

## Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition: Board Meeting Minutes, February 18, 2020

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Board Members: Anna Batista, Raymond Baum, Jill Beck, Dalia Belinkoff, Vivian Didomenico, Richard Feder, Lori Fitzgerald, Heather Graham, Barbara Grover, Marshall Hershberg, Mardi Isler, Lois Liberman, Cindy Morelock, Lisa Murphy, Eric Wagner, Eveline Young

Staff: Maria Cohen

Guests: Miranda Micire, Laura Quinn, Curt Conrad, Ann Belser

1. Welcome - Mardi
2. Roll Call - Maria
3. Action Items

January Minutes approval - Marshall moved and Evaline seconded a motion to approve the June minutes. The motion carried.

4. Executive Director's Report

P&L For the month of January our net income was 2,156.11. This was largely driven by revenue from the winter donor campaign, which brought in 6,601 in membership dues for January. It was a very successful campaign that has helped improve our cash flow situation, we're grateful to contributors. Overall the Winter Donor Campaign has brought in (as of January 31, 2020) about \$8581 total (6601+1980) with about 3 days of labor, limited supplies and postage. We're going to see if we can expand the list of people we solicit and will have another campaign later in the Spring.

Our unrestricted bank accounts have \$54,046.50 compared to last year at this date when we had \$41,218. We continue to track our expenses to make sure our burn rate is not too great, especially in the months we print the magazine. It appears we're on a good pace to be able to fund all of our activities, particularly given the success of the winter donor campaign.

### Mural Task Force Update

The mural project is underway. One location has been secured with the hope that 2 -3 more locations will be added for Phase 1. Initially the committee is looking at [One](#) on Murray, [One](#) on Forbes and potentially a cross walk. Mardi spoke to and secured the PPA [p](#)arking lot under to the Library. The location is a bit "dingy" and could use some TLC. We are currently narrowing the pool of artists and are open to suggestions for artists and locations. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.

End of Year Fundraising Campaign ——This campaign has been very successful with 92 members and \$9,-256 raised to date. Cindy Morlock asked if we could break out the past members vs. new. We will do that for the next Board Meeting. Mardi shared that we will be able to track more data and queries will be easier going forward. We were in a start over mode with Kindful.

## 5. ~~5.~~ Committee Reports

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- a. Built Environment – Lori Fitzgerald and the Built Committee is meeting with Matthew Historic Preservation to understand the application process and will present it to the board for the Phipps Garden Project. The committee also hosted a meeting to update the community about the Flats on Forward project on Tuesday, February 11, 2020.
- b. Education – Members met with the principals of Linden and Minadeo. They are scheduled to meet with the principal of Colfax next week. Both Linden and Minadeo will have articles in the next issue of the Magazine. The committee is establishing a relationship with Linden and focused on establishing relationships with all of the PPS in our community. At Colfax, there could be some redistricting or split grades because there is overcrowding.
- c. Litter Patrol – Barb is organizing and in need of volunteers for the March 1<sup>st</sup> Lunar New Year Parade.  
The committee also have the April 19<sup>th</sup> Spring Clean Up and Night Markets coming up. Volunteers are needed for both. The next committee meeting is Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- d. Magazine – The next publish date for the Magazine is scheduled for 3/6/2020 and the issue will be New Beginnings. Maria shared some of the upcoming articles.
- e. Ped-Bike Committee - The committee will be meeting with Karina Ricks and Katie Sawyer from DOMI. They are also looking into the traffic calming speed bumps on Beechwood. There have been some complaints. Should there be signs in advance of the bumps?  
The committee will send out meeting notes after its next meeting. DOMI also has a ten-year bike plan called the Bike Plus Plan. Community members can give input at public meetings scheduled in neighborhoods throughout the city.  
Bike PGH is giving away lights and there might be an event scheduled by the Bike-Ped committee to pass out lights.  
The committee is drafting a proposal for the walking/bike map.
- f. Trees and Parks – There were 26 trees planted. There is an application being submitted to TreeVitalize/Tree Pittsburgh with 49 trees. Grants need to be submitted by 4/22 @ 8 am. There is already a grant at Tree Pittsburgh for elementary schools to plant trees.
- g. Volunteers/Events – We might need volunteers for a small squirrel scavenger hunt in the summer or fall.

5-6. President’s Report

Tree of Life Memorialization Update – It is not our position to lead a meeting. We will take our orders from the Memorialization committee. Mardi reached out to public works and they sent back information indicating that the project was still happening. Our role might be to schedule a meeting with the neighbors.

O’Connor’s Corner – There will be a rebid with ads in the Post-Gazette the first week of April. They asked for waivers from the new Project Manager.

6-7. Old Business

Rich Feder – Last month was covered the RCO application to the City. (We are waiting to hear.) Rich also went through some helpful Squirrel Hill demographics.

7-8. New Business

Decision Tree – Lori Fitzgerald created a comprehensive decision tree. The board needs to review the document and to give feedback for changes.

~~8-9.~~ Announcements – Colfax Party for Play March 28<sup>th</sup>?

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm