ugly tower of metal. It weighs over a ton and stands 16 feet in the air. Yet it looks light, almost alive. You have probably seen it from your car. It is part of the 9-11 Memorial that stands on the grounds of the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department (KVFD), Station 5, built through the determination and will of the volunteer members of the department and the donations of contractors and residents of the Kensington community.

It honors those who perished in all three places: New York City, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, PA. Many people visit – scout troops, dignitaries, people who lost loved ones, and just folks who want to get closer to it.

The story is well told on Station 5’s website:

<http://www.kvfd.org/911-memorial-at-kvfd-station-5/>

In 2009 the 9/11 Families’ Association, which manages the remains of the World Trade Center (WTC) that were stored in two hangars at Kennedy Airport in New York, announced that it would donate artifacts to organizations that intended to build memorials to honor fire fighters, police, and other citizens who had lost their lives in that tragedy. KVFD applied for and was granted the artifact that is now part of its 9-11 Memorial. It came from the point of impact on the first tower. KVFD also asked the Pentagon for a piece of its façade that was hit by the plane hijacked by terrorists; it is mounted on a granite slab that rests near the artifact from the tower. And finally, KVFD created a rose garden to honor those who perished in the crash in Shanksville.

These were the events that lead to its creation. The most important part of the story, however, is about the dedication and commitment of those who built it - the members of KVFD Station 5 who gave of their time and energy, the local contractors who donated their services and material, and the citizens who made financial contributions.

Steve Semler was the Volunteer President (and a volunteer EMT) in 2009 and was the driving force that made the memorial possible. When he learned that the 9/11 Families’ Association would donate artifact remains of the towers to organizations that would use them to commemorate those who had died, he knew that Station 5 “had to do it”. KVFD volunteers had responded to the Pentagon tragedy and felt deeply about the events of that day. He contacted the Families’ Association and, with then-Lieutenant Ron Dowdy, went to NYC to negotiate the designation of a specific remnant of metal that he knew would fit in the space at the station envisioned for the memorial and that would fully reflect the horror of the event in its twisted, burnt, and scarred form. This required a document from the Port Authority of New York, which actually owns all the artifacts from the towers, and a court order from the U.S. District Court for Southern Manhattan. Then, in a single day, KVFD members Keith Golden and Ernesto Moretti drove to Kennedy Airport, loaded the one ton remains onto their borrowed trailer and drove back to Kensington where they offloaded the metal at KVFD Station 21, which has a secure engine bay. [During their trip they encountered NYC police who, when they learned of their mission, personally escorted them to the hangar at the airport.]



Chris Thorgenson, another member of the KVFD, contacted the Pentagon and was able to arrange for the Station to receive a portion of the façade to be used for the second part of the memorial. The Station already had space for a rose garden to honor Shanksville. So all the parts were here.

But there was no money. Yes, there was a few hundred dollars available. But standing a one ton piece of metal upright without fear of its ever falling (again) requires major engineering and construction. Designing an appropriate landscaped setting calls for skill and aesthetic talents. And putting all the parts together in a timely and effective way demands well managed coordination and construction.

Fortunately, there was F. Tom Claxton, a KVFD member for over 57 years, and a former Deputy Chief and Assistant Chief. And there was Steve Heidenberger, owner of Heidenberger Construction, Inc, here in Kensington.

F. Tom Claxton knew people; more importantly he knew good people, and he had a gift for helping them understand what a worthy project this was. He contacted Ralph D'Amato, a landscape architect who agreed to do the landscape design work for the memorial. D'Amato also obtained donated plants that were appropriate, attractive, and relatively self-sustaining. In addition, D'Amato had a contact at the Germantown offices of Greenhorne and O'Mara, a national civil engineering firm. This company readily agreed to do site design concept and plans and the engineering specifications for the critical supporting structure that would hold the one ton artifact in place.

Steve Heidenberger had a personal stake in the memorial. His sister-in-law had perished in the Pentagon plane crash. When he read about the planned but unfunded memorial through an interview with KVFD President Semler published in the Gazette, he called KVFD to offer his help. He not only provided the onsite foreman to oversee delivery of materials and to coordinate construction activities; he also obtained donated services and supplies from numerous subcontractors in the Kensington area who wanted to work on the memorial. This meant someone to dig footings, provide sand for the substrate, pour concrete, install anchor bolts, provide lights, do the wiring, do the landscaping, furnish and install slate, do the architectural stone work, install and engrave the granite, install the donated bricks, ensure proper drainage, and more. The coordination was a challenge not only because of its scope but because it involved so many companies and workers. On a normal contract job, one company might do several of these tasks. But because the material and work were donated, companies could only offer to do a portion of the job, which meant having to find others to fill the gaps. For his extraordinary contributions, Steve Heidenberger was awarded the rare distinction of being made an Honorary Member of the KVFD.

Financial contributions came from citizens who purchased bricks on which they could put names or messages for the memorial grounds. These brick sales supported the 9/11 Families' Association and the mission of KVFD. [There are still bricks waiting for names from would-be contributors.] The County police department provided a solemn motorcycle escort when the metal artifact was moved from Station 21 to its final resting place at Station 5.

And so it was built. It was dedicated on a clear and beautiful day, sadly reminiscent of the weather on September 11, 2001. There were important dignitaries there to officially open the memorial and to commend all who had donated their time and their services. The fire station hosted a barbeque picnic for all the workers who helped to build it.



Money is still an issue because there is not a dedicated fund for maintenance. All the money the station raises through donations goes for vehicles and equipment to support its primary mission: saving lives and fighting fires. For now, several volunteers devote some of their own time looking after the memorial, principally volunteer firefighter Kevin Tighe, who installs new engraved bricks and cares for the memorial grounds.

You should visit. You can walk there on a good day. Or visitors can park in the lot behind the station.

And as the words on the pedestal that holds that twisted and scarred piece of steel high in the air remind us:

WE SHALL NEVER FORGET

Meet Your Neighbors

As we noted in the fall newsletter, Parkwood is a friendly community where people greet each other cordially and often help each other out as best they can. However, we often don't get to know many of our neighbors more extensively. The goal of this column, the second in the series, is to introduce us to some of the many interesting people in Parkwood. If you know someone whom you think we would all like to know better, tell the editor by email or phone message: jeff@jandgriffith.com or 301-633-4512.

Kira Lueders



She was born in Estonia during WWII. Her family fled to the west in 1944, eventually finding shelter in a Displaced Persons camp in the American controlled sector of Germany. They lived in that camp for six years, virtually homeless and without a country. In 1950 she and her mother came to the U.S. Her father, a veterinarian, had been conscripted by the Russians and forced to serve in the Russian army; they presumed he had been killed in the fighting. Thirty-four years later she was reunited with her father, who had survived the war, in Estonia. She learned English at age 10, earned a BS degree in chemistry, a PhD in biochemistry at age 35, and worked as a research chemist at the

Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health until she retired in 2005. Meet Kira Lueders, a Parkwood resident for almost 50 years and the president of the Parkwood Residents Association.

Kira and her husband Alfred, a linguist, bought their home in Parkwood in 1967. His family was German and his father had worked in the German embassy. Even though he had been born in the U.S., he and his family had to leave the country during the war. When they were allowed to return, he became a naturalized citizen, and served in the US Army during the Korean War.

Kira and Alfred loved Parkwood. They had both lived nomadic lives, had experienced the horrors of war, and had had considerable instability in their early years. Parkwood gave them a home – “a nest”, as Kira describes it and they did not want to leave. While they both enjoyed traveling a great deal, this community allowed them to put down the roots that had been so lacking before.



Unfortunately, Alfred passed away in 2009. But Kira still loves to travel. One of her planned trips will be to the Norwegian Svalbard archipelago above the Arctic circle where the Global Seed Vault has been established to guard against catastrophic events that might wipe out whole varieties of plants that are essential to sustain

human life. And because Norway is only a short distance from Estonia, Kira is planning to go there to see friends and family who remain.



A fox in the Wildlife Habitat

Even though it is close to the city, one of the things that Kira enjoys so much about Parkwood is that it feels like the country. She needs nature. “I need to see trees and plants, and hear birds and insects [except mosquitoes, which like her too much]. I can’t imagine living in the city.”

Kira is so committed to nature that she has made her large backyard a Certified Wildlife Habitat; she has a plaque on her fence from the National Wildlife Federation Society of America attesting to this fact. She admits, however, that no one from the Federation has come by to confirm all the things that she said on her application: growing native plants that provide food for wildlife, ensuring them an adequate water supply, creating shelter from bad weather and predators and places to raise young, and managing all this through sustainable practices. But a tour through her backyard leaves little doubt that she has done all of these things as you walk past dozens of plants, large and small trees, feeders, a small stream, and the inevitable compost pile. Her habitat also contains an extraordinary Dawn Redwood tree. It is green in the summer but in the fall it turns a beautiful reddish orange.

While working at NIH Kira became concerned about recycling practices there – or rather the absence of recycling practices. At that time, white office paper coming out of the main administrative building was the only thing being recycled. This was a “drop in the bucket” compared to the bottles, plastics, mixed papers, and other recyclables that were simply being discarded. Kira chaired the Environmental Concerns Working Group of like-minded employees who worked hard against institutional resistance to successfully get this wasteful policy changed. Her work was recognized with the US Public Health Service NIH Director’s Award in 1995. While she is justly proud of the award, she is even more satisfied that she was able to change bad practices and get a much better policy implemented.



Dawn Redwood tree and some other wildlife

Parkwood is fortunate that Kira was at the NIH after 9/11 and later during the anthrax scare. As a scientist and member of a committee of neighborhood representatives looking at some of the ways the NIH intended to respond to these events, she was able to learn about and understand some of the problems of the planned center for research on bioterrorism known as Building 33. The site proposed for the building to house this work was next to the check point for commercial traffic entering NIH. The possibility of trucks carrying explosives would have exposed the building to significant risks that could potentially have severely affected nearby residential communities such as ours.

When she learned about this, Kira came to the PRA with her concerns to alert the neighborhood. Although it was not possible to change the siting of the building, she and her committee at NIH along with the PRA were successful in making sure that the design of the building was changed so that it did not have the same potential vulnerabilities that it might have had and posed fewer hazards for our community.

Research chemist, naturalist, and political activist – Parkwood is fortunate that Kira Lueders is one of our neighbors and the president of our association.

Political Notes

This is a new, brief, and non-partisan report on some of the developments that may affect Parkwood residents. It will appear periodically in the newsletter as events warrant. Comments from readers are welcome.

Terms Limits

In the November 2016 election Montgomery County residents voted to impose a limit of three consecutive terms on the nine-member County Council and the County Executive. This means that County Council President Roger Berliner and council members Nancy Floreen, Marc Elrich, and George Leventhal will be barred from seeking another term on the nine-member council. County Executive Ike Leggett has said he does not plan to run for a fourth term. The next election for County Council and County Executive will take place in 2018.

Public Financing

A new publicly financed campaign system will allow eligible county council candidates to leverage small individual contributions into bigger donations from taxpayers. To qualify, candidates for executive will need to collect at least 500 contributions that add up to at least \$40,000. At-large council candidates must get 250 donations worth \$20,000. District seat candidates are required to secure 125 contributions totaling \$10,000.

The bill caps public contributions to county executive candidates at \$1.5 million — \$750,000 each for primary and general elections. Public contributions to at-large council candidates are limited to \$250,000, and district council contenders to \$125,000, which, according to some observers, are sums large enough to run sustainable campaigns.

Development Taxes

The County Council recently adopted rules that will require residential developers county-wide to pay more toward building new or expanded schools to ease crowding and a higher tax to build in farther-out, more auto-dependent areas as part of a new growth policy, referred to as the Subdivision Staging Policy. The different tax rates are designed to encourage development near job centers and Metro stations, where the tax is lower. The higher school impact tax, which will be the same across the county, is based on 120 percent of the cost to build a new seat in a classroom, up from the current tax based on 90 percent of that cost.

PRA Executive Committee: Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Kira Lueders	301-564-0263	kklarl@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeffrey Griffith	301-633-4512	jeff@jandjgriffith.com
Secretary	Judith Dighe	301-493-8867	judithdighe@verizon.net
Treasurer	Gerald Sharp	301-332-9887	gbs2001@yahoo.com
Beautification	Gail Condrey	301-564-5692	gaildalferes@yahoo.com
Block Captain	Kira Lueders	301-564-0263	kklarl@yahoo.com
Membership	Paula Flicker		pftoo@mindspring.com
Welcoming	Randa Mostehy	301-922-7490	rmostehy@yahoo.com
Listserv Admin	Chris Dewey		cdpwwd@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Alex Clark		aclark@aclark.net
Civic Liaison	Bailey Condrey	301-564-5692	condreybailey@gmail.com
Past President	Bailey Condrey	301-564-5692	condreybailey@gmail.com

Proposed recommendations for improving traffic management for discussion and vote by the members of the PRA

Cedar Lane from Summit to Beach Drive: Remove the three pairs of side islands at the intersections of Cedar Lane and Dresden; Cedar Lane and Franklin; and Cedar Lane and Glenridge. Make all pedestrian crossings on Cedar more visible.

Discussion

1. The allowed parking zones on both sides of Cedar already create a narrow road and slow traffic, just as the islands are intended to do; in fact, there are normally many more parked cars than there are islands.
2. The side islands extend farther into the roadway than the marked parking zones and therefore push oncoming cars even closer toward each other than do the parked cars.
3. The side islands may be wider because they appear to have been designed to allow for a bike zone; however, cars in the marked parking zones force bikes onto the narrow road anyway. Cedar does not really have a viable bike lane even with the islands.
4. Intersections with side islands push cars turning right onto Cedar closer to oncoming traffic than do intersections without side islands; this occurs because the islands are wider than the parking zone and are closer to the intersections. The boundaries of the islands are also difficult to see from many cars when turning, which often forces drivers to maneuver closer to oncoming traffic.
5. When cars pass the center island at Summit it is a relatively short distance until they encounter the traffic light at Saul and again a relatively short distance until they encounter the traffic light at Beach. Given the volume of traffic during rush hour it seems unlikely that they would have time to get much beyond the posted speed limit. The data presented at the meeting of the Parkwood Residents Association on October 25, 2016 suggested a several miles per hour drop in speed in 2012 on Cedar between Dresden and Franklin after the side islands had been installed. This reduction in speed could just as well have been caused by increased traffic and not by the islands. The number of accidents on this section of Cedar Lane has increased since the side medians were installed, and 2016 saw a fatal head-on collision at one of these side median locations on Cedar.

Conclusion: Parking on both sides of Cedar Lane already narrows the road and serves much the same purpose as the side islands. In addition, the side islands actually increase the risk of accidents because they push oncoming cars closer to each other. Therefore, they should be removed.

Cedar Lane and MD 355: Make the westbound right hand lane at Cedar and Wisconsin Avenue/MD 355 “Right turn only”.

Discussion

1. Making the westbound right hand lane at Cedar and Wisconsin Avenue/MD 355 “Right turn only” would reduce the backup and waiting/idling time for cars going north on MD355 since they could turn right on red.
2. There is a clear line of sight from this lane so drivers can readily determine when it is safe to make this turn.
3. The corresponding lanes on West Cedar Lane on the opposite side of MD 355 merge into a single lane, thus slowing cars coming from the two lanes on Cedar as they merge into one lane.

Conclusion: Making this change would reduce backup on Cedar for cars going north onto MD 355 and would not materially affect cars going west from Cedar onto West Cedar.

Beach Drive and MD 355: Adjust the size of the traffic islands at the intersection of Beach Drive and MD 355 so that more cars going north on MD 355 can get through this intersection more quickly.

Discussion

1. This intersection has significant backups, especially during the morning rush hours.
2. Protection of the adjacent Linden Oak tree is important and prevents the widening of the right hand lane.
3. However, a narrowing of the traffic islands at this intersection could allow cars heading north onto MD 355 to do so more readily, thereby reducing congestion and unnecessary idling.

**Parkwood Residents Association
2016 Treasurer's Report¹
Gerald B. Sharp, PRA Treasurer, Dec. 31, 2016**

Category	Actual Expenses 2015	Actual Expenses 2016	Budgeted Amounts 2016	Budgeted Amounts 2017?
Administration				
Membership expenses: (envelopes, membership forms, and address labels)	274.75	111.36		
Welcome packet for new residents, bags	0	0		
Wells Fargo Bank fees	157.00	0		
PayPal fees	33.38	40.70		
Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF) annual fee	50.00	50.00		
Website domain fee	35.95	34.95		
Misc. admin expenses	0	151.76		
Administration Total	360.01	388.77	1300.00	1000.00
Newsletters				
Printing costs	970.69	1052.97		
Stamps and labels to mail newsletters		301.02		
Total for Newsletters	970.69	1353.99	2000.00	1400.00
Beautification				
Landscaping costs	2350.00	4088.99		
Mulch, fertilizer, supplies & plants	1292.32	299.80		
Doggy potty bags	703.86	312.00		
Doggy potty bag dispensers	187.00	0		
PRA resource maintenance (signs, bench, etc.)	102.86	60.00		
Beautification Total	4636.04	4760.79	6000.00	6000.00
Meeting Room Rental				
2015: Feb. (\$36); Sept. (\$37); and Jan. 2016.(\$37)	110.00	0	150.00	150.00
Totals	6076.74	6503.55	9450.00	8550.00

¹ All figures in dollars

2016 Receipts

Type of Income	Income 2015		Income 2016		Total 2016
	Dues	Donations	Dues	Donations	
Jan-Dec checks, cash or PayPal receipts	2440	3098	3250	3634	6884.00
Payments made using PayPal	(706)		(915)		
Prepaid for 2017 & 2018	0	0	50	55	105.00
			Sub-total		6989.00
	Interest: Well Fargo Checking & Savings (0.02%)				0.16
	Interest: Capital One Savings Account (0.4%)				18.44
	TOTAL INCOME 2016				7007.60

Income and Expenses Since 2007

Year	Member dues	Beaut. Donations	Interest	Total Income	Admin / room rental	Newsletter	Beaut. costs	Income minus expenses
2008	2540	2212	57	4810	173 / 52	987	847	2750.61
2009	3210	2015	90	5315	291 / 107	1479	714	2723.95
2010	2880	2040	82	5002	496 / 84	677	721	3023.67
2011	2830	2505	74	5409	601 / 94	752	5607	<1645.43>
2012	3120	2793	40	5953	355 / 108	1172	2150	2168.76
2013	2760	2749	36	5545	277 / 108	967	1625	2567.59
2014	2910	2991	42	5943	770 / 108	897	3399	786.50
2015	2440	3804	42	6286	360 / 110	971	4636	209.46
2016	3250	3634	18	6884*	389 / 0	1354	4761	504.05

*Total includes \$105 in prepaid membership dues and donations

Balance Sheet

	Dec. 31, 2015	Dec. 31, 2016
Wells Fargo checking acct.	4393.46	10,326.30
Wells Fargo savings acct.	556.89	557.05
Capital One 360 savings acct.	10,547.09	4565.53
Paypal acct.	253.01	819.32
Cash	54.85	41.15
Outstanding checks	0	0
TOTAL	\$15,805.30	\$16,309.35
2016 Credits	7007.60	
2016 Debits	6503.55	
Dec. 31, 2016 Balance	\$16,309.35	

PRA Treasurer's Report 2016 By Gerald Sharp, PRA Treasurer.

The PRA once again ended the year in the black in spite of increases in our beautification costs from moving from all volunteer labor to paying for labor to maintain the gardens. As you can see in the 2016 Treasury Report (Income and Expenses Since 2000), this is the fifth year in a row that the PRA has had a surplus of revenues over expenses; only in one year since 2006 has our association spent more than it took in. That exceptional year when expenses exceeded income was 2011, because that year the PRA paid for entrance signs into our neighborhood and installed a bench at the Wildwood Garden. We have managed to maintain these annual surpluses without raising our minimal \$10 membership fee for several reasons: 1) Record high numbers of Parkwood residents are paying their annual dues; residents in about one-third of houses in Parkwood are dues paying members of the PRA. 2) Donations to the beautification committee have increased to where they now exceed the total received from membership dues, and 3) this year we were able to find a cheaper source for the doggy potty bags we distribute that have become increasingly popular; the PRA now maintains six bag dispensers in the neighborhood.

Changes in expenses this year: 1) Last year we moved to distributing just one printed, hand-delivered newsletter a year to the 930 homes in Parkwood, with other newsletters during the year being distributed electronically. The electronic newsletters go out on the listserv and are emailed to PRA members for whom we have email addresses. They are also posted on the PRA website. Last year we also gave members the option of having newsletters printed and mailed to them, which accounts for the increased newsletter costs this year. In 2017 we will limit this mail option to members who cannot receive newsletters electronically, and we expect this to reduce newsletter costs in 2017. 2) Interest income is lower this year, because we are now required to keep a higher balance in our free Wells Fargo account to avoid monthly service fees, and this account pays a lower interest rate than the Capital One account where we used to keep a higher balance (0.4% vs. 0.02%). Also that not-so-generous 0.4% rate used to be higher before Capital One bought ING Bank, where we initially opened the account, so interest income is also lower now than in past years. And 3) PayPal fees have increased as more of our members have shifted to using that method to pay their annual dues.

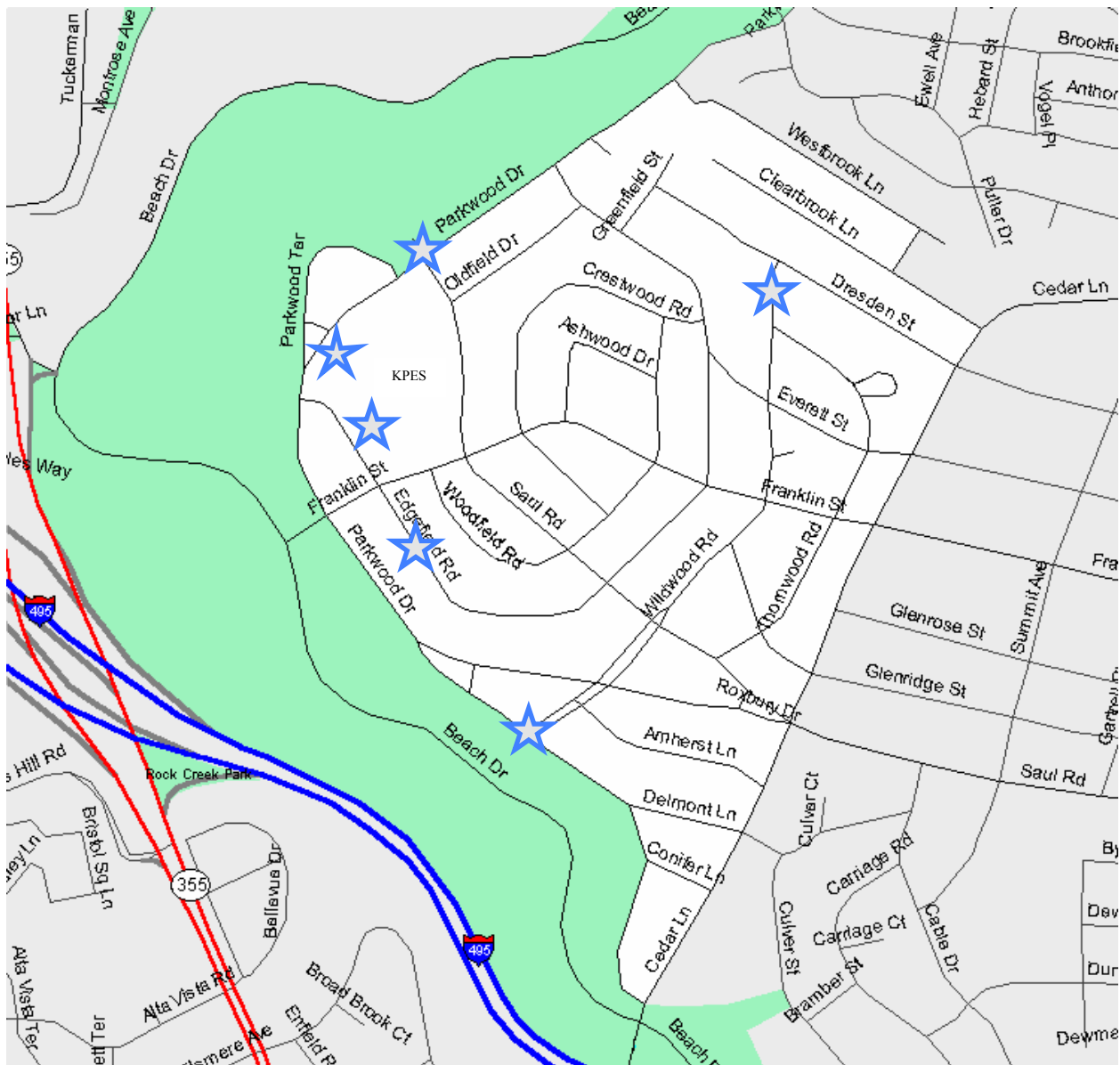
We will discuss this report and the 2017 budget at the upcoming PRA meeting. I hope you will attend to help decide how to best spend our funds to improve our neighborhood. PRA balances are once again at record high levels, and we will discuss at the upcoming meeting how best to spend this money. Please feel free to suggest possible projects on the listserv or in emails to your officers, and come to the meeting if you can.



Not enough room for a full photo gallery, but here is a picture of a Hellebore bloom taken on one of those warm days in January

Locations of Doggy Potty Stations ★ Maintained by the PRA

- Park entrance at Saul/Parkwood
- Park entrance at Wildwood/Parkwood
- Next to home at 10112 Wildwood Rd
- Next to home at 4630 Edgefield Rd
- At KPES on the two backstops



Parkwood Residents Association – 2017 Membership/Renewal Application

This year the PRA plans to make available on our listserv a list of PRA members who have paid their dues. In past years, some members have forgotten if they paid or not, and this will give people a way to look it up. We will list names, street addresses, and email addresses. This list will only be distributed on the Parkwood listserv. Also, it will be in PDF format to make it difficult for anyone to use as an email distribution list.

If you ***do not want your name on this list*** of paid-up members, please check below, and we will list you as anonymous.

_____ Please list me as anonymous in the list of paid up members

Please print contact information for your household here:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Are you a member of the PRA email listserve (circle one): _____ Yes _____ No

Information on how to join is available here: www.parkwoodresidents.org

A paper copy of the winter issue of the PRA newsletter is distributed to all Parkwood residences. The other copies during the year are delivered electronically by email. We also will post all newsletters on the PRA website and distribute them on our listserv. If you cannot receive a copy electronically and would like a printed copy, please check “yes” below, and we will mail you printed copies of the electronic newsletters.

_____ I cannot receive an electronic copy. Please mail me a copy of each newsletter (*newsletter mailing is restricted to members who do not have email addresses who are also not on the listserv*)

Enclosed

\$ _____ Annual membership dues \$10 per household; \$ _____ Donation to Beautification Committee (optional)

Please make your check payable to: ***PRA or Parkwood Residents Association*** and mail it to this address:

**Paula Flicker
PRA Membership Secretary
10225 Parkwood Ct.
Kensington, MD 20895**

You can also pay using our Paypal account at <http://parkwoodresidents.org/>

The PRA is also on Facebook: facebook.com/groups/parkwood.residents.association