

REGULAR MEETING
BOROUGH COUNCIL
MALVERN BOROUGH
1 East First Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355

May 16, 2017
7:30 P.M.

PRESIDING: Council President Bramwell

INVOCATION: David B. Burton, Mayor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. ROLL CALL: Council President Bramwell
Council Vice-President Uzman
Council Member Grossman
Council Member Lexer
Council Member Meisel
Council Member Siquett
Council Member (Vacancy)
Mayor Burton

Council President Bramwell informed all present that copies of the agenda were available at the front entrance.

2. RECORDING OF MEETING:

Council President Bramwell asked in accordance with Resolution No. 714 if any member of the audience was recording the meeting.

No audience member identified themselves as recording the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Uzman, seconded by Council Member Siquett, and carried by a vote of 5-0, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, as submitted. Council Member Lexer abstained as he was not in attendance for the meeting.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Uzman, seconded by Council Member Siquett, and carried by a vote of 5-0, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, as submitted. Council President Bramwell abstained as he was not in attendance for the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF REPORTS:

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Uzman, seconded by Council Member Lexer and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the Treasurer's Report, the Committee Reports for Finance & Administration, Public Safety, Public Works and the Chief of Police Report, the Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer's Reports (Building Inspector's Report, Housing and Property Maintenance Report, and Zoning Report), the Superintendent of Public Works Report, and the Manager's Report for the month of May 2017, as submitted.

5. BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Finance & Administration

Borough Manager Bashore stated the Finance and Administration Committee met on April 18, 2017. Matters before the Committee included reviewing a proposed ordinance to amend chapter 32, Pensions, of the Malvern Borough Code of Ordinances, an update to the Borough's Personnel Policy Handbook, and reviewed the 2016 Financial Audit for the Borough.

b. Public Safety

Borough Manager Bashore stated the Public Safety Committee met on May 16, 2017 prior to this evening's meeting. At this meeting, the Committee reviewed the results from the online survey and public open house that were conducted as part of the Borough's Vision Partnership Program grant. Based on the results of the survey, the scope of work has been updated to reflect the feedback received by the community.

c. Public Works

Borough Manager Bashore stated the Public Works Committee has not met since the April 18, 2017 meeting of Borough Council. The Committee reviewed proposals via email from Practical Energy Solutions and Summer Consultants to prepare the design, bid specifications, and coordinate bidding for the upgrade to the HVAC system at Borough Hall. Upon review of the proposals, they will be presented to Borough Council for authorization.

6. PRESENTATION – GEORGE FIEO, CPA – 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDIT:

Mr. Fieo provided an overview of his accounting firm's drafting of the 2016 Audited Financials, citing the requirements of Generally Accepted Auditing Standard (GAAS) #114 "*The Auditor's Communication With Those Charged With Governance.*" Mr. Fieo stated the Borough's financial statements for 2016 Calendar Year are accurate and has not identified any findings.

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Uzman, seconded by Council Member Meisel, and carried by a vote of 6-0, to approve the 2016 Malvern Borough Financial Report and Audit, as submitted.

7. PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE #2017 – 2: BOROUGH OF MALVERN POLICE PENSION, DEATH, AND DISABILITY PLAN AMENDMENT:

Borough Manager Bashore stated before Borough Council is a proposed Ordinance No. 2017 – 2 to amend Chapter 32, "Pensions," of the Borough of Malvern Code of Ordinances in order to provide for a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for the members of the Police Pension Fund. During the negotiations for the new Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), the Borough and the Police Association agreed on the establishment of a DROP. Per the CBA, the DROP has a two (2) year maximum participation and the decision to enter the DROP must be

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made within one (1) of an officer reaching normal retirement age. Act 205 requires that the municipality adopt an ordinance in order for the DROP to be put into effect.

This ordinance has been reviewed by the Finance & Administration Committee, who recommend that it be adopted. At the recommendation of the Borough's Labor Counsel, Scott Blissman, Esq., a courtesy copy was provided to the Police Officers' Association. The Police Officers' Association had no comments on the proposed ordinance. This ordinance was advertised in the May 5, 2017 edition of the Daily Local newspaper as required.

Council President Bramwell announced that Borough Council will open a Public Hearing to consider Ordinance #2017- 2.

There being no public comment, Council President Bramwell closed the Public hearing.

8. ORDINANCE NO. 2017-2:

A motion was made by Council Vice-President Uzman, seconded by Council Member Grossman, and carried by a vote of 6-0, to adopt Ordinance No. 2017 – 2, amending chapter 32 of the Malvern Borough Code of Ordinances related to the Borough of Malvern Police Pension, Disability, and Death Plan.

9. PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT:

A motion was made by Council Member Grossman, seconded by Council Vice-President Uzman and carried by a vote of 6-0 to appoint Elizabeth Scoropanos to the Malvern Borough Parks & Recreation Committee, with a term to expire on January 1, 2021. This appointment is to fill the unexpired term of Christian Arena, who resigned from the Committee on April 18, 2017.

10. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Ordinance No. 2016-2: Issuance of Non-Electoral Debt

Council President Bramwell tabled this agenda item for discussion.

b. Borough Council Vacancy

Council President Bramwell asked Council if they would object to him asking the applicants questions regarding the open vacancy as he was absent from the May 2, 2017 Meeting. No member of Council was in opposition.

Council President Bramwell asked all applicants if he or she would consider borrowing funds to complete capital projects, such as a borough-wide sidewalk project. The following applicants provided their view: Kelly Schmitt, Amy Finkbiner, Gail Newman, John Kohler, and John Buckley.

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Borough Solicitor Christakis outlined the appointment process by recommending a Council Member make a motion to appoint one of the applicants, if a second is made then Council is to take a vote. Once a nominee receives a majority of a vote or a tie is broken by the Mayor then that individual is immediately appointed.

A motion was made by Council Member Grossman, seconded by Council Vice-President Uzman to appoint Amy Finkbiner to fill the unexpired term, set to expire January 1, 2018, of Christine Arena.

Council President Bramwell called for a vote:

Yea – Council Member Sinquett

Nay – Council Member Meisel

Nay – Council Member Lexer

Nay – Council President Bramwell

With three (3) votes “Yea” and three (3) votes “Nay” Mayor Burton placed his vote to break the tie. Mayor Burton voted “Yea”.

Mayor Burton performed the swearing in ceremony of Amy Finkbiner.

c. Zoning Hearing Board

Borough Manager Bashore stated one (1) new application is before the Zoning Hearing Board. The applicants are Jerome and Patty Heppelmann and the subject property is 5 Raffaella Drive. The applicant is seeking a variance from Chapter 220, Section 602.B.6 in order to allow for an additional 266 sq. ft. (2.4%) of maximum lot coverage for the expansion of a rear-yard deck. The Planning Commission met on May 4, 2017 to review the application. Upon review, the Planning Commission has no concerns and has recommended Borough Council not send the Borough Solicitor to the Zoning Hearing, scheduled for May 22, 2017.

Council President Bramwell polled the Council, no member of Council was inclined to send the Borough Solicitor to the Zoning Hearing.

d. Community Arts Project

Council President Bramwell stated as the proposed ‘Pop Art’ statues have received negative feedback from residents of the neighborhood, Borough Council will hear public comments. Council President Bramwell stated that the project will be referred back to the Public Works Committee for guidance on the next steps forward. Council President Bramwell stated that input may be sought from other Borough boards and committees, including the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Patricia Marcozzi, 221 Channing Avenue, stated she wished the neighbors who face the proposed art were included in the initial discussions and for borough council to consider the large mature trees that are located in the rear of borough hall.

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Danny Fruchter, 234 Channing Avenue, stated he was not in favor of the proposed dog statues and would like Borough Council to work with the neighbors of Channing Avenue that would have to see the statues on a daily basis.

The following letters of concern were read aloud regarding the proposed community project, in the rear of borough hall. The author of the letters were:

- 1) Sidne Baglini, 203 Channing Avenue
- 2) Norm Baglini, 203 Channing Avenue
- 3) Isabel Leininger, 211 Channing Avenue
- 4) Kurt Leininger, 211 Channing Avenue
- 5) Stephen Stuut, 218 Channing Avenue
- 6) Nancy Schill, 235 Channing Avenue
- 7) Sarah Bones, 25 High Street

Jennifer Benson, 218 Roberts Lane, stated her enthusiasm for the proposed art project and believes it spurs community support.

Frances Biondi, 421 Monument Avenue is in favor of Borough Council encouraging diversity through different art mediums.

Danny Fruchter, 234 Channing Avenue, asked Council President Bramwell if the letters may be entered into the official record and placed on the borough's website. Council President Bramwell directed Borough Manager Bashore to have the letters placed on the borough website. Borough Solicitor Christakis stated the minutes may be entered in as an official record as part of the approved minutes of Borough Council.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. No new business presented.

12. PUBLIC FORUM:

Council President Bramwell advised citizens/taxpayers that Public Forum is the time to offer comments to bring any issues/concerns before Council that were not on the agenda.

- a. No public comment was made.

13. ADJOURMENT:

At 8:58 p.m. Council President Bramwell stated Council will adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Council President Bramwell reconvened the public meeting at 9:19 p.m.

All business having been discussed, a motion was made by Council Vice-President Uzman, seconded by Council Member Lexer, and carried by a vote of 7-0 to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Neil G. Lovekin
Assistant Secretary

Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight (via a neighbor) as we are out of the country.

First, we support the effort to make the back lawn a more usable part of the library program and welcome the addition of chairs and another picnic bench. Getting children outside during the warm months is a wonderful way to "change things up" and the fresh air helps keep them alert and engaged.

It's the engaged aspect that has me perplexed. With a Bachelor's in Education, a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and 23 years working to educate children, I was immediately puzzled by the inclusion of 4 dog statues which are most certainly a major distraction to any story time or guided activity. When a teacher takes a class outside for instructional purposes, they don't head for the playground. They find a quiet niche of the schoolyard, free of distractions. The younger the children, the harder it will be to keep them focused when 4 dogs, looking like playground equipment, are within a few steps. ~~If, as was suggested, you use them for seating, then a privileged few will get the "prime seating" and all the others will be disappointed before the story hour gets off the ground.~~ From an administrative and educational point of view, this installation is counterproductive to keeping children engaged.

Children's story hour is several times a week for 3 age groups and St. Pat's classes visit every two or three weeks. The groups will realistically use the area from late April until September. Of course, this is only when it's not raining, the furniture is dry, it's not too cold, too hot or too windy. So the Pop Art Dog installation will be permanent, year round, for at least 20 years we are assured by Kristen, and it will be "delighting the children" just a few months of the year. Also, a question that was not raised in the approval process is, "How much additional seating is needed to accommodate the normal story hour?" In addition to the children, you will also have parents or caregivers. While two picnic benches and a few Adirondack chairs may work for 8 or 10 children at story hour, if they routinely get 15 or more, then this installation may not even be usable. Indoors, parents can sit on the floor with the children. Outdoors, the overflow may not be willing to sit on the grass with the increasing concern about the tick born Powassan disease that makes Lyme look like a picnic. Perhaps someone should explore how many participants there are and how much seating would reasonably be required.

As neighbors, we are most disturbed by the nature of the installation. The POP ART theme is so antithetical to the nature of this immediate section of Malvern. The old brick schoolhouse, the spectacular old church with its graveyard, the Victorian homes, Sears Catalog house, and others all comprise one of the charming historic areas in the Borough. We neighbors have worked very hard to maintain that for our pleasure and for the pleasure of those who drive or stroll by. Kurt and Isabel could have saved a bundle by putting in a plain, functional garage. Instead, they hired an architect and installed a beautiful addition to their property that exactly mirrors the age and character of their historic home. The Stuts could have torn down the sadly worn house next door but they invested tremendous time and money to bring it back to its former appearance. Norm and I are advocates of solar energy and have considered installing panels but the very nature and charm of this corner of Malvern has deterred us. In short, this area of Malvern is one of the last places a POP ART installation should be placed. It is interesting that those of us who installed generators, plain grey rectangular units on the sides or back of our houses, are required by the Borough to put plantings around them to protect the eyes of the beholders. Yet in less than 10

minutes, without consultation or even notification of the neighbors, this installation was approved with bright, modern, psychedelic colors which will be in our view ~~shed~~ for at least the next 2 decades. It almost seems as though an effort was made to find the most incongruous place in the Borough to install this modern art.

We're told it will "delight the children". But there are more appropriate places all over this community to which many more of Malvern's children are attracted on a daily rather than weekly basis including Burke Park, scene of Paws in the Park and the weekly Farmer's Market dogs on parade. Or consider placing them in the official "Dog Park" (potentially in a corner of Randolph Woods?). These are locations where a pack of Pop Art dogs won't be as likely to cause the reaction, "What were they thinking?!!!" putting that in the midst of this little corner of Malvern history.

In short, like our neighbors, we are infuriated that this was never discussed with us and we were not notified that it was to be presented to Council. An Agenda item titled "Presentation: Community Arts Project" does not constitute notification, especially since all such previous projects have been in the center of town or inside the library. No photos of what the painted dogs would look like were shown to the public nor do I think Council saw an example. If they did, then the public did not get to view them. That said, we are now in the unfortunate position of having to try to negotiate after the fact when the wheels are already rolling and it is extremely disappointing and frustrating. We are most definitely not "delighted" with this proposal.

Sidne Baglini
203 Channing Ave.
Malvern PA 19355

I am writing as a neighbor, a taxpayer, and a retired professor of risk management and insurance at Temple University.

I am concerned about accidents resulting in injuries to children, and the potential legal liability of the borough for negligence. I have contacted "Cowpainters"--the manufacturer and learned that the dog statues are not certified as to safety by the International Playground Equipment Manufacturers Association (IPEMA). No explanation was given.

The proposal in question would turn the library lawn into a playground with all of its potential liability. I am not an attorney, but I believe these fiberglass dogs could be considered an "attractive nuisance" in a court of law requiring a higher degree of care. These permanently positioned and potentially harmful structures could attract children of all ages, unsupervised or not, at various times of day throughout the year.

We could shrug this off by saying, "The borough has insurance" but insurance could never properly compensate a child who has suffered permanent eye damage or will have facial scars due to being pushed onto the sharp point of a curled tail on a fiberglass dog (See their catalogue—payful pup item 3321, pointer item 3319, as examples). With regard to indemnifying the township for claims for bodily injury and defense costs, we all know that exclusions in insurance policies sometimes preclude covering certain loss causing events which would have to be paid for by the borough. Oftentimes, these exclusions are intended to make the insured more safety conscious.

Additionally, claims that were not intended to be covered by the insurance underwriters could result in higher renewal rates (this could also apply to self-insurance plans that are experience rated) due to an art project that has become a playground without proper loss control requirements. Will the area have to be fenced? Is signage required? Might the borough be charged with "failure to warn" children of potential dangers? What would fences and signs do to this beautiful historic part of Malvern?

In summary, I respectfully request that borough council do an in-depth cost-benefit analysis to determine if this project should proceed. In my professional opinion, I believe the risks are substantial. What are the benefits? If there are any, are they worth the risks?

Norman A. Baglini

203 Channing Ave.

Malvern PA 19355

*Prof, Risk Management, Insurance + Business Ethics, (Ret)
Fox School of Business, Temple U.*

*President + CEO Emeritus and Life Trustee
Chair, Ethics Policy Committee, Board of Trustees
Amer. Instit. for CPCU, Insurance Instit. of America,
Insur. Instit. for Applied Ethics*

211 Channing

Date: May 8, 2017

From: Isabel Letninger

Re: Dog Statues on Library Lawn

It is very hard for me to understand the borough's intent in the proposed installation of brightly painted fake dogs on the library's lovely lawn. When we first heard about it, I was astonished to learn that hearing the opinion of our neighborhood's residents was not considered necessary or appropriate in reviewing this proposed project; after all, we are the people most affected by this proposed installation.

We currently have a serene and tranquil area of cool, green grass and beautiful, leafy shade trees enhancing a handsome, venerable brick building. It is a delightful place where Malvern residents can enjoy a restful opportunity to eat lunch or sit quietly and read, having the pleasure of peace in pleasant surroundings in a quiet neighborhood. It always makes me glad to see someone sitting at the table enjoying a calm, restful moment.

The effect of the proposed installation would change all that. I suspect it would make people inclined to think of this area as a dog park or dog play area, and it is absolutely inevitable that installation of these statues would instantly turn this peaceful place into a noisy playground. Even if changing this area into a playground is not the intended purpose, my 27 years' experience teaching children from ages three to eighteen tells me that anything that can be climbed on will be climbed on, and that running and shouting will become the usual behavior. Not even the firmest parent or story reader will be able to keep children from climbing on the dog statues, and decorating the dogs in bright colors will only make it seem even more obvious that the statues are play equipment.

Of course, climbing, running, and shouting are perfectly fine behavior at a playground, but they are not at all desirable at a library. Disagreements about who climbs on which dog will lead to arguments, and someone is sure to fall off and cry, or even be injured. Children right outside the library who are running and calling out will disturb and distract children who are trying to work or listen to a read-aloud inside the library. Adults who come to the library for work that needs concentration will be disturbed and distracted, too.

If, for some unknown reason, we truly need to have brightly colored pretend dogs installed somewhere in Malvern, we have playgrounds that would be far more appropriate places for these brightly painted statues, playgrounds where climbing, running, and shouting are more than welcome, and where no one looks for peace and tranquility. I love children and dogs, and I am happy for them to have a place to climb, run, and play. But why must we ruin an area of calm and serenity?

Isabel Letninger

MEMORANDUM ON DOG-ART PROJECT - MAY 9, 2017

FROM: Kurt Leininger, 211 Channing Avenue

TO: Chris Bayshore - Borough Manager
Neil Lovekin - Assistant Borough Manager
Mayor Burton & Borough Council Members

REGARDING: Please - "Not in Our Front Yards!"

Having resided on Channing directly behind Borough Hall since November 1990, I consider my thoughts relevant and perhaps beneficial for the Borough as well as our immediate neighborhood. My wife and I have appreciated having a police department and library across the street, as well as our handsome and historic Borough Hall and neighborhood. **The proposed dog-art project seems an unfortunate decision without much thought given to the major goals of the sculptures, its compatibility with the local neighborhood, and opportunities for alternative locations.**

This project's approval seems to have opened many windows as to how we value our neighborhoods and community life in general, which deserve more than a superficial public airing. Below are my specific observations and questions.

1. Four years ago our neighborhood opposed a more prominent project that is now under construction at Warren & Second Avenues. Our main concerns were focused on adherence to the Borough's ordinances, traffic and pedestrian safety, and a **complete incompatibility with our neighborhood's lot sizes, history and character** (including the remodeled and expanded Borough Hall). The dog-art project, if implemented as presently conceived, will merely be salt in our wounds from that 2013 approval process.
2. I haven't heard much of the overall study of the Borough's park system, which was approved sometime last year. From what I'm told, this dog-art project was delegated to the Public Works Department to directly implement with the artist. Is the Borough's back yard part of the Borough's park system, with its lonesome picnic table? **Was the Parks & Recreation (P&R) Commission at least consulted on this**, or should they have been given this project from the beginning to review and recommend?

3. **Was the library management also consulted, as to the benefit of the project to their children events?** It would seem that life-size dog sculptures, securely and permanently supported by concrete foundations, will be a distraction to children attending a group discussion.
4. I've always liked dogs but know nothing about canine psychology. (Did the Borough consult a canine behavior specialist?) **When dogs see the dog sculptures, will they be attracted to them and cause further distraction** from library events, especially when sufficient "excretion" odors accumulate nearby? (Even barking from the sidewalk would be a distraction.)
5. The addition of a "faux hydrant" by the Fire Company suggests **this project is indeed viewed as a de-facto Dog Park**. I would gladly make a donation to Kristin's committee for an alternative location that does not conflict with the character of our historic neighborhoods
6. Finally, I don't consider myself qualified to judge various art forms, but in general I value classical art forms much more than modern or "pop" art. **But is any "community" art compatible with, and appropriate for, a street graced with 100+ year-old stately trees and well-maintained 19th and early 20th century homes?** To assist the Council's evaluation of this project, perhaps they can enlist the views of our local professional artists - including music and theatre as well as the visual arts - before making a final decision.

As always, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kurt Leininger

218 Channing Avenue
Malvern, PA
May 13, 2017

Dear Friends, Neighbors and Councilors,

My wife and I are the owners of 218 Channing Avenue. While we have had many interactions with the Borough with respect to the TAG Development behind our property, we haven't entered into the conversation about the dog statues. It is time to remedy that. We have been reading the emails going back and forth and it does look like this art installation was poorly thought through, so it deserves a broader conversation with all interested parties, including the Stuuts.

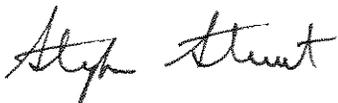
While we now have a home in Wayne, we are considering moving into the Channing Avenue house, so we have more than a landlord's interest in the issue – we have a neighbor's concern. We have no issue with dogs – we have one in our house in Wayne – but we are responsible people, as are the majority of dog owners. Those owners respect their neighbors and thus take care of their dogs with respect to noise and mess, but there is always a contingent who feel no need to bother – we all know those types. While the Borough is not intending to establish a dog park next door to our property, it will invariably be used as such for exactly the reasons mentioned by other respondents – it will look like one. While no one can prove that it will be used as a dog park, I feel certain that no one in Borough Hall can prove that it won't be, no matter how much you wish it so.

When I first moved to the Bay Area two years ago, I was in a corporate apartment development in Mountain View, which has a city-maintained dog park immediately outside the window of my apartment. This dog park is fenced in with similar dog-themed art inside as that being considered by the Borough. Having lived next to it for quite a while, I noticed that it takes a great deal of city-funded maintenance to keep it sanitary, but that is not a surprise. Is the Borough planning to monitor dog owners' observance of sanitation? I assume there are some rules about dog ownership in the Borough. If kids are also playing there, the dog mess will unfortunately win the contest of who gets to use the space. Has anyone considered the possibility that there may be an unfortunate encounter between a dog and a vivacious child playing in the same area?

There are additional concerns - I was not aware of was how unthinking some dog owners can be about the noise. There are some people who walk their dogs at night, perhaps due to their jobs or they just prefer that time - some would even do it 2am or 3am. I had to keep the windows closed at night, even though I prefer fresh air for sleeping, as there were regular barking fests between dogs, not to mention between different owners who had different very loud views of the worthiness of the other's dog to be in the park at the time, (due to the barking fest).

Please delay any decisions until the sensibilities of all us neighbors have been considered, if only due to liabilities that the Borough may accidentally attract.

Regards



Stephen Stuut

235 Channing Avenue
Malvern, PA 19355

May 16, 2017

To Malvern Borough Council, Mayor Burton, and Borough Manager Bashore:

I am writing to express my concerns about the Painted Dog Statues with Fire Hydrant installation that has been proposed for the rear library grounds. My understanding is that this project was approved by Borough Council after very little notice to, or input from, the local community. I have been a Malvern borough property owner and library patron (as were my children) for 30 years, and reside a few houses away from the borough building.

I would like to tell you a little about me, which may help you to understand my viewpoint. My entire career has been in the visual arts: as a graphic design professor for many years, as a professional illustrator, and as a graphic designer working in the publishing and corporate environments. In my capacity as a professor, I have been very involved with the planning of student exhibits, as well as portfolio development for graduating seniors. I have taught at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. As an illustrator and watercolorist, most of my work was for children, and my clients were many of the major educational publishers in the U.S.

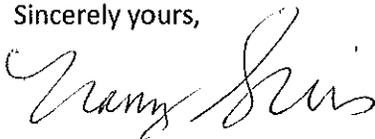
I have a B.F.A. in Illustration from Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia, and a M.A. in Digital Design and Publishing from Rosemont College.

I am very troubled by the prospect of this project as a permanent (as opposed to temporary) installation. With regard to art in public spaces, everyone has a different idea of what is "art" and what is "beauty". Temporary art has a short-lived life, and if you don't like it, it won't be there forever. On the other hand, in my view, an art installation of a permanent nature should be very carefully considered before it is approved.

I am also troubled by the opaqueness of the process by which the project and artist were chosen. Where/when did residents have the opportunity for input, prior to the approval by Borough Council?

I find the rear library yard to be quite beautiful (and uncluttered) the way it is. I would welcome the addition of a few attractive benches or chairs. I beg you to reconsider your approval of this project, and to allow further discussion/recommendations by the entire community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy Schill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nancy" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Schill".

Nancy A. Schill



May 13, 2017

Dear Borough Council Members and Mayor Burton,

It has come to my attention that the borough is considering a permanent art installation and that there is opposition among some of the residents who live near its proposed placement.

Upon learning of this I had the idea that it is time to form a Malvern Borough Art Council made up of professional artists (such as myself) that live here in the borough. As it turns out we Malvern residents are rich with artists! We expect this council would be composed of professionally or academically qualified Actors, writers, painters, curators, photographers, film makers, musicians, landscape designers and more.

The Malvern Borough Arts Council would be dedicated to the mission of promoting the arts, culture, and creative expression here in the borough. This work of the Arts Council will enrich our town and can have a positive impact on our health, welfare and economic wellbeing.

Let us advance Malvern through the arts and creativity by forming this council.

Before Malvern "goes to the dogs" I recommend that the proposed project be put on hold until this Art Council is formed and has the opportunity to review proposals for the open space in question, and make a recommendation to the Borough council about the art installation. This process will ensure that we as a community embrace the arts at the highest artistic level.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sarah S Bones

Professional Photographer and Film Director
Former Vice President of Malvern Borough Council
Former Member of The Malvern Borough Planning Commission
Former Appointee to The Chester County Arts Funding Committee
American Society of Media Photographers
National Press Photographers Association