

## Community Relations Committee Meeting

October 15, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. via Zoom call.

Members Present: Wicca Davidson (Chair), Anne deFontnouvelle, Marjorie Shaw, Quynh Tran, Barbara Rose, Julie Stanish, Maryann Courtney, Farrell Rodd, Danielle Muenzfeld, Tambra Leonard, Cathy Wolf, Emily Helms Williams, Liaison Barney Rush

### General Business

- The minutes of the September 2020 meeting were presented and approved by the Committee. Marjorie moved to approve the minutes, and Barbara seconded the motion.
- There were no public comments.

### Old Business

#### Events and Community Service

- Fourth of July – Following up on last month’s discussion, Wicca reported that she plans to create a photo essay memorializing the event.
- Halloween – Since our last meeting, Wicca, Danielle, and Julia have considered possibilities for alternative events this year and have coordinated with Town management. The Town will be following Montgomery County recommendations and will not be holding any official Town events related to Halloween. The group discussed efforts that may be privately-led and considered communications that might help address any confusion around the holiday.

### Communications

- Welcome Bags – Barbara updated the Committee regarding plans for Welcome Bags, which provide new neighbors with information about the Town and its services. Several members of the Committee volunteered to assist with distribution of bags. Bags will be distributed to 48 new households who have moved into the Town since our last Welcome Bag distribution.

### New Business

#### Events and Community Service

- Thanksgiving Baskets – Bridgette Hartman is organizing this event. In past years, this annual charitable project has involved an event for children to paint boxes in which Thanksgiving meals were to be delivered. In light of the ongoing pandemic, we will not hold the decorating event this year.
- Holiday Gift Drive – Cathy will be leading our annual fundraiser to benefit the Family Justice Center. The funds raised assist families and children who are victims of domestic violence. Quynh agreed to assist with communications for the event.
- Winter Clothing Drive – The Committee discussed the annual event to gather new and gently used winter clothing for Interfaith Works. Marjorie agreed to host a drop-off box at her residence. The drive will be held from November through February.
- Planning Discussion for Future Events – The group discussed potential virtual events and activities. The group noted the challenges of “Zoom fatigue” due to overuse for work and school, while recognizing the interest in ways for neighbors to connect. The group brainstormed a number of potential events, including those that might involve kids and teenagers, and also discussed reaching out to Town residents for ideas. The group also discussed ways to memorialize life in the Town in the time of COVID. Barbara and Quynh agreed to explore that project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m. Barbara moved to adjourn the meeting, and Cathy and Quynh seconded the motion. Next meeting: November 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Helms Williams