



Calendar

Sat Mar 4	Chicano Sol Farm Stand, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Sat Mar 18	Chicano Sol Farm Stand, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Wed Mar 8	Historic Preservation Comm. Meeting, Location TBD, 7:30p	Tue Mar 21	Parks and Open Space Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30p
Sat Mar 11	Chicano Sol Farm Stand, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Wed Mar 22	Town Election Nominations Meeting, Town Hall and Virtual, 8:00p
Mon Mar 13	GP Town Council Meeting, Town Hall & Virtual, 7:30p	Sat Mar 25	Chicano Sol Farm Stand, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Tue Mar 14	Garrett Park JAMS, Town Hall, 7p	Wed Mar 29	Nominations by Petition Deadline – 4:00 pm
Wed Mar 15	Aroboretum Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7p	Sat Apr 1	Large Item Pickup

Town Council Meeting Notes

February’s Town Council meeting was a long one, not adjourning until 10:45 p.m., making it all the more difficult to condense the meeting into a few paragraphs. Check the video recording of the meeting on the Town Website if you need more detail on some issue.

At the beginning of the meeting, the Mayor read a statement announcing a special meeting of the Council that had been held on February 7, to discuss issues related to Town “infrastructure” with the Town Attorney, and issues related to a Town employee who wants to shift from full-time to part-time employment. Since that meeting was closed, there is no further information available.

Kicking off the substance of the meeting was a resident’s presentation by Steve Welker in his capacity as President of the Citizens Association. He talked about the start of a project to produce an updated printed (and electronic) Town directory. This will involve a door-to-door effort in April and May to collect the necessary information. His hope is that the printed directory will be available by the 4th of July Town celebration.

Next was the Town Manager’s monthly report. She covered several topics. See her report on the Town Website for the details. Here, I will simply touch upon what seemed to be the most important item: forward movement on the renovation of the Town Hall. The request for proposals (RFP) to carry out an assessment of the building and provide up to three conceptual designs for the renovation is now

out. A meeting for potential bidders was held on February 6 at the Town Hall to explain in more detail what the proposals should include. The deadline for proposals is February 27. The winner will then carry out the assessment of the building’s condition and draw up the conceptual designs.

Next, the meeting dealt with action items: long-term rentals, and a revised personnel manual.

Long-term rentals. This action was to introduce an ordinance to opt into County oversight of long-term housing rentals, including alternative dwelling units (ADUs) in Garrett Park. This issue had been discussed extensively at the January meeting. Recall that the Town had opted out of County regulation of rentals almost 20 years ago. While ADUs are permitted in Garrett Park, the Town does not have regulations and procedures in place. The proposed ordinance would opt Garrett Park into County regulation and oversight procedures which require that ADUs and long-term rental units obtain County licenses. Short-term rentals (your Airbnbs) would continue to be disallowed. The proposal resulted in some discussion among Councilmembers, with additional comments one Town resident, Steve Welker. The Council voted unanimously to introduce the ordinance. The final vote will occur at the March meeting (March 13).

A revised Town Personnel Manual. This process had begun in October, with the revisions intended to ensure compliance with local, state, and federal laws concerning personnel matters, and providing “an effective and consistent tool to aid in employee recruitment and retention.” The revised

manual was ready for adoption at the February meeting. Very extensive discussion occurred concerning one issue in the manual: health, dental, and vision insurance coverage for part-time employees. At the present time, the Town pays 100 percent of individual insurance premiums, and 75 percent of the premium for family coverage for full-time employees, which remains unchanged. This is a matter of actual practice; to date, the percentages have not been written into the manual. As part of the proposed revised manual, the Town Manager is proposing to specify that Town contributions of premiums would be pro-rated in accordance with the number of hours that an employee works. This proposal led to more than an hour of discussion among the Council, Mayor, Town Manager, and Assistant Town Manager. Should the Town provide the same coverage on health insurance premiums as for full-time employees? If not, how much of the premiums for individual and family coverage should the Town cover for part-timers? Should that percentage vary with the number of hours worked? The Town Manager provided information on the policies of neighboring towns—which vary considerably. Opinions of Councilmembers varied, and the lengthy discussion was inconclusive. As a result, the Mayor asked Council Members to think about these questions further, with an aim to revisit them at the work session planned for late February, a meeting primarily for developing priorities for the annual budget.

Next was unfinished business, of which there were two: security cameras at Penn Place and engagement of a transportation engineering firm (a company that would advise on engineering issues regarding traffic flow and visibility issues on Town roads).

Security cameras at Penn Place. The Town allocated \$12,500 for installation of four outside and two inside cameras at a prior meeting, and discussions with a contractor are proceeding. Councilmember Schulp had some concerns about the image quality of the cameras, and Councilmembers raised questions about whether it would be possible to provide camera coverage of the MARC station (the site of a prior vandalism incident). Therefore, the Mayor asked for guidance from the Council. Should there be more cameras? Should we have higher-quality cameras? Does the Council want to spend more money than the amount currently allocated? This question resulted in considerable discussion, but no conclusion. Assistant Manager Buker will look further into alternatives and their prices with the contracting firm.

Traffic engineering services. At the November Council meeting, Councilmember Dobosz noted that several transportation-related issues have arisen that require or would benefit from consultation with a transportation engineering firm. Issues include a possible speed bump installation on Weymouth, possible individualized intersection determinations of necessary sight lines, traffic flow and signage at the Waverly-Kenilworth triangle, and evaluation of the uncontrolled (i.e., no stop signs) Kenilworth-Argyle intersection. The Town Manager and Assistant

Manager have identified two firms meeting the needs of the Town and favored the proposal from the firm Grove Slade. Discussion brought up other potential issues for the contractor to explore, but there was concern that doing so would push the cost over \$25,000 at which point an RFP would be necessary. The result was to accept the proposal from Grove Slade, with the stipulation that any additions to the job not bring the cost over \$25,000.

New business turned out to be relatively quick and easy. Jane McClintock was appointed to the Arboretum Committee. The current election judges were approved to continue in office (with just a shift in which one serves as the chief judge). A third new-business item was whether to engage the same firm for electronic processing of ballots in the Town election. The Council and the election judges were all pleased with the firm's performance at a reasonable price in last year's election. The Council voted unanimously to keep the same firm and technology.

The final topic of the night was updates on the activities of various committees. Frankly, none of these updates was very major, and your reporter's eyes were beginning to glaze over at this point in the evening, and yours probably are too reading this report. Suffice it to say that the Arboretum, Archives, Parks and Open Spaces, Historic Preservation, and Land Use Advisory Committees are all chugging along on their issues—ranging from preparing a questionnaire seeking views on renovation of the dog park to how to celebrate the Town's 125th anniversary this year.

Ed Lincoln
Bugle Reporter

The *Garrett Bugle* is a newsletter publication by the Citizens Association of Garrett Park and published 10 times a year. Publication is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$30 per family or \$15 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Articles, ads and other content for the *Garrett Bugle* can be emailed to garrettbugle@gmail.com*

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*Editor and staff reserve the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned Letters to the Editor will not be printed.

Town Manager's Notes

Important Dates

- Monday, March 13, 2023 – Town Council Meeting – 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – Nominations Meeting – 8:00 pm (hosted by Citizens Association)
- Wednesday, March 29, 2023 – Nominations by Petition Deadline – 4:00 pm
- Saturday, April 1, 2023 – Large item pickup

Town Election

This year's Town election will be held on Monday, May 1, 2023. Voters will select candidates for three seats on the Town Council (the seats currently held by Dona Dobosz, Stephen Paczkowski, and Phil Schulp).

The candidates shall be considered elected as of May 1, 2023, and shall take office at the next Town Council meeting after the election (Monday, May 8).

Qualifications for Candidacy for Councilmembers

Qualifications for elected office are set forth in the Garrett Park Town Charter. All candidates for elected office shall be citizens of the United States, shall have resided in the Town for at least one year prior to their election, and shall be qualified voters of the Town.

All candidates for elective office are required to file a financial disclosure form with the Town no later than 21 days prior to the Town Election (4:00 pm on Monday, April 10, 2023). Failure to file the required financial disclosure form shall result in the removal of the candidate’s name from the election ballot. The financial disclosure form can be found on the Town website (www.garrettparkmd.gov)

Nominations Process

In accordance with the Town Charter, individuals may be nominated for elective office at a meeting that shall occur at least 30 days prior to the election, or by petition signed by ten registered voters and filed with the Town Manager at least 21 days before the date of the Town Election.

The 2023 Nominating Meeting will be hosted by the Garrett Park Citizens Association. It will be held at 8:00 pm on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. The Nominating Meeting will be held in a hybrid fashion (in person at Town Hall and via Zoom) to facilitate the involvement of as many Garrett Park residents as possible.

The deadline for submitting candidate nominations by petition is 4:00 pm on Wednesday, March 29, 2023. Petitions should be submitted to Town Manager Barb Matthews.

Qualifications of Voters

Every person who (1) legally **resides within** the corporate limits of the Town on the day he or she registers to vote and continuously thereafter until casting his or her vote in any Garrett Park election (2) is at least **eighteen years of age**, and (3) is **registered either in the County or in the Town** is a qualified voter of the Town. Every qualified voter of the Town is entitled to vote in all Town elections, whether or not they are a citizen of the United States.

It is the policy of the Town that all eligible voters shall be provided with an opportunity to vote. Qualified persons may register by universal registration with **either Montgomery County or the Town**, or may register only with the Town (including residents who are not citizens of the United States), **up to and including election day**. Voters may register at any time that the Town office or the polls are open as well as at other times or places that the election judges may designate. If a person registers with Montgomery County, that registration must be for a Garrett Park address in order to vote in Town elections. If a registration occurs with the County less than 30 days before the Town election, the information may not reach the Town by election day. In that case, the voter may register again with the Town in order to vote.

If you would like to register with the Town, please scan or photograph any document that verifies your street address (such as your driver's license, a utility bill or other official document) and email that

information to the Town Manager at barbara.matthews@garrettparkmd.gov You may also mail the document to the Garrett Park Town Office, PO Box 84, Garrett Park, MD 20896-0084.

Key Election Process Dates

- Nominations Meeting (hybrid) – 8:00 pm on Wednesday, March 22, 2023
- Nominations by Petition Deadline – 4:00 pm on Wednesday, March 29, 2023
- Candidate Financial Disclosure Submission Deadline – 4:00 pm on Monday, April 10, 2023
- Election Day – Monday, May 1, 2023 – Polls open 7:00 am to 7:30 pm
- Absentee Ballot Submission Deadline – 7:30 pm on Monday, May 1, 2023

Income Tax Return Reminder (MD Form 502) –

Did you know that income tax receipts are one of the Town’s most significant revenue sources? By State law, municipalities in Maryland receive a portion of the income tax levied by Montgomery County. But the State of Maryland needs to know to return this revenue to the Town.

What can you do to ensure that the Town receives its fair share? Whether you fill out your own State income tax forms or have someone prepare them for you, please be sure that “Garrett Park” is written in the box labeled “City, Town or Taxing Area.” The political subdivision code for the Town is 1604.

REQUIRED: Maryland Physical address of taxing area as of December 31, 2021 or last day of the taxable year for fiscal year taxpayers. See Instruction 6. Part-year residents see Instruction 26.

1604	Town of Garrett Park
<small>4 Digit Political Subdivision Code (See Instruction 6)</small>	<small>Maryland Political Subdivision (See Instruction 6)</small>
<small>Maryland Physical Address Line 1 (Street No. and Street Name) (No PO Box)</small>	
<small>Maryland Physical Address Line 2 (Apt No., Suite No., Floor No.) (No PO Box)</small>	
<small>City</small>	<small>MD State ZIP Code + 4 Maryland County</small>

Town Budget – The FY 2024 budget process got underway with a Mayor and Council work session on February 27. The budget is tentatively scheduled to be introduced at the March Town Council Meeting and considered for adoption at the April Town Council Meeting.

Regular Reminders

Communication – Are you new to Town? Contact the Town Office at (301) 933-7488 so we can get you up to speed with what you need to know about living in Garrett Park.

We also encourage all residents to sign up for the resident’s portal, as it provides the Town Office with one more way to reach you. You can register at www.garrettparkmd.gov/residents-portal

Permits – A Garrett Park building permit is required when a new structure is to be built, including houses, additions, sheds, garages, decks, porches, and driveways. A Montgomery County permit is required in addition to the Garrett Park permit. Be sure to complete your Garrett Park permit application and submit along with your plat and drawings to the Town Office before submitting your County permit application.

Town permit applications and payment can be completed at:

www.garrettparkmd.gov/government/operations/permits.

Work in the Historic District – If you live in the County-designated [Historic District](#), please keep in mind that some exterior projects require a [Historic Area Work Permit](#) (HAWP). HAWPs are issued by the County, not the Town. Projects requiring a HAWP include, but are not limited to, home additions; demolishing or altering exterior materials; installation of fences, walkways, retaining walls, decks, window/siding/roof replacement; and, tree removal. See the full list of historic Garrett Park properties [here](#).

As always, please reach out to the Town Office with any questions or concerns. You can reach me at (301) 933-7488 or Barbara.Matthews@garrettparkmd.gov.

Barb Matthews, Town Manager



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work with my neighbors**

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INTEGRITY, HONESTY, TENACITY—RESULTS!!

Citizens Association Updates

Town Dinner

Thank you to those who made this year's Town Dinner a rousing success! The CA Officers (Steve Welker, President ~ Thomas DiChiara, Vice-President ~ Rory Smith, Treasurer ~ Betty Fout, Secretary) are pleased to return for another year.

Dues

This is a friendly reminder that the **annual CA fees** for 2023 are now due. The fee is [\\$15 for individuals](#) or [\\$30 per family](#). These dues go towards paying for the Bugle printing and the annual CA events such as the July 4th Parade, Brew Fest, New Families Welcome Event, and Spooky Woods. Thank you for your continued support.

Nominations and Quasiquicentennial

Please join us at 8:00 pm on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, for the annual nominations for elective office for three seats on Town Council. During this meeting, the CA will also discuss ideas for celebrating the Town's quasiquicentennial (125th Anniversary). Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you!

Garrett Park Handbook and Directory

The CA is excited to announce that a Garrett Park Handbook and Directory Committee has been established to recreate and update a GP Town Handbook and Directory (hardcopy) booklet that will be distributed to Town residents. This Handbook and Directory will contain important information about

the town of Garrett Park and its residents, including a directory.

Jessica Chu, Henri Keller, Mindy Thiel Flaherty, Rachel Faulkner, Amanda Johnson, Michelle Corno and have volunteered to be on this committee. They are reaching out to Town residents to ask that they complete an online survey to provide contact information that will be included in the directory.

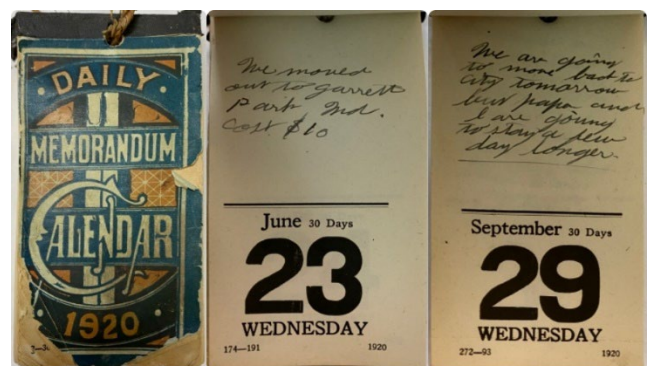
[CLICK HERE](#) or click on this link to complete the survey (it will only take a couple of minutes).

If you have any questions, please contact Jessica at Jessicamelodychu@gmail.com.

From the Town Archives

Thanks to a Pennsylvania blogger, a former Town Archivist, and the power of the Internet, the Town Archives recently received a remarkable donation 55 years in the making.

In 1968, a man named Michael Molovinsky discovered a 1920 "Memorandum Calendar" in a piece of old furniture he purchased in Fairfax, VA. The calendar contained multiple diary entries but did not include the name of the writer. Fortunately, the brief ink-scrawled diary entries provided several clues, including references to Garrett Park, a sister named Virginia, a father who worked for the Pension Office, and the writer's 21st birthday.



In his early years of owning the calendar, Mr. Molovinsky attempted to identify the writer, but with little success. In 2010, he shared the story of the calendar, which he called "The Fairfax Diary," on his history blog. Initially, it received little attention, but in 2014, Abigail Kabaker, the Town Archivist at the time, put the clues together and concluded that the diary belonged to Thomas W. Sargent (1899–1967), the son of Theodore and Sarah Sargent who purchased (or built) the home at 10922 Montrose Avenue in 1908.

Like many early residents of Garrett Park, the Sargents split their time between their DC home (on E Street NE) and their Garrett Park home. Thomas' sister, Virginia, eventually became a full-time resident of Garrett Park in the 1930s, around the time her parents died. Thomas remained at the family's DC home. Neither Thomas nor Virginia ever married or had children.

Several weeks ago, Mr. Molovinsky mailed the calendar to the Town Archives so that it could be preserved in our collections. This pocket-sized gem offers a brief glimpse into the life and thoughts of a 21-year-old man in 1920. Interested in seeing

Thomas' diary up close? Come by the Town Archives one Friday afternoon.

Claire McDonald, MLIS
Town Archivist
Garrett Park, MD
<https://garrettparkarchives.omeka.net/>

SAVE THE DATE

Celebrate Garrett Park's 125th Anniversary with ARCHIVES LIVE: Garrett Park through the Decades

Sponsored by the Archives Committee

Sunday, May 21, 2023

12:00 - 4:00 PM

Town Hall

(More details to come ...)

Call Todd today, your local neighborhood realtor!



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HOMES

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ToddHarrisHomes.com

~ Garrett Park resident ~

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Historic Preservation Committee

Tax credit program for historic properties: If your home is listed as a historic property on the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation (see map) you may be eligible for tax credits for documented expenses for exterior maintenance, restoration or preservation work. The tax credit is applied towards County real property taxes. The deadline for application for 2022 credits is April 1, 2023. For details on how to apply, please see the County Historic Preservation Commission's tax credit website. The County staff will host a Virtual Tax Credit Open House on Thursday, March 2nd, 7 - 9 PM.

Restaurant Review

Attman's Delicatessen – No Reservations Taken
12505 Park Ave., Potomac, MD, 301-765-3354

This is my first restaurant review. All restaurants reviewed will be no further than a 15–20-minute drive from Garrett Park. Attman's Deli is about 15 minutes away, non-rush hour. It is just off I-270. It is a Baltimore deli that has been in the hands of one family since it opened in 1915. The mother location is still in downtown Baltimore, on so-called "corned beef row."

It is hard to beat NYC delis. Attman's is no different; it is quite good but does not have quite the panache of its NYC cousins. Nonetheless, it is very much worth a visit. I have been there twice. The first time was on a Sunday at noon. I was lucky to get a table – the last available. The second time was on a Thursday evening, and the restaurant was largely empty. Lesson learned – it is best to go there when it is unlikely to be crowded. Clearly, many patrons buy take-out at Attman's. The take-out counter seemed to be doing a brisk business.

What to get? Of course, I would recommend a corned beef sandwich. They come in three sizes. The smallest size (gezunt, roughly meaning robust) is more than enough for a hungry person. It costs \$17 and comes with home made potato chips. I ordered mine "lean," and it was, in fact, very lean, for an added \$2. Also, I recommend both the mushroom barley soup and the matzoh ball soup. Both were excellent. Matzoh ball soup can often be salty, but Attman's soup was not. The mushroom barley soup was thick and tasty. Of course, they have an extensive Jewish deli menu. I intend to go back and sample more.

One disappointment. I took out Jewish rye bread, but when I opened it at home, it was somewhat stale. That was surprising because the rye bread on my corned beef sandwich was fresh.

In Garrett Park, everyone is entitled to my opinion!

Gary Gourmand