

Spruce Hill Community Association (SHCA) Board Meeting

October 13, 2020 - 7:30 pm

Board Attendance via Zoom and Teleconference

Present: Evan Johnstone; Leslie Medley; Veronica Alvarez; Vicki McGarvey; Laura Line; Libby Rosof; Andrew Richman; Chris Bole; Rebecca Geller-Pulchalsky; Monica Calkins; Richard Moore; Ken Steif; Eric Santoro; Sylvia Hamerman-Brown; Emily Dowdall; Alexa Bosse; Julie Bush; Barry Grossbach; Al Suh; Jon Potter; Tyree Carr II; Rich Guffanti; Sugirtha Stathis; Abigail Su; Craig Santoro

Guests: Jamie Vann, David Vann, Murray Dubin

Meeting Minutes

Halloween Planning

- Evan will distribute CDC social distance guidelines for trick or treating.
- SHCA to host a scavenger hunt in the neighborhood, noting location of letters spelling out “Spruce Hill”, at local businesses.
- SHCA will order 6-foot long cardboard tubes called “candy shooters” to distribute on a first-come, first-serve basis to neighbors.
- SHCA to select date for members to staff the SHCA center
- Halloween yard signs to be ordered to notify neighbors that physical parade will not take place, and will include a link for virtual parade and slideshow of submitted photos of decorated houses and costumes.

Jamie Vann on Little Osage Planning

- The idea is to have a celebration that is socially distant with younger and older kids involved
- Involve local businesses that typically give, in a scavenger hunt of letters spelling out “Spruce Hill” and offer prizes of gift certificates to these same businesses. Also plan to include some newer businesses like the Ethiopian Café and Knock Box.
- Letters to go into business windows, and use the SHCA logo
- Board members to help come up with clues
- Scavenger hunt forms to be submitted to SHCA with photos
- Prizes will \$5 gift certificates to 10 businesses, with 10 prizes from each business. Prizes will be send to winners
- Motion to approve \$1,000 for Halloween budget was unanimously approved by the Board.
- Volunteers may use Google doc sign up to deliver candy shooters, staff SHCA center, distribute yard signs, and post flyers.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve September 2020 minutes was approved.

Committee Updates

Executive Committee

- Board Nominations: Richard Moore has agreed to step in as Board President, Monica Calkins will remain as Vice President, and Evan Johnstone will move into Richard’s Director spot.

Operations Committee - SHCA Building/Apartments

- Some serious work is needed on the building. SHCA will bring someone in to evaluate water penetration, and the condition of the stairway and basement stairwell.

- SHCA has a responsibility to be a standard bearer for neighborhood building maintenance
- External paint job is underway

Bird Sanctuary

- There is a dead Norway Maple, and it will cost \$3,000 to remove it.
- Motion to cover tree removal expenditure is approved.

Education Committee

- SAC meeting took place last week
- There is some principal discretion on how to move forward on re-opening
- Ms. Wapner is moving to a new school – Rhoads School.

Engagement Committee

- Coordination SHCA Halloween effort.

Zoning

- Someone bought property from University Enterprise to turn it into boarding houses. SHCA does not support boarding houses.
- S. 44th Street property wanted to increase the number of units, and had already been divided into 3 units years ago
- Mill Creek Tavern debate developers want to develop property into apartments. The property is on Southwest/Spruce Hill boundary so councilperson will need to approve which RCO has oversight.
- SHCA should do more to broadcast that SHCA is not a NIMBY community. For every property we want to protect, we should look to support other development.

Crosstown Coalition

- Meeting covered voting and how to do mail-in voting
- RCO process was also discussed
- Bad conduct of RCOs should be reported to Inspector General office

Voting

- Closest early voting location is Overbrook Elementary School
- October 19 is the last day to register and vote
- Assigned polling locations to be finalized 20 days ahead of election day
- People can serve as designated agent for sick, elderly, and homebound in order to cast their votes

Motion to adjourn approved.