

Spruce Hill Community Association
Board Meeting October 10th, 2017
257 South 45th Street
Minutes taken by Mary Ellen McCarty

Present: Alvarez, Veronica; Bush, Julie; Calkins, Monica; Gong, Bo; Grossbach, Barry; Guffanti, Richard; Hamerman-Brown, Sylvia; Johnstone, Evan; Line, Laura; McCarty, Mary Ellen; McGarvey, Vicki; Medley, Leslie; Moore, Richard; Nelson, Elaine; Richman, Andrew; Rosof, Libby; Santoro, Craig; Santoro, Eric; Wagenfeld, Mark; Waiters, Jackie

Absent: Bosse, Alexa; Carr, Tyree; Faye, Rana; Liu, Roseann; Potter, John

Introductions - Eric Santoro

Minutes approved

Introductions and welcome to guest speaker, Jamie Vann to talk about Halloween Parade details. Mark Wagenfeld attended the first part of the meeting and talked about his recovery from surgery. He is grateful for SHCA's support and well wishes and the care he has been receiving and looked and sounded great!

Halloween Parade - Jamie Vann, Little Osage Block Party Coordinator

Planning in general underway for the party Osage.

- Decorations underway.
- Donation letters have been sent out
- Need to flyer the cars and post no parking signs
- Trying to get new businesses to donate. Looking for bakeries who would be willing to make treats. Some board members suggested Four worlds, pop shop, dotties, fresh grocer, federal doughnuts, Jezebels, Restaurant School.
- Although Mark Wagenfeld cannot attend this year, he offered to provide materials if needed and also can do the same for may fair. He suggests coordinating volunteers to man intersections. Mark suggested that Lut. McBride should be contacted for security and important to be on board. – huge help. UCD patrol and School crossing guards may be able to offer support. He also suggested that we string yellow tape along the route.
- Shorthanded with food distribution. Neighbors who don't have kids help give out food. Can the Engagement Committee help? Vicki said that most of committee has little kids. Bo offered to bring volunteers.
- UC Review will print an article about the Parade soon.
- Need to send Flyer sent to PAS pony & listserv
- Permits are in hand
- Big thanks!!

Committee Updates

Exec - Eric Santoro

Election at Annual Meeting:

- Jamie volunteered to be non-board meeting person for the elections

Slate:

- Board of Directors are staying on
- Mark Stepping down
- Mary Ellen Stepping down
- Monica - President
- Evan - Vice President
- Leslie - Secretary
- Eric – Moving to Board
- Andrew – Treasurer

Annual Meeting - Eric Santoro

Annual Meeting – 7:30 PAS – Speaker is to be determined – Mayor Kenney was asked, no word yet.

Ideas: Looking for ways to draw in people

- PIC – Green, expansion of PIC
- 4601 Market – Developer bidding on the project is willing to talk about his/her idea (most people were against because the project developer has not been determined)
- Drexel Schuykill yards
- Exec will meet to determine a speaker

Committee Chairs should help to update slideshow and be prepared to speak briefly. The presentation is online.

UCD membership project – completed the survey and UCD is preparing a proposal.

Zoning - Barry Grossbach

Barry talked about broader issues facing zoning and rezoning in Spruce Hill.

He talked about the CMX zoning issue – He attended a zoning committee meeting at Walnut Hill where they discussed developers wanting relief from being required to do commercial CMX2. Pushing for commercial at one location.

Barry also talked about the north side of spruce hill along Market St. Area needs development and planning. Apartments are gated and the surroundings discourage people from walking or being on the street. We need planning. The dead zone is a big prob with the area in general. No

planning by anyone about Market Street. Elwin Institute is on sale, under contract with drug abuse recovery center. Nobody is doing anything. Need to get movement on planning this area.

4224 baltimore – attended meeting with lawyer and developer who wanted administrative approval from SHCA Zoning. Zoning asked for more information to sign off. Will be coming back with more info about the proposed development.

Barry met with Councilwoman Blackwell for support on changing some zoning codes in Spruce Hill. She supports change some zoning codes – multi family to RTA1 should be RSA. Blackwell instructed City planning to get on board but the city planning uncovered errors in some rules – back to drawing board.

Blackwell wanted information about how we felt about the bike lanes that she is skeptical about.

Education - Sylvia Hammerman-Brown/Monica Calkins

SAC meetings open to the community. Anything can be added to the agenda.

Laura Line – outdoor space – meadow project was a great community project – 3600 meadow plants. Went well.

The waitlist. Monica will put a SAC agenda item as to whether or not SDP letters that went out to waitlisted kindergarteners guaranteeing a place in 1st grade was a mistake. Mary Ellen mentioned that this was the case with her neighbor.

Engagement committee – minimally engaged.

Planning Annual meeting refreshments and possible Halloween parade help

Bird Sanctuary - Julie Bush

No news

Business Attraction - Jon Potter

No news

Crosstown Coalition - Eric Santoro

Recent workshop event brainstormed topics that communities are concerned about including:

1. affordable housing bill – mixed income
2. Vision zero – 2030
3. Redistricting (Gerrymandering) – fair districting (tabled because it is political)

4. Parking to increase cost of residential parking permits to bring money back to neighborhood
5. Historic Preservation (eric pushed)
6. Trash issue - sustainability

New business – Ken Steif would like to serve on board

Jackie – Reminder that Halloween trick-or-treaters are welcome at the center