Quarterly Newsletter

Mayor's Corner

- Andrea Deutsch

Hi Everyone,

I am so honored to have been voted in as the newest Mayor of Narberth, a place that has been my home for over 20 years. While some things have changed over time, other things such as the love we have for this community and the care we show to our friends and neighbors remains the same. We are in for an exciting new era as we welcome a new Chief of Police to the Borough. In addition, we currently have four police officers who are faithfully serving our community, and we are in the process of looking for additional officers to join our force. Along with the new leadership and guidance of the Chief, it is my desire to steer our police force into the future to make our residents and guests both comfortable and safe.

Along that same line, when I was running as a candidate for Mayor, one of the biggest concerns I heard from residents was their desire to make motorists, pedestrians and cyclists safer by slowing cars and controlling the flow of traffic. In an effort to make this wish a reality, there may be stepped up enforcement of some laws such as the requirement to fully stop at stop signs, drive the posted speed limit, and the requirement that a driver does not park his or her vehicle facing opposing traffic. The stepped-up enforcement of these laws is not meant to harass or annoy anyone, but is simply meant to make motorists more conscious, cautious and careful while operating their vehicles within the Borough.

I look forward to serving this community for the next 4 years and will endeavor to do so understanding that Narberth is a truly special Borough. If you have questions, ideas or suggestions for me as Mayor, please let me know. My email address is adeutsch@narberthpa.gov.

President's Report

- Aaron Muderick

This is an exciting year for Narberth Borough Council. We have four new council members this year. That freshman majority brings to the table fresh ideas, and fresh approaches to solving community issues. Our professional staff will also see fresh faces in the first half of the year as we recruit for a new Office Manager and hire for a Chief of Police.

We have a lot of balls in the air this year. A full facilities and property evaluation will help us make good decisions about improving our public spaces. Our capital plan will allow us to organize the financing for making those improvements a reality. Community volunteers are working with our county planning commission on a long-term comprehensive plan. Other volunteers are developing a historic preservation plan with help from the Pennsylvania Museum Commission. We will be making updates to the Form Based Zoning code. And, our Public Safety code is being reviewed as well. Agenda items like rental property maintenance, repeated false fire alarms, nuisance ordinances and more will be discussed.

We are currently recruiting additional volunteer candidates to serve on our newly formed Human Relations Commission. This is an excellent opportunity to offer volunteer service to our community and help uphold the civil rights of our citizens.

You are always encouraged to be part of the conversation. Come to a council meeting, or feel free to reach out by phone or email. All of our contact information is on our website. Council members want to hear from you!

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What's new in the front office?

- Sean Metrick, Borough Manager

Spring is hiring season in the Borough. In addition to bringing new personnel on board in its Police Department, Narberth Borough is recruiting for a position in its Public Works and Administration Departments. The position of Office Manager is currently vacant and the recruitment periods ends May 25. We are looking for someone with experience in an office setting who can thoughtfully manage a variety of programs such as permitting, internal works orders, and scheduling. The Office Manager will play an important role in a small administrative team and learn all aspects of municipal management. We're looking for someone with a college degree, experience and a desire to work in public service. If you know anyone who fits that description, point them in the direction of our website for more details on the position and how to apply.

The Borough is looking to fill a supervisory management position newly created in its Public Works Department- Director of Public Works. The person in this position will manage and supervise all projects and personnel in the Department. He or she will lead institutional change and development. The Director will be in charge of maintenance and planning of all public infrastructure in the Borough to include: parks, open space, landscapes, buildings, streets and signs, and stormwater and sanitary sewer systems. The Director of Public Works will work closely with the Borough Manager, Assistant Manager, Chief of Police, and Borough Council. We're looking for someone with progressive experience in a similar setting with personnel management, budgeting, and technology related skills. If you know anyone who fits that description, point them in the direction of our website for more details on the position and how to apply.

Need to report an issue? Email: notify@narberthpa.gov

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Public Safety - Gigi Tevlin-Moffat

The following are initiatives of the public safety committee:

- -Police Chief Committee held interviews for NPD leadership
- New Trash/Public Dumping ordinance discussion
- -UCC/Fire Prevention Code discussion

Public Works -Cyndi Rickards

The following are initiatives of the public works committee:

- Superintendent of Public Works will be advertised in June. Upon hiring a leader, an action-oriented plan will be co-developed with new leadership
- Review of intersection safety, speed and parking data to assess transportation (walking, biking, driving) issues have been prioritized upon leadership hire
- Develop a partnership with Narberth 2050 to leverage the resources of the group & co-create a lens of environmental stewardship, community outreach, and engagement
- Explore restrictions on the use of single-use plastics
- Analyze the utility of the Sustainable PA certification as a tool to complement the comprehensive plan and evolution of the borough



Property -Michelle Paninopoulos

The following are initiatives of the property committee:

- Review and implement facilities and grounds assessment
- -Develop capital plan
- -Develop use policies for all Borough property
- -Evaluate the future of 201 Sabine Avenue
- -Bleachers and nets were repaired for the spring sport season

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Building & Zoning

- Bob Weisbord

The following are initiatives of the B&Z committee:

- -Passage of the revised Zoning Ordinance has halted "opportunistic" teardown and land development--has increased "conditional use" incentives to protected early Narberth Borough signature homes
- -Initiation of the Architectural Heritage and Preservation Project has engaged a group of residents to complete an inventory of historic features and to perform research that may result in new preservation policy
- -Initiation of Comprehensive Planning Process with the Montgomery County Planning Commission. Their forthcoming report will be providing the aspirational goals for Narberth Policymaking for the foreseeable future around transportation, zoning, and community investment priorities.
- -Initiation of the "Narberth 2050's" request that Narberth supports the Department of Energy Protection's Solar smart Initiative to support the streamlined access to the local solar production of electricity in the borough according to the least government "red tape".
- -To support the Borough in providing the best thirdparty building and Inspection services available in order to provide our residents with 1st rate customer service.

Economic Development

- Rob Mc Greevey

The following are initiatives of the economic development committee:

- Review of Heritage Consulting report on the downtown business district
- -Review of Parking Study to recommend improvements downtown
- -Explore grant programs for Montgomery Ave business corridor



Congratulations
Jed on a
well-deserved
retirement

Finance & Administration

- Jim Nixon

For information on the Finance and Administration Committee, please see the detailed minutes of each meeting, which are posted to the Borough website.

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Employee Spotlight



Five things to know about Officer Vernacchio

- I love that Narberth is family oriented, the people are friendly, and the community events. I also like that there are many generations of family members who still reside in the boro along with many new residents.
- I have been a police officer in Narberth for 9 years and have criminal justice degree from Delaware Valley University.
- My wife Kim and I have been married for 10 years and have 3 children- Michael, Elaina, and Frankie.
- We have a dog named Dawkins and a cat named Snickers.
- I enjoy being outdoors, watching all Philadelphia sports, especially the Eagles. I coach my kids' sports teams and I play in a bocce ball league.