

**Spruce Hill Community Association (SHCA) Board Meeting**  
**October 8, 2019 - 7:30 pm**

**Board Attendance**

**Present:** Evan Johnstone; Sylvia Hamerman-Brown; Andrew Richman; Leslie Medley; Veronica Alvarez; Tyree Carr II; Vicki Lewis-McGarvey; Richard Moore; Ken Steif; Roseann Liu; Monica Calkins; Abigail Su; Ken Steif

**Absent:** Alexa Bosse; Al Suh; Jon Potter; Barry Grossbach; Laura Line; Eric Santoro; Craig Santoro; Libby Rosof; Tyree Carr II; Julie Bush; Richard Guffanti;

**Guests:** Jamie Vann; David Vann; Will Smith; Fay Walker, Yun Xia

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**Meeting Minutes**

**Creating a Neighborhood/Guest Speakers: Will Smith and Fay Walker (students of Ken Steif)**

- The guest speakers have a project to create a Neighborhood Change Zoning Overlay Plan for the Spruce Hill neighborhood.
- They plan to attend the November 18, 2019 Zoning Committee meeting.
- The goal is to balance new development and increased affordable housing with preservation.
- The zoning overlay means that the community works directly with neighborhood representative to make decisions
- Survey measures preference for preservation using photos of buildings ranging from residential, industrial, and commercial
- SHCA Board members took the survey during the meeting

**Halloween Planning/ Guest Speaker: Jamie Vann**

- Leslie provided Safety Committee updates on parade and street closure permits, Penn Drumline, table donations, and the participation of the UCD Ambassadors and 18<sup>th</sup> Precinct for security and enforcement of street closures. The Thriller Dancers will not participate this year, but hope to return in 2020.
- Jamie outlined the the Little Osage block's preparations:
  - Food and beverage donations have been secured from local businesses
  - The block has a banner to hang which thanks donors and sponsors
  - SHCA members donate 5 gallon thermoses for cider, and canopies in the event of rain
  - Little Osage requests a \$500 donation from SHCA to support costs of celebration – DONATION APPROVED
  - Monica to send out requests for baking donations
  - The Halloween parade and celebration flyer will go in the PAS Pony

**SHCA Meeting Minutes**

- Meeting minutes from the September 10, 2019 meeting were approved.

**Executive Committee Update**

- PIC Art Start donation request of \$300 was approved by the Executive Committee
- Evan reported on Board membership updates: Rosanne Liu is stepping down from the Board, which leaves 4 open spots. Slate of candidates to be finalized by next week via email. Board election will take place at the November 2019 meeting.
- Evan outlined the Board structure
  - 20 director slots, 10 of which are 1-year slots and the other 10 are 2-year slots
  - Officer terms are 1 year at a time. 3 of the 4 vacancies are 1-year terms, and Roseanne Liu's spot will be replaced by a 1-year slot to balance the number of members in each term group.

**Annual Meeting – November 12, 2019**

- Jamie Gauthier has been confirmed as the keynote speaker, and she requests topic suggestions. The Board suggested the following:
  - Development vs. preservation

- Gauthier's priorities
- The possibility of re-drawn catchment zone lines
- Vision for the Henry C. Lea School
- A meeting notice will sent out via listserv, UC Review, and PAS Pony

### **Zoning Committee**

- Barry and Evan attended a meeting with Ironstone along with Garden Court, Walnut Hill, Spruce Hill to discuss 4601 Market which was placed on the Historic Register

### **Education Committee**

- Next SAC meeting is October 14, 2019
- Playground construction is delayed, and will now begin in Spring 2020

### **Operations Committee**

- Grate at front door to be replaced
- Building assessment to be scheduled before summer, with work to take place in summer months

### **Engagement Committee**

- Vicki to bring refreshments to the Annual Meeting
- Planning underway for Holiday Open House
- Recognition of Jackie Waiters Retirement from SHCA Board, being planned
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### **Bird Sanctuary**

- The local Girl Scout troop will do a cleanup day.

### **Business Attraction**

- A new Pilates studio has opened in 4300 block of Locust Street

### **Safety Committee**

- A young child was recently approached in front of his home (45<sup>th</sup> Street between Pine & Spruce) by an adult male in a car. The adult offered the child a ride, but the child ran inside.
- Parents of child have been connected with Captain Gillespie of the 18<sup>th</sup>, and they will be going into the precinct to give a statement.
- Leslie to look in to hosting a stranger danger workshop for kids, given by UCD
- Monica to notify PAS principal and let her know the need to loop in the Lea School

### **Crosstown Coalition**

- A Summit is planned for Board. Topics are TBD.

### **Block Improvement**

- David Ford at USciences want to foster a relationship with their surrounding neighborhood, and discussed outreach with Barry
- Block Improvement grants for that neighborhood, from SHCA is one possible method of outreach.
- \$500 block grant would be matched by in-kind support from block residents. Adjoining blocks may receive \$1,500
- Alexa plans to make the application electronic, and more user-friendly

### **Other**

Abigail noted that her new workplace is the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations, which offers mediation services