

Baltimore County Executive Office

400 Washington Avenue Historic Courthouse -Mezzanine Level, Towson, Maryland 21204

2017 Neighborhood Heroes Awards Nomination Form

Nominee Aaron Plymouth

Address 8546 Stevenswood Road, Windsor Mill, MD 21244

Phone 410-922-4124 Email Aplymouth907@gmail.com

School Master's degree Education University of Pittsburgh

Master's degree - Administration and Supervision Loyola College of Maryland

Organization Submitting Nomination

Name Stevenswood Improvement Association, Inc.

Contact Carl S. Waters, Secretary

Address 3302 Lauri Road, Windsor Mill, MD 21244

Phone 410-655-0185

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I certify the above & below information is correct to the best of my knowledge

Signature /Carl S. Wat*rs/ Date September 1, 2017

Why Aaron Plymouth is being nominated

On January 10, 2018, Aaron will end 27 years of dedicated service to the Stevenswood Improvement Association, Inc where he has lead its expansion to nearly 200 families. Aaron served 17 years as vice president and in 2008 became president and have served continuously for the last 10 years.

Aaron has always been a dedicated community service and civic engagement individual. From leading local community clean-ups to engaging in political activities to elect favorable candidates to serve the families of the community. Aaron is a regular at most political receptions, ribbon cuttings and community events for Greater Randallstown and has earned his reputation of commitment to the families within the community. Aaron is always available to the community and remains a steadfast champion of community needs. He represents the families within the association at county gatherings and he is considered a key 'go to guy' when there is a need to address community concerns and advocate on its behalf. On numerous occasions he has organized volunteers to challenge negative community circumstances and he is always at the frontlines fighting to keep the community engaged on specific issues. Aaron's leadership and influence comes from his strong relationships built over the years with elected officials, business leaders, and most importantly, the neighbors who follow him. As president of the Stevenswood Improvement Association, an organization representing 205 well-maintained single-family and detached homes off Old Court Road behind the Northwest Hospital in Greater Randallstown, Aaron takes his role in the community seriously. Because of his leadership and commitment, safety and quality items such as installing handicapped ramps and speed bumps are now a reality and a welcomed development for the aging populations within the community. Aaron worked with Northwest Hospital to enclose an incinerator that had the potential to harm the local environment and he continues to ensure the hospital maintains it functionality. When the Stevenswood community was threatened with reduced power resources, Aaron researched and lead the activisms to ensure that residents would not lose electrical power (even on nice days). He has lead community beautification and safety renovations, including examining and repairing deteriorating asphalt streets and driveway aprons and his work has led to a rejuvenation of the sense of community and his leadership has inspired a new generation of residents.

A key annual event is the Annual Operation Clean Sweep scheduled in the spring to combat any county code violations such as tall grass and weeds, unlicensed vehicles parked on the street and Bens Run Stream littered with debris. Aaron makes certain that people are brought up to speed on the appropriate codes and he sends a detailed letter to homeowners advising them on what they can expect during the Sweep period. He preps residents for potential visits from county inspectors who may write citations for code violations. Overtime, this annual event has grown thanks to Aarons vision for a clean and friendly community. That vision has included a street sweeper that whisks through the eight streets and four courts, a Refuse Dumpster for identified items, and a Curbside Pickup of recyclable items is provided by a selected charity. The community now provides for household pickups of USPS Annual NALC Food Drive acceptable items, and Selected Electronic items are collected and taken to County Refuse Acceptance Facility—thanks to Aaron's leadership and ideas.

As president, he chairs monthly meetings of the Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown (CCACGR). Aaron describes himself as a systematic and organized individual. He strives to bring individual strengths together to accomplish a task. He follows the organizational bylaws, stresses punctuality and processes, and makes every attempt to follow an agenda provided for meetings. If you don't know what time it is, he'll tell you in his base voice. Aaron keeps the community informed by holding quarterly meetings, publishing a quarterly newsletter, and providing pertinent information to neighbors with/without email addresses.

Any "Entity" looking to open a liquor store in the area will come up against the Aaron "Operation 100 Plus 50." Stevenswood homeowners know the drill: When they receive the call to action, it is their responsibility to see to it that the county liquor board receives 100+ letters by email or mail and 50+ people to attend its public hearings. Aaron states "Since 2010, we have decided that there will be no more class A liquor licenses granted for package goods, e.g. beer, wine and liquor, to anyone west of the beltway to Deer Park Road," and "We're also stopping those for class D, which is a bar or lounge." He adds, "So long as I can breathe, I will fight to keep all class A and class D out of the area because we have a super saturation of liquor stores. We don't need anymore."

Important Information

Aaron's accomplishments are many, with a few, through the years, highlighted below.

- 1. 1990 Instrumental in stopping Body Talk (The "Block") from coming to Liberty Road
- 2. Led the challenge of Baltimore General Hospital (Northwest) to enclose its Incinerator
- 3. 1993 Led expansion challenge against Liberty Manor, Kimberly, and Village of Pine
- 4. Instrumental in action against Pawn Shop infiltration on Liberty Road (Papa's)
- 1994 Participated in Baltimore County Pilot Program for Community Code Enforcement
- 6. Led Stevenswood participation in the new Baltimore County Curbside Recycling
- 7. Lead role in Stevenswood implementation of Citizens on Patrol (COP)
- 8. 1995 Lead role in the Stevenswood improved Annual Clean Up Day
- 9. 2002 Participated in protest of expansion of Windsor Mill Road to Offutt Road
- 10. 2008 Instituted the creation of the Stevenswood website "Stevenswood.org"
- 11. Played role in getting County to repave several streets of the community
- 12. Played a role in getting County to replace light poles
- 13. Lead role in getting County to install traffic calming devices on several streets
- 14. Began crusade to challenge Liquor License applications which would proliferate Liberty Road
- 15. 2010 Major role in enhancing Stevenswood pride with the installation of street banners
- 16. Expanded Stevenswood participation in National Night Out.
- 17. Began active participation in requesting grant fund for Stevenswood endeavors
- 18. 2014 Spear headed the request to have the county install Curb Ramps on several streets
- 19. 2015 Spear headed the Stevenswood Community 50th Anniversary celebration.
- 20. 2016 Launched opposition to WAWA Gas Station at Liberty & Milford Mill Roads
- 21. Lead role in request to upgrade electrical power will result in lines being buried
- 22. Lead role in request to County to clean Bens Run and beautify Bens Run Curbside Beds
- 23. 2017 Continuation of many community activities as "Community God Father"

Everything achieved is part of a team effort and he praises his officers for their support.

- 1. Stevenswood Association Officers
 - a. Prince Green 1st vice presidentb. Arthur Brown 2nd vice president
 - c. Patricia Mosley Treasurerd. Carl S. Waters Secretary
- 2. CCACGR Officers
 - a. Danny Blount Vice Chairmanb. Susan Sherman Secretaryc. Tim Clark Treasurer
 - d. Virginia Jones Sergeant at Armse. Nan Sherman Special assistant
 - f. Patricia Clark Public information officer.
- 3. Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown (CCACGR)

Member Communities & their Presidents

a. Edrich Manor Charles Young, Sr.

b. Fieldstone Community Group, Inc
 c. Hernwood Heights Community Association
 d. Kings Park Estates Community Association
 e. Liberty Manor Community Association
 Pat Clark
 Danny Blount
 Keith Dyson
 Mildred Owens

f. Mayfield Community Association, Inc Lynn Ash

g. Oakwood Village Community Association Inc

h. Stevenswood Improvement Association, Inc

i. Woodlands of Deer Park Community Association

Vivian Paysour

Aaron Plymouth

Virginia Jones

Job Experience

- (1) Reading Specialist
- (2) Teacher
- (3) Assistant Principal

Activities

- (1) President and Founding member of Stevenswood Improvement Association 1990 re-establishment
- (2) Chairman and Founding Member of CCACGR
- (3) Served on Northwest Hospital Community Patient Health and Safety Advisory Board
- (4) Chairman and Founder of Family Council of Emerald Estates Assistant Living Community until 8/8/2017
- (5) Served roles as Treasurer, Secretary, or President of Randallstown High School PTSA from 2002-2006
- (6) Served as President of Winfield Elementary School PTA
- (7) Served on School Moratorium Committee
- (8) Served on Panel to Formulate Long Term Strategies for County Schools
- (9) Served as member of Randallstown Community Center Advisory Board (RCCAB)
- (10) Serves, in many capacities, such as election judge, for Board of Election Supervisors

Awards

- 1. Too many to name certificates for community service and advocacy, from Assisted Living communities, Boy Scout Troop 846, Schools, Communities, and Church Groups
- 2. County Executive Jim Smith Good Neighbor of the Week Award in 2009.
- 3. Award for Outstanding and Dedicated Service to Winfield Elementary P.T.A in 1995.
- 4. Two County Executive Citations from Jim Smith.
- 5. One County Executive Citation from Kevin Kamenetz
- 6. Three County Council Resolutions from Julian Jones.
- 7. Maryland House of Delegates Official Citation from:
 - a. Senator Bobby Zirkin
 - b. Delegate Benjamin Brooks
 - c. Speaker Pro Tem Delegate Adrienne Jones
 - d. Delegate Jay Jilisi

Comments

- Nan Sherman, Special Assistant CCACGR "Aaron has been the Chair of the Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown (CCACGR) since its inception in 2010"
- Mildred Owens, President Liberty Manor Community Association "On behalf of the Liberty Manor Community Association, we recommend this award for Aaron for his great leadership as the President of CCACGR. His dedication as a leader is commendable and extraordinary in the successful initiatives he has brought forth and achieved with great professionalism. He more than deserves this award. Thanks for the opportunity to nominate a great man who deserves this honor."
- <u>Carl S. Waters, Secretary Stevenswood Association</u> "Aaron's leadership exposed me to mixed emotions about volunteer community service. I will always thank him for that experience."
- <u>Vivian Paysour, President Oakwood Village Community Association</u> "Aaron Plymouth was very instrumental in assisting me to solve a very serious and unique issue with a community resident. In fact, he guided me step by step through the process. His assistance included helping me write a very decisive letter to this person. I will always be forever grateful for Aaron's unselfish commitment to the Oakwood Village community"
- <u>Virginia B. Jones, President Woodlands of Deer Park Community Association "</u>Aaron is a man that wears many hats in the 4th Council District of Baltimore County. He strives to increase rapport among communities, promote social revitalization and motivates others to work together for the betterment of our communities. Aaron has served as the chair of the CCACAGR since March 2010."

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- Theo Clark, Member Stevenswood Association "I am a 30-year (+) resident of The Stevenswood Community. Of importance to my family decision to move into the area was the strong community association and it's leadership in the persons of Mrs. Ella Campbell and Aaron Plymouth. Each were (and are) pillars of the community, well established and known throughout Greater Randallstown and Baltimore County Government. After Mrs. Campbell's service as President of SIA Aaron (who served as VP) became president. He has held the position for many years, with numerous consecutive terms. His leader-ship, attentiveness and example has been (and continues to be) exemplary and without equal in the community. His commitment, knowledge, courage, example and stamina is of significance and is noteworthy. He is a visionary and stalwart, a buttress against neglect, neighborhood deterioration and a diminishing quality of Life. Aaron Plymouth is indeed much appreciated and worthy of the Neighborhood Heroes Award Nomination & Recognition"
- <u>Tim Clark, Treasurer CCACGR</u> "Aaron Plymouth is a pillar of the Randallstown community. He is the founder and chairman of the Combined Communities Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown, Inc. (CCACGR). He has lead the successful fight against additional liquor stores in the Liberty Road corridor to the point where many new liquor stores look elsewhere rather than going up against the CCACGR. He has also made education a priority in the Randallstown area sitting on the Northwest Education Committee. He has worked with many politicians at both the county and state level to make sure that the Randallstown community's voice is heard and known as a force in getting people elected to office. This is a man who works very hard for the betterment of the Randallstown community"
- Rosalind Little & Agnes Barnhill, Member Stevenswood Association "We have known Aaron for over 30 years. He has always been a pleasant, friendly and caring person. When he became president of SIA, he was always ready to address any problem big or small that you came to him with. He always have time to listen to any concerns you may have. We will miss having him as president of SIA, but wish him all the best. He is and will always be a special person to us."
- <u>Pearl Kirby, Member CCACGR</u> "I support the nomination of Aaron Plymouth for the District Community award."
- <u>Delegate Benjamin T. Brooks, 10th Legislative District Baltimore County</u> "I have had the pleasure of knowing Aaron Plymouth for 24 years. As a community leader, husband, father, and educator, he has been a pillar in this district. His stalwart ideals, principles, ethics and values speaks volumes about his character. As president of Stevenswood Improvement Association, Inc., he was instrumental in creating one of the most powerful community associations in Baltimore County. Combined Community Advocacy Council of Greater Randallstown (CCACGR) is a representation of eleven community associations on the west side. Our relationship gelled when his son did an internship at my accounting practice. Even though Aaron wanted him there for the experience only, Phil's commitment to the job warranted compensation. It was obvious Aaron's work ethic was indelibly implanted on his son. Our community has been enriched by his knowledge, blessed by his devotion and honored by his presence. As a Delegate for the 10th Legislative District, I enthusiastically support your selection of Mr. Aaron Plymouth."