

HPCC Zoom Board Meeting
July 2, 2020

In Attendance: The entire HPCC Board was present

- Stephanie Walsh
- Karin Manovich
- Howard Degenholtz
- Judy Beck
- Justin Bhagat
- Jim Blakley
- Mary Beth Van Fleet
- Jim Holtzman
- Chris Worley
- Betsy Rogerson
- Sabrina Culyba
- Mac Lynch
- Bob Staresenic

Meeting Moderated by Howard Degenholtz
Called to order by Stephanie Waish at 7:03 P.M.

1. Introductions

- a. New members Justin Bhaght and Mary Beth VanFleet were recognized
- b. All Board members gave short introductions

2. May meeting minutes

- a. Updates from last meeting
 - Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership - subsidized gift card program updated
 1. The Downtown Partnership has decided not to extend the program. All funds have been allocated.
 2. Bryant Street - potential CDC tenant is magistrate court - see HPCDC agenda item below
 3. Newsletter advertising changes
 - a. New pricing structure
 - b. New website for signing up
 - c. Free ads for HP businesses through 2020

b. Vote to approve May meeting minutes:

Motion to approve May minutes- Howard Degenholtz
Motion to second- Betsy Rogerson
Ayes-Unanimous
Abstentions-0
May minutes approved

3. Committee Overview

a. Standing Committees

- i. Nominating: Stehanie Walsh is Chair
- ii. Finance: Members are the officers plus Jim Holtzman and Chair is Mac Lynch
- iii. Membership: Chris Worley is Chair, Sabrina Culyba and Betsy Rogerson are members
 1. New database
 2. Membership communication, recruitment & engagement and businesses

b. Other Committees

- i. Super Playground: Betsy Rogerson is Chair, Sabrina Culyba, Mac Lynch, and Monica Watt are members
 1. Committee members are working with City DPW regarding plans for community engagement, redesign, and reconstruction.
 2. The HPCC Playground Fund was promised to the City for updates to the Superplayground. The City will notify HPCC in advance in order for an HPCC vote to release funds.
- ii. Police Firing Range: David Klahr is Chair, Andrea Mudd is HPCC Public Safety representative, plus there are other community members.
- iii. Welcoming Committee - was Todd Shirley; he now works as part of the Membership Committee
- iv. Beautification Committee - is now inactive but people joining the HPCC have indicated interested
 1. DOMI request for volunteer waterers for N. Euclid Neighborway pilot. Could this be linked to Beautification?
 2. Some suggestions for leadership = Nancy Levine (former chair), Justin Sandherr (former Board member), someone from Fulton School

4. Goals for the year

a. Engage Bryant Street businesses

- i. Create contact list - Mary Beth will work with Bryant Street businesses with Sabrina and Betsy.
- ii. Sabrina has developed a Google form for Newsletter ads. There is currently no mechanism for direct billing with the form.
- iii. There is perhaps a way to connect with PayPal, but for the small number of transactions we will have it probably isn't worth the cost; it is a work in progress.
- iv. HPCC will provide free newsletter ads for Highland Park businesses through 2020 due to Covid-19 business disruptions.

- v. The process above will be tested in the interim.
- b. Engage HPCDC
 - i. Joint Zoom meeting 7/16/20 between HPCC and HPCDC board members
 - ii. HPCC will host HPCDC at a community meeting July 16
 - 1. Need link - Howard will obtain link and facilitate.
 - 2. HPCC will advertise and provide the meeting platform.
 - 3. Howard will develop a list of questions for the CDC. Judy will assist if needed.
 - 4. Justin will work with the CDC on their presentation.
 - 5. Presentation should last no longer than 20 minutes.

Updated added by Judy Beck, Secretary 8/8/20.

- **A subsequent Zoom meeting was held with Highland Park community residents on July 16,**
 - **The meeting was facilitated by the HPCC.**
 - **The HPCDC gave a presentation regarding their mission and vision for Bryant Street.**
 - **The HPCDC presenters also answered questions submitted by meeting participants.**
 - **The HPCDC presentation is posted on the HPCC website.**

- c. Longer term - Bryant Street beautification
 - i. Offer the CDC a 10 minute spot on every HPCC Meeting Agenda
 - ii. More frequent joint Board Meetings throughout the year

5. Bigger picture: What is the HPCC's role in projects & issues that might be controversial?

- a. We definitely try to:
 - i. Provide information about the project / issue out to the community
 - ii. Provide feedback or concerns from the community to the entities involved
 - iii. Facilitate communication between neighbors and the entities involved
- b. Beyond that:
 - i. How do we have difficult conversations?
 - 1. Example: Board response to racial justice protests; statement on inclusivity and diversity intended to be based on consensus but it's challenging to get everyone engaged via email on controversial subjects
 - 2. We won't always agree
 - 3. Also, it was meant for the June newsletter which never came out; post in July - undecided

4. Would we / should we advocate for things that we think are beneficial to the greater community even if they are not universally supported?
- c. The HPCC is now a registered Community Organization. This gives the HPCC more rights as an organization, e.g Zoning/Zoning Hearings.
- d. What is our role in social issues?
 - i. Is it being an advocate or taking a position?
 - ii. It was decided that Board members would research best practices and mission statements from other community groups similar to ours.
 - iii. The HPCC Board will continue to develop and strengthen our process.
 - iv. This topic will be the main agenda item at the next HPCC Board meeting - a special meeting on August 6, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 P.M. by Stephanie Walsh.