

**Spruce Hill Community Association**  
**Board Meeting March 19, 2015**  
**257 South 45th Street**  
Minutes taken by Andrew Richman

**Present (68%):** \*Monica Calkins, \*Mary Ellen McCarty, \*Andrew Richman, \*Eric Santoro, \*Mark Wagenveld, Pauline Borkon; Julie Bush, Brett Feldman, Monica Ferguson, Barry Grossbach, Richard Guffanti, Ed Halligan, Sylvia Hammer-Brown, Laura Line, Sue MacQueen, Brennan Maier, Elaine Nelson, Laura Line,

**Absent (32%):** Haven Henderson, Lee Huang, Judy Powers, Jacqueline Waiters,  
Note: \* = Executive Board

**Welcome and Introductions** (Monica Calkins)

- Monica went over changes to minutes from the notes that Rich sent out.  
Minutes from February approved from last meeting with Monica's changes by the Board.

**Committee Updates**

**Zoning Committee** (Barry Grossbach)

- 4224 updates - zoning committee is supporting the three variances; had a community meeting
  - Have a meeting with 4224 regarding design review tomorrow, first process that SHCA is involved in the design review process.
  - Status of the retail on the first floor? Barry - still interested in cafe by well established restaurateur and possible interest from vet school.
- Zoning meeting next Wednesday, March 17th, on the agenda:
  - 400 south 45th - Expansion of units from 12 to 19; Why now? Have to legalize what they did and the current usage; it is clear now that the basement units are occupied.
  - Fraternity for 4030 Spruce St.
  - Mosque adjacent to an existing mosque/rooming house on 43rd between Chestnut and Market Streets.
  - Duplex at 217 S 42nd St.
- In the wings: 4536 spruce street will entail a separate RCO meeting; and Scott Orens looking to do a development behind the gym on the 4400 block of Chestnut St.
  - It will be important to get people out to the 4224 zoning hearing when it happens.
  - Monica - NW corner of 46th and Walnut St update? Barry has not heard anything, it may not require any new zoning.
  - Barry: it is important that the community establish that it is capable of working with developers to get a quality development done to counter what has happened with Woodland Terrace and 40th & Pine St.

**Education** (Sylvia Hammerman-Brown/Laura Line)

- Laura: Playground update:
  - PAS has ordered equip. for playground repairs; PAS is talking with Penn to get the go ahead on installation; playground will be closed for 48hrs during installation, maybe during spring break;
  - Letter will be put in PAS Pony explaining what is going on from Laura and the community support behind it; for the Phase II, the renovation of the PAS playground, replacing the surface and some new equipment. It's starting up and will move forward with a fundraising/grant writing campaign.

- PAS wants to go with Kompan, they want the same surface as the PIC playground, keep the popular equipment and keep European model of cooperative play, they want to stay true to the architecture of the building; Ann will set meeting up with sales rep people and walk through with Laura;
- Ann needs to let Penn know about the Phase II effort and the protocol around the fundraising; there is still confusion over the naming rights; the school district does not want us to compete with any funders that might be giving to the school district meaning that we should be looking at private individuals more than foundations; may look into PAS alumni group formation
- Sylvia: got the feeling and hint that applications were leveling off; didn't get the info on enrolment during the meeting with the principle.
- Monica: the big news is that the lottery did not need to occur - everyone who registered for kindergarten got in; there is still a wait list for some of the older grades.
- This years K class has 21 kids on the waitlist; the entire list is 44 kids; one grade has 4 from the historical waitlist (6th grade).
- There is a question of whether the 21 kids on the waitlist have already been determined to meet residency requirement.
- The new wait list is refreshed each June, they will have to re-register each year with the exception of the 4 students on the historical wait list. The historical wait list does not expire.
- We will get the breakdown by grade shortly.
- Eric: the idea that K registration is dropping is a trend we should follow in the neighborhood; what does this mean long term? Huge response on Facebook to the post about the school.
- Sylvia: the PAS 5K - they are interesting in community help with outreach;
- Monica: they also asked for a donation; discussion over giving them a table at May Fair.

#### **Executive (Monica Calkins)**

- The Executive committee nominated Craig Santoro for the Board; Board voted unanimously to approve Craig.
- Outreach - 3 pending requests will discussed at the next meeting.
- Finance: Andrew
  - Will retroactively reclassify the Bird Sanctuary water bills so they will not be billed to the Sanctuary budget.
  - Taxes are being filed.

#### **May Fair (Mark Wagenveld)**

- Eric has lined up the petting zoo.
- Emily Bates is doing some children's music in the morning and coordinating the rest of the music.
- PAS kids may perform some of their acts.
- Will have the bounce tent and obstacle course.
- Face painting is confirmed - will not charge us, we are waiving the table fee for them.
- Will need help soliciting items for raffle and selling tickets - will be done at the April meeting.
- Ed: permit applications are done and Andrew will be taking them in with the checks.
- Ed: may mention the big raffle item on the yard signs and highlight the pony rides and petting zoo.

#### **Operations (Mark Wagenveld)**

- Board voted to approve the refinishing of the floor in the third floor apartment; work to be done by Ken Thomforde; cost to be around \$1,000

#### **Greening Block Grants (Sue MacQueen)**

- Due to weather, not much to report

#### **Bird Sanctuary (Julie Bush)**

- Did not get the PHS grant

#### **Business Attraction Committee**

- No update

#### **Communications (Rich Guffanti)**

- Membership is stable at 211, 95% with email. 67% have joined our email list. 76% renewed in 2014
- Email List: The list has 340 participants, 42% are members and 58% are nonmembers. Board usage is at 2.5/wk down from our 2014 average of 3.4.
- Website: Online Payment is unchanged at 29% of our members. In 2015 the 642 visits is 51% over the 2014 visits for the same time period (Jan 1 - Feb 28).
- Facebook has shown steady growth of 5% since Jan 1, with 442 Likes

#### **New Business**

- UCD portal project is going forward; fundraising has gone very well

#### **Announcements**

- Save the date - May Fair - 5/9/15
- Aaron Asis of Ci Lines with help from UC Arts League and Mark's latter, temporarily transformed the St Andrews chapel with art geometry: [The Story & Video](#), [The Pictures](#)