



TOWNHALL MEETING MINUTES

For the Meeting Minutes, please visit the McDaniel Civic Association website at <https://mcdanielcivicassociation.org/meeting-minutes/>

The McDaniel/Concord Manor Civic Association meeting opened at 7:06 PM on Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at Talleyville Fire Hall by Ms. Billur Dowse, Acting President. There were approximately 60 people attending, along with Gary Steelman, Acting Vice President, Debby Waxman, Secretary, Mike Lauser, Treasurer and several Board Members. We do appreciate Talleyville Fire Hall for their generosity in providing space for this meeting once again.

Billur introduced Krista Griffith, our Delaware State Representative (302-744-4351. Email: Krista.Griffith@delaware.gov); Kyle Evans Gay, our State Senator 302-744-4137 & cell phone 302-528-1779. Email: Kyle.Gay@delaware.gov) and NCCPD Master Corporal Kristin Hester (302-395-8059).

Krista and Gay spoke and took questions together. As usual, the hot-button issue at each meeting is the condition of roads and drainage. There is only so much money allocated to each fiscal year. And, whether each area contains 70 miles of roadway (such as ours) or three miles (such as other areas in Delaware), it's all the same \$300,000. Goodley and Shellpot were addressed as in need of repair and Representative Krista Griffith promised to send us a "Road Report", which would highlight what was completed in 2022 and what is scheduled in 2023. Senator Kyle Evans Gay also mentioned Florence Avenue was on the schedule. Once the report is obtained, it will be posted on the website.

The flooding at Shellpot Creek has been another issue that seems to be getting worse in multiple locations. One of them is at Prospect and mainly around Shellpot and Windley. These issues were also brought up to State Rep. Krista Griffith and State Sen. Kyle Gay Evans' attention. No solution was proposed. There is a meeting that is anticipated in early 2023 with the community. Once again, our Reps made notes of all these issues.

Major Corporal Hester spoke regarding our area's crime trends, which, relatively speaking, are rather good. There have been the usual thefts from motor vehicles (lock your cars), package and lawn thefts. Go to <https://www.newcastlede.gov/2422/Police> to see the latest releases from the Public Office on the recent "Distraction burglary". This is where fake utility workers ask to come in and check your basement meters, etc. While distracted, the accomplice is busy stealing. Please beware of this and other scams. While there have only been two so far, the NCCPD feels there are more than just those that have not been reported. To see the crime reports and more on the safety issues go to the McDaniel Civic Association website at <https://mcdanielcivicassociation.org/safety-security/>

Another question was asked about the recent murder at Acme. As this is a State Police matter rather than NCCPD, M/Cpl Hester did not have a specific answer. This issue, along with other recent events, including the recent shooting in Fairfax in December 2022, raised additional concerns. In response to these safety concerns, our Representative Krista Griffith organized a

meeting with Delaware State Police and New Castle County Police for **Monday, January 23rd at 7:00 pm at the Talleyville Fire Hall**. Please join State Representative Krista Griffith, State Senators Laura Sturgeon and Kyle Evans Gay at the **Talleyville Fire Hall** for this critical meeting.

Again, issues regarding the neighborhoods other than road work continue to be a problem. These are speeding and failure to stop at stop signs, as well as the cut-through roads from Shipley to Florence, and Silverside to Prospect. There has been a request for Deldot to do a traffic study.

Several residents expressed much concern over rats on Goodley. 412, 414, 420 all have problems. 418 is vacant and may possibly be where the problem is. We will contact the County on their behalf. (Update: The county was officially contacted by our Councilwoman Dee Durham in Jan, 2023)

It was noted that several street lights have been out. The Delmarva website has a place to report this. The link could also be found at the McDaniel Civic Association website. Please visit <https://mcdanielcivicasociation.org/links/> page. You will find links to Delmarva Power, links to reporting an outage, reporting a street light outage, and finding out about current outages.

Another concern is the footbridge between Shellpot and the path to Springer needs repair. This will be addressed with the elected officials and NCC Parks & Recreation.

Of concern along with speeding is the safety issue. Because there are no consistent sidewalks, dog walkers, people walkers, strollers, etc., must go back and forth between the sidewalk and the street. When on the street, speeders and stop sign runners are a serious hazard. Bikers and school children are especially problematic on Shellpot. Billur Dowse suggested a "Rules of the Road" for our next newsletter. This information will also be posted on the McDaniel Civic Association Website.

Mike Lauser, Treasurer, gave us a brief report. Our fiscal year runs from June 1 to May 31. Dues notices for June 1 2022 to May 31, 2023, were sent out several weeks ago. To date, only \$8121 has been collected. When there is an overrun/shortfall, it means we are using up the reserve. The reserve is needed in case we have a particularly bad winter or even just one bad storm as Deldot does NOT reimburse anything under 4" and only approximately 75% of fees for storms above 4". The previous period shows about a 50% compliance rate – so far this period is about 20%. We have instigated online pay to help. We send notices via both email and the new website.

Dues will have to be raised if we do not get a better response. This is not a solution because it will still be just the same compliant neighbors who pay, which is not fair to them. We have the very lowest dues of any Brandywine Hundred Civic Association – we can keep it that way if more residents would do their fair share. Everyone benefits from our Number One Priority – snowplowing. Where else can you pay \$20 per household (\$10 for senior households) to ensure you are able to get out and first responders are able to get in?

A brief report was given by Billur on our current snowplowing, which our annual dues pay for. Our current contract runs from November 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

Some current and new officers were voted on. These are:

Billur Dowse, President
Gary Steelman, Vice President
Mike Lauser, remains Treasurer
Debby Waxman, remains Secretary
Justin Bilek, Board (New)

Michael Higgins, Board (New)
Stephen Truono, Webmaster, Board Director
Christian Divis, Board
Denis Dowse, Board
Suzin Steltz, Board

The details for the next Town Hall meeting (May 2023) will be announced in a newsletter in April 2023, which will be mailed out approximately one month before the meeting date in May 2023. The next meeting will be a hybrid meeting in person and via Zoom, so we can increase attendance and make it convenient for our neighbors.

We thank all the Civic Association Officers, Executive Committee Members, and other community volunteers for their unpaid support and work for the betterment of our neighborhoods.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Debby Waxman, Secretary