

January 21, 2020

Board Meeting Notes

Board Attendees: Anna Batista, Raymond Baum, Jill Beck, Dalia Belinkoff, Richard Feder, Lori Fitzgerald, Michael Henderson, Marshall Hershberg, Martha Isler, Paul Katz, Lois Liberman, Lisa Murphy, Joseph Ott, Mary Shaw, Lisa Steindel, Erik Wagner, Eveline Young

Staff: Maria Cohen

Guests: Hersh Merenstein, Jenna McGreery, Heather Shea, Tony Indovina, Cindy Berger, Larry Gerson, Ian Kortz

The December Notes were approved. Lois Approved, Mary Seconded

Welcome by Mardi Isler. Two changes to agenda. 5) Mellon Park historical designation – table for Lori to answer – refer to Build Design Committee. Joe Ott and Mary Shaw also need process for support letters.

Roll Call

1. Approval of November Minutes – Can be too long. We will try to do a better job of summarizing.
-Corrections: Rich raised spelling of Ose and Gordon (Corrections made to 11/19/19 meeting notes.) . Also asked about Port Authority planting at bulb out. Preventing trees from being planted.

Lois approve, Eveline 2nd

2. Mission – changed it to not be 14th Ward. It should be North and South Squirrel Hill. We changed the mission but not the bi-laws. It is important to go by the City. We need to amend the articles of incorporation. (Mary Shaw addressed/Jill Beck – all our governing documents will be changed and all other legal docs) – All Carry – non opposed

a. Joe, approved, Rich 2nd

3. Executive Director Report – We will have a comparison next year for cost centers.

P&L for December

Winter Donor Campaign is doing well.

Lunar NY – Lois will volunteer

-Dinner on website.

-Event on January 25 @ St. Edmund's Discovery Center

4. Education Committee Update

Meet with Linden – Get word out. Lunar NY participation, switching to Mandarin and will be IB certified, very receptive to support from SHUC and the community , article in the Mag; trying to get Mandarin tutors.

Minadeo – get the word out; had a reputation of being unruly/bullying – completely changed – 180 now above 300; more requests for tours vs. previous years; still 14 slots for pre-k low income; Interested in a community event.

Colfax – will meet with them

Rumors of feeder patterns changing. We will need to stay in the loop.

Rich attended CDS Martin Luther King Jr. celebration.

5. Bike Ped – Feb 13th meeting in JCC Room 202; Craig Tutick – speed bumps on Beechwood -traffic calming will be the subject of the Meeting. Met with Helen to figure out biking route to inform the Map. (Focus) Carol Richbaum – Lockworks – cooperative arrangement between Pitt and State Department related to Health/walking – grant. Update on Mon-Oakland connector.

Mary Shaw – Junction Hollow – PWSA – temp trail – will be gravel (not satisfactory to bikers – advocate for limestone)- Mary sent engineering drawing sent.

Another trail – Power meeting sub station; Domi meeting same plot with sub station; Is the power co. coordinating with the city? Power co. will move to let City do what it wants. If Power company helps the trail can be on one side.

Closure of bridal trail. No actual viable path from Bartlett to Shenley. All trails in Shenley broken DOMI can you fix some?

Can you make outlook drive two ways?

6. Events – Jill - Need some light lift events in the Spring; We need committee meetings. Happy Hour or another event – family event.

Larger fall event could coincide with map or scavenger hunt. Would love ideas...All about efficiency. March first event. Summer picnic associated with a bike loop for kids with safety programs. Need a July event. (Heat Island effect for animals.) – Could have a bike party at the end of prospect.

7. Holiday calendar – Mardi will send it out

8. Meeting has been scheduled for Flats on Forbes. Big change office removed and still retail – more affordable. On Tuesday, Feb 11 @ 6:30 pm in Room 202 of the JCC. Who is shuring up Mayburn (street collapsed) – whose problem is it to fix?

9. Litter Patrol – Person leaving for social media. They could use another. Monday, 2/3 @ 6:30 pm at Barb's home. April 19th – Squirrel Hill Clean up.

Good Neighbor Campaign – Rich edited letters to merchants. Keep property clean and good sidewalks. Cigarette But receptacles.

10. Mellon Park Historical designation- Spoke about the Mon-Oakland issue and this brought about a need for a process/better understanding.
11. President Report – RCO – Need to mail the documents. The paperwork has been submitted.
12. Task force for Membership – have a conversation about how to update and figure out. Dalia and Lisa Steindel.
13. O'Connor's Corner – postponed until the Spring. Complications with grants and bids. Might need to re-bid. State and County grant creating some extra work.

14. Old Business – Joe Ott - Policy regarding how we lend our support as an organization. How can we provide transparency? We should have some governing language. – More tangible to guide decision making. We are solicited on project we say yes or no but we do not necessarily have a non-partisan reason.
 - a. Mary Shaw – For an advocate – how do we handle it? We need to understand both sides and ensure that we are not sandbagged.
 - b. Limited bandwidth – How are we going to ensure that we are not spread so thin? Sometimes not taking a position is perfectly fine.
Some may pertain to Built Environment committee.
There can be legitimate issues on both sides. What is our role as a facilitator?
We have been consistent about getting the facts out on the table.
Appoint an adhoc committee so that we can put a policy in place when approached.
Also our committees might come to us for the letter. Also include time needed.
-Does it fit our mission? Maybe we are just the honest broker.
Lori and we will start. It might be based upon a flow chart.
15. Hersh -goal for Christmas trees – 2,000 on track and making Mulch for residence
 - a. Dolly Parton Foundation – distributed 16,000 books Imagination Library
 - b. PSWA is moving ahead without DOMI – connection from Panther Hollow Lake – in phase 2 – No one can explain the timing.
16. Lunar NY – fundraising is different because it is another setting. Public safety is paid for under permit. Asked Solevo to cover public safety grant for \$1,000. Many thanks!!
17. Mobility trail – city has announced a plan for next 50 years. Ideas about how transportation can be fundamentally changed. Getting more people into the city after past exodus. What are alternatives for people to take different transportation planning. Website: DOMI 2070 Vision
 - a. Annual Cool Down hardship fund – Thursday and Friday in Market Square
18. Mural Project – proposed for Squirrel Hill. Kat Walker foundation. Paired from 25 to 5 location. Exciting project – stay tuned.

Adjourned