

Spruce Hill Community Association (SHCA) Board Meeting

February 12, 2019 - 7:30 pm

257 South 45th Street

Board Attendance

Present: Sylvia Hamerman-Brown; Monica Calkins; Abigail Su; Barry Grossbach, Libby Rosof; Ken Steif; Andrew Richman; Roseann Liu; Vicki McGarvey; Al Suh; Richard Moore; Alexa Bosse; Tyree Carr II, Veronica Alvarez; Leslie Medley; Eric Santoro; Richard Guffanti; Laura Line

Absent: Craig Santoro; Jon Potter; Julie Bush **Guests:** Library Alliance; Kehinde Whetstone

Meeting Minutes

Library Alliance Presentation

- Libraries are underfunded: 175 fewer staff than 10 years ago; 17% less funding; Libraries closing around the city
- Library is requesting \$15 million in funding which would enable “bare bones” funding to keep libraries open 6-7 days/week
- Friends groups are asking people to call the mayor and council people to lobby for more funds; there is a flyer with contact phone numbers and via social media using #FundOurLibrary
- Barry Grossbach suggests community associations send letters to mayor, and Friends of libraries groups contact the community associations to make the request
- In answer to a question about whether the city funds libraries with low attendance at the level of better-attended libraries, it was noted that traffic is influenced by programs on offer and staffing, and these can vary widely across the city. Library Administration will determine disbursement of funds.

Minutes from January 2019 Meeting were passed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Executive Committee Update

Donation Requests Approved by Executive Committee

- PAS Play: \$250
- PAS 5K: \$250
- PAS Ads for Grads: \$10 ad purchased

Space Usage Policy:

- Online form to reserve and help track usage is being developed and will be shared with the Board
- Guidelines are undergoing edits by Exec. Committee
- Revised guidelines to help prevent conflicting scheduling; the center is currently committed on all days but Mondays and Tuesdays
- Groups currently using space will also be asked to complete the online form
- Business membership in SHCA will be encouraged

May Fair Planning (May 11, 2019)

- **Volunteer Task Signup:** Evan Johnstone has asked everyone to go to the Google doc to sign up for 2019
- **Children's Entertainment:** Eric Santoro to coordinate zoo, bounce house, and face painting
- **Food Trucks:** Barry Grossbach to coordinate food trucks, which will be located on 43rd Street this year; he is concerned that we may have trouble securing food vendors because of low turnout last year
- **Street Closure to be on 43rd Street:** closure requested from Chester to Woodland; Cars on 43rd Street to papers with flyers at least 2 weeks in advance to help ensure cleared street; Barry Grossbach to contact David Ford, Community Outreach at USciences to ask they help spread the word about the street closure
- **Mark Wagenveld Memorial Bench:** SHCA to follow up with Friends of Clark Park regarding memorial bench for Mark, and with Mark's family regarding scheduling of a dedication ceremony
- **Rain Date vs. Rain Location:**
 - Evan Johnstone has spoken with PAS regarding use of gymnasium
 - Rain Date would be Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day)
 - May Fair Planning Meeting to be scheduled to review all of the above
- **Music:** Andrew to speak with bands; considering using band that was booked but did not play in 2018; Board to consider a tent for stage and sound; music to begin before Noon start of the event; Board to consider booking more than one act (Green Tambouring; PIC teachers, other local acts)

Zoning Committee/Affordable Housing

- Application for continuing development on 4300 block of Market Street has been submitted
- Brett Feldman, an attorney for developers, has briefed the committee on affordable housing
- The committee considers itself in a learning phase, and has asked to look over the bonuses on offer; most developers are opting to put money into the Trust Fund rather than add units for affordable housing
- How will SHCA determine who meets requirements for affordable housing? SHCA must be careful about holding something over the heads of developers because developers could become litigious
- SHCA inclination is toward adding units for affordable housing
- Mill Creek Tavern replacement at 42nd & Chester may need to go higher up
- Barry is pushing back against SW making zoning decisions in Spruce Hill
- Ken Steif noted that it is important to note that decisions made in Spruce Hill have an impact on neighboring communities. The fortune of one neighborhood has an impact on the fortune of other neighborhoods
- It was suggested that SHCA needs to have a statement on affordable housing on the website. The statement should note that SHCA embraces diversity and affordable housing

Education Committee

- Kindergarten Registration: registration closed on February 8
- Richard Moore and Al Suh will work with the SAC on elections

Operations Committee

- Molding on center's front door has been replaced

Engagement Committee

- Abigail Su has joined Vicki Lewis-McGarvey on the committee

Bird Sanctuary

- Wood chips have been spread on path, and mulch to be spread
- There is an anonymous donor of bird seed who has dropped off seed more than once

Business Committee

- Two neighborhood restaurants have recently closed – Marigold and Farmacy.

Safety Committee

- 18th Precinct's Capt. Gillespie has been invited, and Fran Byers is helping to follow up on the invitation
- Laura Line to write to Alan Garry regarding traffic

Traffic Calming

- A letter to the councilwoman has been requested, in support of traffic calming measures

Crosstown Coalition

- Friends of Neighborhood Schools event to take place at Comcast on April 13, 2019
- Council President, Darrell L. Clarke, has proposed a JV squad of traffic cops, and the council is looking for a test neighborhood; a ballot initiative is planned to gauge support; support from the FOP is not expected; congestion pricing is also under consideration
- Barry presented on historic preservation and demolition by permit over-the-counter, which is the system that allows for any owner to walk in and apply for/receive a permit to demolish in any neighborhood without historic designation; there is an effort to get communities across the city to pass law/regulation prohibiting the over-the-counter permits