

BROOKLAND-BUSH HILL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

5800 Bush Hill Drive
Alexandria, VA 22310

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BBHCA Board and Committees

President: Sandra Graham (aka Jeannie Henry), president@bbhca.org
First Vice President (Newsletter): Jackie Hawkins, newsletter@bbhca.org
Second Vice President (Membership): Elise Swinehart, membership@bbhca.org
Treasurer: Joan Akins, treasurer@bbhca.org
Secretary: Danny Hawkins, secretary@bbhca.org
Constitution and Bylaws: Bob Michie, bylaws_constitution@bbhca.org
Land Use & Transportation (Lee District): Carol Alim, landuse@bbhca.org
Neighborhood Watch: Mary Breedan, neighborhoodwatch@bbhca.org
Web Site: Jackie Hawkins (interim), newsletter@bbhca.org

CURRENT RESIDENT
Brookland-Bush Hill
Alexandria, VA 22310

Land Use Update, *continued from page 2*

airport, and metro extension to Hybla Valley with two stations...

P I: Huntington to Hybla.

P II: Hybla to Fort Belvoir

P III: Fort Belvoir to Woodbridge

P IV: Metro extension to Hybla Valley, with station between Huntington and Hybla.

Update on new Proffer System: Speaker did not attend.

Comprehensive Plan Update: Staff provided update on changes to the new comprehensive plan that was approved a couple of years ago. The intent was to increase citizen involvement, but feedback was not positive. Most of us felt that the process was to eliminate the residents from the process. The old process was time consuming with reviews by the land use committee of all nominations for changes to the plan. They now have neighborhood planning studies, an activity center for future plans. Staff is looking to tweak these processes, but these tweaks don't seem to provide the citizen participation that the old process did. I will look into getting on appropriate listserves.

Now is the time to renew your Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association Membership!

Have you already renewed your BBHCA membership for 2017? Page 4 of this newsletter is the 2017 BBHCA Membership Form. For only \$10.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for households you can help keep our neighborhoods a great place to live. We are always accepting new members and welcome donations which go directly toward help the Civic Association remain an effective voice for the community. For the most current information on BBHCA activities, please visit the "Brookland Bush Hill Civic Association" Facebook page or go to www.bbhca.org.

BROOKLAND-BUSH HILL NEWS

May 2017

A newsletter for and by the residents of Brookland, Bush Hill, and Gunnell Estates in Alexandria, VA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Energy Savings on Steroids

Sandra "Jeannie" (Graham) Henry, President

May 9th Speaker on Geothermal Energy in BBHCA

We all know that the local cost of living continues to rise in the DC area, while salaries remain flat at best, putting the squeeze on everyone who isn't a lobbyist or stadium owner. Thus, BBHCA has a tradition of occasionally inviting speakers to our meetings to tell us about ways we can save on home energy costs. This May 9th we have a presentation you will not want to miss because the EPA estimates that geothermal savings on home heating and cooling typically range from 45-75%. We have obtained Richard Lay as our May 9th speaker, a member of the International Ground Source Heat Pump Association and one of the principles of North American Geothermal. Mr. Lay will fill us in on geothermal energy systems—how they work, the facts and figures behind their rapidly expanding use in Virginia and nationally, and how they save money spent on energy, maintenance, and replacement. A BBHCA member with a geothermal system will also be on hand to answer questions about their experiences. This is a unique opportunity to get first-hand information from an expert on a system that is being installed all over the world in every type of climate, but is fairly new to most of us. BBHCA has been getting some exceptional speakers in the last few years—please join us at our May 9th BBHCA meeting, 7:30 pm at Bush Hill Elementary School, to hear one of these for yourself.

Attendance Critical for May Board Elections and Budget

BBHCA Board elections did not take place at our November meeting of the BBHCA Association because we did not have the necessary number of household present (as per our bylaws). We planned to try again at our March meeting but, as luck would have it, our March meeting was then canceled when the schools were closed due to snow. Therefore we plan to hold our elections at the upcoming May 9th meeting. Please try to attend this meeting so that we can ensure that our election results are official for the year. As of this writing, all of the current officers are willing to stand for re-election, however nominations for all positions are open to all current members of BBHCA. These elected positions include the president, vice-president newsletter, vice-president membership, treasurer and secretary. We will be taking nominations up to and during the May meeting. If you have questions about any of the positions, please contact Jeannie Henry at president@bbhca.org. The annual budget review was delayed as well and so we will also vote on our proposed 2017 budget at the May meeting. Please be there!

Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale

The annual BBHCA Yard Sale will be held on June 3rd this year, so please go ahead and mark your calendars. Participation in the yard sale is free, but in order to ensure that our ads draw a good crowd of customers to

COMMUNITY MEETING

May 9
(Tuesday)
7:30 pm

Bush Hill
Elementary School
(Cafeteria)

AGENDA

Board and Committee Reports
and Board Elections

PRESENTATION

Richard Lay,
International Ground Source
Heat Pump Association

Check Facebook for updates at
"Brookland Bush Hill Civic Association"

the neighborhood we need to have an idea of how many households will participate and the kinds of goods that will be available. If you are interested in having your items listed for publication, please send an email to dswdanes@gmail.com by May 28th. Two large directional signs will be placed on Franconia Road but please feel free to put up your own directional signs and balloons within the neighborhood. Recommended times for a successful yard sale are 7:30am - noon.

Continued on page 2

Rose Hill Drive to be Paved this Fall

Robert Mitchie,
BBHCA Constitution and Bylaws Representative

Street Repaving continues in the Franconia area this fall. Although Virginia DOT rated pavement in Brookland-Bush Hill as "very poor" in 2016, the target this fall is Rose Hill Drive. It will be repaved from Franconia Road to Telegraph Road. In addition, two important commuter routes to North Kings Highway are being repaved: Dorset Drive between Telegraph Road and The Parkway and The Parkway itself between Telegraph Road and North Kings Highway.

We don't know yet if Rose Hill Drive will be painted with bicycle lanes. The road connects our neighborhood with the Library and with the Park entrance so it makes sense to me. The Public Facilities Manual is a tough master and bike lanes may not be allowed by it. I'll report on the final design for Rose Hill Drive in the next issue of Brookland-Bush Hill News.



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President's Message,
continued from page 1

Spring Plant Sale

Some plants have survived the warm winter and spring cold snaps in much better shape than others (looks like a bumper crop of figs and raspberries) and we've seen a lovely display of flowering trees on our neighborhood streets in recent weeks. Now that the final frost date is passed, many of us are eyeing our vegetable and flower beds, or looking for something special to spruce up our yards. Fortunately, the annual Garden Green Spring Gardens Day is just around the corner. This year the sale will take place on Saturday, May 20th. More than 40 vendors of rare and unusual plants from across the state will have booths set up for the popular event, which also happens to occur during peak bloom for thousands of the park's trees, shrubs and perennials. The Virginia Native Plant Society will be selling a wide selection of native plants, which will greatly benefit your garden and support bird populations. For more information or directions see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/gsgp/> or call 703-642-5173.

Land Use Update

Carol Alim,
BBHCA Land Use Representative

Our last land use meeting was in March 2017. Below is an update on the two applications from that meeting.

Greenspring Village Cell Tower: Recommended for Approval (15-0-0). A process was approved to deal with requests from applicants to re-hear applications that were not approved (11-0-3).

Embark – Richmond Highway: County Staff presented a brief overview of plans for expanding public transportation in the Route 1 corridor. This would require Comprehensive Plan Amendment. Under consideration are BRT (bus rapid transit) like No. Arlington, south of

2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Brookland-Bush Hill Civic Association

Membership Year: January 1, 2017–December 31, 2017

Join us—for the good of *your* community.

BBHCA provides many opportunities for you to take an active role in decisions that affect your quality of life and property values as well as make a difference in your community. BBHCA prints a newsletter, maintains a Web site, and e-mails community updates and alert notices. Only members have a vote at BBHCA meetings on decisions that affect the community and the governance of BBHCA. Join today and support your civic association's efforts to keep our neighborhood a great place to call home. For current information on BBHCA activities, please visit Facebook or go to www.bbhca.org.

Enclosed are my member dues: \$20.00 (household) \$10.00 (individual)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY The information provided here will be considered confidential and used only for BBHCA communications and membership verification.

NAME: (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____

NAME: (LAST) _____ (FIRST) _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: (703) _____

E-MAIL(S): _____
(required for e-mail communications and community alerts; see below)

E-mail Communications

Please notify me by e-mail of community concerns deemed important by BBHCA. I may request that e-mail communications be discontinued at any time. Your e-mail will be used only by BBHCA.

Request for Donation

Your donation will be used to help offset the cost of printing and mailing the BBHCA print newsletter, the website, and other member-approved services. Thank you!

I would like to make a donation to BBHCA for \$10 \$20 Other \$ _____

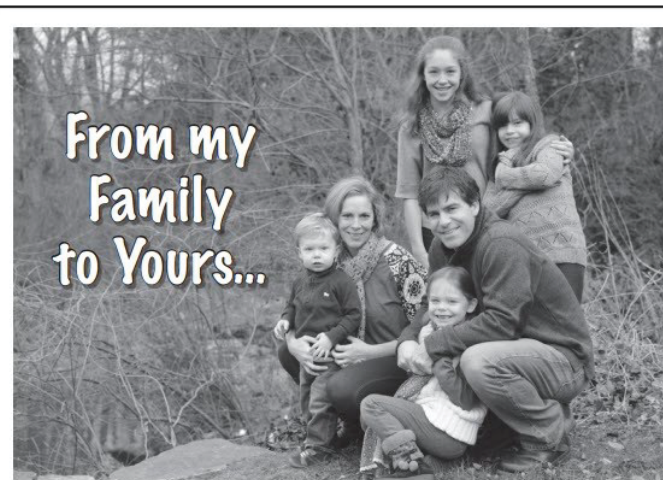
Please mail this completed form with your check (payable to "BBHCA") to:

BBHCA Membership
5779 Westchester Street
Alexandria, VA 22310

Questions?

E-mail: membership@bbhca.org

www.bbhca.org



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