



BIRCHWOOD-CLEARVIEW NEWSLETTER

Published by Birchwood-Clearview Community Association, Inc. (BCCA)

P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD 20745 --- "A Community That Cares"

September 2022 Edition

Website: www.welcometobcca.org - Email: birchwood.clearview@gmail.com

THANK YOU Community residents for showing love and respect to others and your community during this COVID Pandemic. In addition, BCCA, your community association, continued to serve the community behind the scenes to the extent possible within COVID restrictions--and accomplished much.

WHAT'S NEW IN OUR COMMUNITY? New Sidewalks for Some Residents, New Playground at The Park, Prince George's Officials "Walk-Through" Meeting with the Community to Respond to 311 Requests--And More!!!



Constructing new sidewalks, Designing new playground for the park, Prince Georges Officials' "Walk-through"

HOW WAS THIS ACCOMPLISHED? Help From Our Community Association (BCCA)

More to Come: Because COVID's impact seems to be decreasing, BCCA is increasing its work to include some of its pre-COVID activities.



UPCOMINGEVENTS

Community-Wide Meeting, Thursday September 29, 2022, 7PM to 9PM

Virtual Meeting VIA Zoom - Two ways to join this Zoom meeting--by either

(1) Using the Internet and Clicking on

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81607561881?pwd=V3RQUEJESDJuRGc2NmIkbEFiK1E5UT09>

Meeting ID: 816 0756 1881 and Passcode: 055789

(2) Or using the Phone and Dialing 1-301-715- 8592, Meeting ID: 816 0756 1881, Passcode: 055789

All persons Living in Birchwood-Clearview are invited to Attend

Community-Wide Meeting (continuation)

Special Guests include Representatives from:

- Prince George's County Police Department
- Maryland's Park and Planning
- Prince George's Parks and Recreation
- County Executive's Office of Community Relations
- Maryland Park Police

Bring your questions and comments about

any crime/security-related issues, 311 calls, recreation, new playground, dog issues in the community/park, property upkeep, trash, dumping in the woods/park, sidewalk repairs and any other issues.

From the Desk of BCCA *Acting President* – Michelle Ross



Nominations Open for BCCA Officers - Term: 2022 – 2024

The following four BCCA offices are open for nominations:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary

If you are a BCCA Member and your dues are current, you may nominate:

- Yourself, or
- A Community Member - The nominated Community Member must be a BCCA Member and all dues must be paid in full.

Nominations should be submitted via e-mail to (dmike12@comcast.net) Mr. Glynn Parker, Nominating Committee Chair, no later than October 13, 2022.

Please include the Nominees' Name, Phone Number and/or E-mail Address.

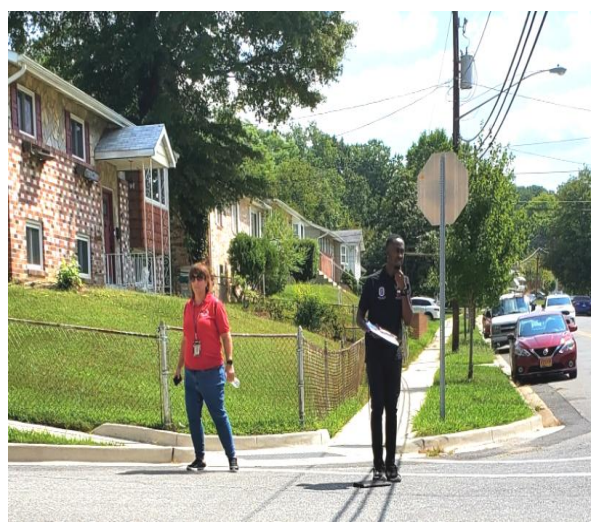
The Nominees will be contacted to see if they are interested in running for the office for which they were nominated. Once the nominees have been selected, voting will take place.

Details on voting will be sent under a separate email.

Office of the County Executive, Office of Community Relations (OCR) and Other Prince George's County Agencies' Community Walk Event

On Monday, August 29, 2022, Euniesha Davis, Director, OCR, along with Jennifer Hawkins, Program Manager, OCR and Rodney Taylor, Special Assistant to Director, Department of Environment met with BCCA Community members, along with representatives from sister agencies, DPIE and DPWT. The purpose of the meeting was to allow our residents to connect with government resources, agencies and County personnel. The event also provided an opportunity to discuss and address issues within the Community.

The visit included members of the OCR Team canvassing the neighborhood along with BCCA residents.



Prince George's County Officials Walk-Thru Meeting with the Birchwood-Clearview Community, 8-29-22.

I received some positive comments about the visit, as well as suggestions on conducting these types of events on a more regular basis. Ms. Hawkins applauded our Community members for being compassionate about our Community. Additionally, as I receive updates to your outstanding 311 requests, if you submitted them to me, I will share the updates with you. I would like to sincerely thank Lucy Hall for publicizing the event and Sharon Sims-Colbert for facilitating the event.



Prince George's County Officials Walk-Thru Meeting with the Birchwood-Clearview Community, 8-29-22.
To see additional picture, please go to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/FyVz3aCPU2jwq32T7>



Playground design similar to the new Birchwood Park Playground design

Birchwood Community Recreation Playground

The Votes are all in! Playground Design #1 received the most votes. Thank You to all who voted. Jeff Newhouse, Landscape Architect, Park Planning and Development Division, MNCPPC, will be a featured guest at our September 29th meeting to provide additional information on the installation schedule.

Health Alert: From the Desk of BCCA Publicity Committee Member: *Carmen Mack*

(Information from the Maryland Department of Health) Getting vaccinated and boosted remains the best way to help keep our seniors, their families, and friends protected against COVID-19 and variants and greatly diminishes the risks for serious illness, hospitalization, and even death.

If it has been at least two months since you got a COVID booster, your first or your second, YOU are eligible. In fact, any senior who has not received a bivalent booster shot by October 31, 2022, will not be Up To Date and protected against COVID-19 and its latest variants.

There are hundreds of locations, including pharmacies, Local Health Departments, physicians, and other places across the state, that now offer **the new COVID bivalent booster shot**. Anyone can find a location nearest them by visiting coronavirus.maryland.gov or calling our GoVAX call center at 855-MD-GOVAX (1-855-634-6829). Thank you for keeping yourself and Maryland COVIDReady.

From The Desk of BCCA Ways & Means Committee Chair: *Sharon R. Sims-Colbert*



As we begin this new calendar year (2022-2023) for the Birchwood-Clearview Community Association, Inc., I thought it appropriate that we review the reason for the “Committee.”

Therefore, I present this very cohesive definition:

“Methods and Resources for raising awareness through various ways, methods and resources that capture the necessary opportunities for community base input starting with **Association Memberships**.

Additional platforms include County, State, Federal and Private programs and partnerships which are essential to support, improve, enhance and/or introduce/renew services for the revitalization and requirements of the community through our Association.”

We invite any active community member to join us as we continue the work that benefits our community and neighboring communities!!

Your input and assistance be it on a project, activity, or stand-alone idea matters!! Please email me at sharon.sims2@verizon.net.

Below are major highlights from 2020 thru 2022:

- Maryland Department of Housing and Redevelopment - 2021 - 2025
“Maryland Sustainable Designated Community”
** This multi month application task force included seven members from MNCPPC,
Prince George’s Office of Communications member Nicole Jackson-Young, and BCCA members Michelle Ross and Sharon R. Sims-Colbert. **
- UMD Sustainability Program 2022 – 2023



From the Desk of BCCA Membership Committee
Chair: Gloria Hernandez Saunders

Hello to the Birchwood City-Clearview Manor Community. This is Gloria Hernandez Saunders, Membership Chairperson:

THANK YOU: The response to the urgent request from BCCA Treasurer (shown below) for Membership dues and/or donations, on July 11, 2022, was greatly appreciated:

*Good morning Neighbors,
 I just received a request from the Treasurer of our community association (BCCA) for the Publicity Committee to send out an email asking for memberships or donations. We have to pay for our Post Office box soon and it will take our bank account below the required minimum. If you have not joined for the year 2022, please complete the attached membership form and mail it along with your \$25 yearly membership dues per household and any other donations--including scholarship--to help keep our community association afloat. Since COVID-19 appears to be on the decrease, plans are being made to restore some of the activities the association sponsored pre-COVID-19. Please share this information with your neighbors.*

However, the Association still needs to cover the FY2022-2023 timeframe. Our membership covers from September thru August. If you would, **please fill out the membership application that is in this newsletter** and send in your funds; it will be a great help. (Note: If you joined BCCA in response to the emergency request, you are covered for the 2022-2023 period). I will also be going to STAPLES to make new membership cards, because I have run out. But I will still be sending out Thank You cards with every membership application I receive. Our Committee needs volunteers to help promote membership, and thus help our community. Please email me: army320@verizon.net.

Thanking you in advance,
 Gloria Hernandez Saunders
 BCCA Membership Chairperson



From the Desk of BCCA Hospitality Committee
Chair: Lottie McCoy

We as BCCA Hospitality Committee serve you. In cooperation with other committees, we coordinate refreshments for meetings, community days, recreational activities and other Association events. We are also the official welcoming body for new residents. So if you are interested in meeting some of your neighbors and helping to serve at some events, we welcome and need you. Please email me at lottie.mccoy@icloud.com

From The Desk of BCCA Beautification Committee Chair: **Betty Woods**

Hello Neighbors And Friends,

Once again the gears are churning as we gradually move back into an active mode after having been through the awful upheaval of COVID. How sweet it is to slowly regain a fraction of life as "normal living." I applaud those of you who've maintained those beautiful yards.



What a delight to be able to scroll through the neighborhood and feast my eyes upon the professionally manicured lawns popping with scenic colors of various plants and shrubs! Neighborhood pride!

Unfortunately, there are a few of us who missed the memo on keeping a neat and clutter-free yard. There are still those who use the ground as a trash can. We are a community of one, therefore, what we do, or fail to do invariably reflects upon our community as a whole.

Remember, we're here to help and support each other. If you need a hand, lawn care advice or ideas, we're willing to work with you.



As we move into the fall season, let's be mindful of picking up poop when walking our dogs, using a leash to ensure safety and just being kind, hospitable and friendly. Please use the disposal services the county provides when disposing of unwanted items.

Remember, those mattresses must be covered in plastic! Keep our lawns neat and clutter-free and enjoy life.

We live in a great community and together we can accomplish great things. Pay your membership fees, attend meetings, get to know your community beyond your street and stay safe!.

Please join us. Email me at bttywoods@gmail.com.

Kudos to the ones who've kept the entrances to our community nice, neat and litter free.



From the Desk of BCCA Legislative Committee Chair: **Donna Joyner**

Welcome to the New Legislative Year! This is a very important committee. It is responsible for keeping abreast of legislation and regulations at all levels of government (federal, state and local) that affect the residents of our community, including zoning activities. We assist other committee with questions relating to laws and regulations. There is no required amount of volunteer time and no required experience--just a willing heart. If you are still working like some of us (some retirees even still work at home), you volunteer at your own pace. Please join us. If you would like more information or have some suggestions, please email me at dyjoyner2@msn.com

**From the Desk of BCCA
Communications Committee
Chair: *Felicia Pratt***

The Communications Committee looks forward to an amazing year. The Committee promotes the use of technology to other BCCA committees to help promote their agendas via the internet--when necessary. We plan and implement communication systems that support various modes of communication between the BCCA Board and community members--using a variety of media outlets. We also assess the usefulness of current applications and make recommendations for new applications—if needed

We are looking for community members who have a passion for writing, editing, graphics and videography. This is a great opportunity to keep those skills fresh. **Join us!**

Felicia@rockthewebz.com



**From the Desk of BCCA Publicity
Committee Chair: *Lucy Hall***

THANK YOU Publicity Committee members and others in the community for providing information to the Committee to help keep the community abreast of pertinent information during the last 2 years. Because of the COVID Pandemic restrictions, we had to temporarily discontinue door-to-door distribution of the BCCA News. However we continued to send out pertinent information electronically to those whose emails we have and requested them to share it with their neighbors. We know this process does not reach the majority of our residents. Thus, we are attempting to restart door-to-door distribution. However, because some committee members have relocated and because of the increase in printing cost to cover about 750 homes, we are considering other distribution methods. If you have any distribution suggestions, and/or would like to join BCCA's Publicity Committee, please email lucyhall782@gmail.com.

PERSONAL NOTE: When BCCA begins its new year in October 2022, I am stepping down as Chair of the Publicity Committee but will continue to serve on the Committee as a Courier. So if anyone is interested in the chair position, please let the newly elected officers know that you are interested in being appointed as Chair of the Publicity Committee.

It has been FUN, FUN, FUN, but now is the time to step aside. It has being so inspiring to chair a committee with such a cooperative and dedicated team of 25.

THANK YOU TEAM FOR MAKING IT EASY!

LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING TO VOLUNTEER WITH BCCA.

BIRCHWOOD CITY-CLEARVIEW MANOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC. (BCCA) MEMBERSHIP FORM

BCCA's mission, through community volunteers and membership dues from residents, is to enhance the quality of life for residents of the Birchwood-Clearview Community. Become a member of BCCA for the year September 2022-August 2023 by completing this form and enclosing your annual membership fee of \$25.00 per household. Please make your check payable to BCCA and mail to BCCA, P.O. Box 7, Oxon Hill, MD. 20745-0007. ATTN: Mrs. Hernandez Saunders, Chair of BCCA's Membership Committee.

DATE _____

NAME of RESIDENT(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

EMAIL _____

☐ Membership Dues \$ _____

☐ Donation for Scholarship \$ _____

☐ General Donation \$ _____

☐ Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Community volunteers are needed, including students who need community service hours. Please volunteer for just a **Little While** to make a **Big Impact** in any of the following areas. **Please check all areas of interest.**

Membership	Recreation /Youth	Publicity	Education	Legislative
Beautification	Hospitality	Communications	Community Service	Ways and Means/Sponsored Activities
Any Other Areas of Interest (Please explain)				

To see some of BCCA's accomplishments over the years, please click on <https://welcometobcca.org/about/>

THANK YOU FOR JOINING AND SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY