

Park Hills Civic Association Newsletter

<https://parkhillscivic.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ParkHills/>

Listserv: <http://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/parkhillscivic/info>



Next PHCA Meeting

7:30 p.m. | Wednesday | February 13, 2019
Silver Spring International Middle School

Agenda:

- > **Community solar**
- > **Vision Zero**

Presenters:

- > **Gary Skulnik of Neighborhood Sun**
- > **Vision Zero Montgomery County**

Dear Neighbors,

As we greet 2019, here are the highlights of the Association's work over the last year.
Thank you for letting us advocate on behalf of our neighborhood.
See you at our next meeting in February.

PHCA Community Meeting Highlights

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We held two meetings in 2018: The May PHCA meeting featured Joe Pospisil, planning specialist with the county's Department of Transportation, who outlined the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Program for Park Hills residents, in preparation for the Purple Line.

In September, PHCA and the Wayne Working Group organized a well-attended event at the Silver Spring Civic Building that featured a community safety slide presentation regarding the Purple Line. A related petition advocating for Vision Zero safety measures - combined with a comprehensive traffic study of the Wayne corridor - has garnered over 500 signatures to date.

PHCA has been in touch with Congressman Jamie Raskin and his staff, regarding de-activated speed cameras on Wayne Avenue, as well as Councilmember Tom Hucker, regarding additional safety measures along Wayne's residential and school corridors.

In response to community concern, a radar speed camera was placed on Dale Drive adjacent to Galveston Road, albeit temporarily.

Finally, Park Hills was once again the only civic association represented in the Montgomery County Thanksgiving Parade.

Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board

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PHCA "introduced" the Park Hills neighborhood to the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board (SSCAB) last April. Chris Richardson, PHCA President, noted our neighborhood's history (dating back to 1940s) and referenced the Civic Association's reactivation in 2006 by Alan Bowser. SSCAB was informed about the improved design for the Purple Line at the Dale Drive school crossing, which was a result of advocacy efforts by the Wayne Working Group, and was made possible by MTA and the state of Maryland.

We are grateful to county and state engineers who worked together to narrow the width of the Purple Line, lower the retaining wall substantially, and provide a small strip of protective green buffer near the school crossing.

Sligo Creek Litter Sweeps

We organized three community creek clean-ups for the stretch of Sligo Creek between Wayne Avenue and Piney Branch Road together with the Friends of Sligo Creek (FOSC): January (a day of service, in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.), April and September.

We participated in the county's Adopt-a-Road program, whereby volunteers scoured Sligo Creek Parkway between Wayne and Piney Branch for trash at each FOSC creek sweep event.

Stay tuned for these events in 2019!

Playground Renovations

Construction has begun on the renovation of the recess field at Sligo Creek Elementary School! We are grateful to leadership at MCPS and County Council for this public investment in the quality of our children's school experience. The playground is expected to be completed in late January 2019.

Regarding the renovation of the Dale Drive Neighborhood Park (across from Hartford Avenue), Kathy Dearstine from the county's Department of Parks sent this update to the community in September: "We finally have some forward movement with the playground at Dale Drive. The contractor has his bonds in place and we are having a pre-construction meeting next week. After that he will be mobilizing within two weeks. I'm sorry it has taken this long to get a simple playground installed in the neighborhood. I hope once it's in, it will have been worth the wait. If you have any questions, please let me know."

Upcoming: Survey

We are drafting an anonymous online survey to better understand the neighborhood's needs and concerns, and to get your input regarding activities that PHCA should focus on. We will send the survey through the PHCA listserv later in January. We will present its findings at our upcoming February meeting.

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Chris Richardson

Chris.Richardson333@gmail.com

Park Hills Civic Association Officers:
Chris Richardson – President
Alan Bowser – Vice-President
Nina Vucenik – Treasurer
Carol Bengle Gilbert – Secretary