

SPRUCE HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (SHCA) ANNUAL MEETING

September 14, 2021 - 7:30 pm

Board Attendance via Zoom and Teleconference

Present: Richard Moore; Evan Johnstone; Julie Bush; Al Suh; Rebecca Geller-Puchalsky; Monica Calkins; Libby Rosof; Chris Bole; Eric Santoro; Alexa Bosse; Laura Line; Jon Potter; Surgirtha Stathis; Richard Guffanti; Andrew Richman; Vicki Lewis-McGarvey; Barry Grossbach; Craig Santoro; Sylvia Hamerman-Brown; Abigail Su; Veronica Alvarez; Emily Dowdell;

Guests: Mark Washington, Asad Usman, Samantha Stein, Jeannette Brugger

September 2021 Meeting Minutes

June 2021 Minutes Approved

Ken Steif Remembered

Ken was remembered as a family man and neighbor. He was also remembered for his service on the SHCA Board, along with his many other contributions to the many communities he belonged to in West Philadelphia. His work on OurPlan under the SHCA was also highlighted. The board held a moment of silence to honor him.

Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania Cardiac Consent Study - Asad Usman, MD, MPH

- HUP is conducting a study on decision making for cardiac patients in an emergency, and invite SHCA board and membership to participate in the study
- HUP has been tasked by the FDA and UPenn to examine consent, particularly around heart health and surrogate decision-making under duress
- The study includes a questionnaire for communities surrounding HUP which is the first step in establishing a clinical trial
- Contact Samantha Stein at 609-423-5830 to participate in study

Chestnut/Walnut Repaving and Complete Streets Safety Project - Jeannette Brugger, Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator, City of Philadelphia

- The project survey has 16,000 responses about the sections of Chestnut and Walnut extending from Cobbs Creek and 63rd Street down to the Schuylkill
- For residents, the words they associated with those streets include: busy, fast, and dangerous
- The [public survey](#) is still open until 10/15/21, and the city is working to get feedback from a broader swath of the affected neighborhoods, as predominantly white neighborhoods like Spruce Hill are overrepresented in the survey responses
- Paper surveys are also being distributed in an expanding outreach effort
- 25% of respondents are Black or African American, 9 of the top 10 responding communities are along the corridor
- One questions they'd like to have answered by more people, is: Should Chestnut Street 1) remain the same, 2) be made to look like Walnut Street, or 3) with a parking protected bike land along the corridor? So far #3 is the top choice

Q&A

Q: What percentage of respondents were west of 45th Street?

A: Addresses were not collected, so the agency only has information on respondent neighborhoods.

Q: Have business owners along the corridor been surveyed?

A: Yes, businesses are being surveyed and specifically asked about loading zone needs.

Executive Committee Updates

- Baltimore Avenue Saturday Stroll to be held September 25, 2021 from 12-4 pm.

- [Feet First Philly](#) is partnering with the Dept. of Health to promote pedestrian safety through crowd-sourced walk audits and [Public Space Enhancement mini-grants](#) ranging from \$500-\$2000. Applications are due 11/08/2021.
- 4601 Market Update: recent meeting with developer, Ironstone.
 - Construction delayed, but expected to resume summer 2022
 - CHOP, PHMC, KIPP, a gym, cafeteria, and meeting space will be included in the space. The daycare is no longer part of the plan.
 - Ironstone says they are committed to improving lighting at 46th & Markets Streets

Education Committee

- First meeting held 9/30/2021 and to be promoted through SHCA list serve. PAS, Lea, and Robeson communities invited to attend. The goal of the meeting is to gather community ideas on needs and priorities
- Mission statement to be updated on SHCA website
- PAS SAC not met yet
- One goal of the committee will be to connect students and professionals

Operations Committee

- One of the apartments had a leak that has been repaired
- A new bannister to be installed
- Roofer bill to be forwarded to Andrew for payment

Engagement Committee: no updates

Business Attraction Committee: no updates

Permits (Halloween): Little Osage has decided not to host their annual block party due to Covid, but hope to return in 2022. SHCA will assemble a committee to run something remote (pumpkin carving and house decorating contests) in place of the parade and party, chaired by Andrew Richman.

Crosstown Coalition: Next meeting to be held 9/26/2021

Block Improvement: no updates

Zoning

- Meeting held in August to review five cases.
 - Among them was 4240 Chestnut This project will raise the number of units to over 1,000 in 4000 block of Chestnut
 - West Catholic parking lot to be build up. There is a lack of commercial space on the ground floor, but the plan has improved.
 - 4140 Chestnut is ideal architecturally. It is interesting
 - 43rd & Chestnut Street project to replace the strip mall. The state store will move across 43rd Street to the ground floor of the apartment building
 - All projects are as-of-right and therefore, developers do not have to listen to the local zoning board or commission.

Celebration of Mike Hardy's Life

A memorial gathering will be held at Bartram's Garden on 9/21/2021 to celebrate Mike Hardy's life. SHCA will also be making a gift in honor of Mike long and dedicated service to his community.