

Squirrel Hill Urban Coalition
Board Meeting Notes
August 20, 2019

Board: Mardi Isler, Cindy Morelock, Ray Baum, Heather Graham, Rich Feder, Dalia Belinkoff, Vivian Dedominico, Lisa Steindel, Lois Liberman, Mary Shaw, Barb Grover, Gina Levine, Eveline Young, Lisa Murphy, Joshua Sayles, Eric Wagner

Staff: Maria Cohen

Guests: Jean Binstock (resident), Helen Wilson(Historical Society); Ernest Rajakone from Pittsburgh City Office of Community Affairs (???) – *Not sure if this is accurate.*

Mardi starts by suggesting that all Board members print out documents for their own use at the Board meeting. No copies will be made since there was a lot of wasted paper at the June meeting.

New Board Members:

Mardi provides background on the 3 new proposed Board members and reasons why she and Joe Ott talked to the Executive Committee at their meeting in June?/July? And ExecCommittee approved bringing these 3 candidates up for discussion at our meeting. Mardi explained the different skills, experiences, expertise that these people bring to the Board as a rationale for the decisions.

Mary Shaw raises the issue about determining what kind of Board we are planning to be (i.e., governing body, working body or a combination) prior to adding people to the board. Seems the process of adding board members prior to having the discussion is out of order. Marshall raises issue of suggesting that we had previously suggested that people attend some meetings, serve on a committee, giving Board members a chance to get to know the people prior to adding to the Board. Lisa, Eveline, Ray also offered comments that the communication to the larger Board and the resumes were somewhat problematic. Dalia indicates that there was no specific process before and it seems as though it was different for different people. Mary raises concern about diversity and reaching out to

Lisa Steindel moves to accept the recommendations of the nominating committee at this meeting, but that we formalize a protocol for future new Board members.

12 Yes, 2 No, 0 – Abstain

Mardi introduced Anita Batista and Paul Katz, two of the newly approved Board members. Introduce themselves. Mardi then describes a bit about the 3rd new Board member, Beth ???. Joe Ott is the one who recruited Beth. Beth arrived about 7:30pm and shared a bit about her background. s

Mardi provides an overview of the process to hire Maria Cohen. Maria offers some background on the history of her and her husband's family living in Squirrel Hill. Expressed her enthusiasm for being a part of SHUC.

Eveline moved and Vivian seconded a motion to approve the June minutes. Unanimously approved.

2. Action Items

a. Budget Discussion:

Hired a Bookkeeper who will categorize according to the Profit & Loss statement items. Discussion occurred about various items listed in the 2019-2020 budget. Statements will be provided monthly. Lois suggests subcategories, under Projects. Dalia moved and Josh seconded a motion to accept the budget as proposed. Unanimously approved.

b. Mission statement Discussion:

Rich suggests add "institutions" to list of residents, businesses, & visitors. Consensus to approve. Rich moves and Lois seconds a motion to approve the mission statement as amended.

c. Squirrel Policy - Amend "appropriate donation without a specific dollar amount." Unanimously approved as amended.

5. Committee Appointments

All Chairs should review the descriptions of their committees and provide Mardi with changes. She wants to use these descriptions to provide to people who may be interested in participating in SHUC

4. Treasure Dinner Update.

Recording of video occurred today; sponsorships are doing well; Vivian – Ad Book – she has contacted every one who had an ad in last year's book; Sponsors may take ads; Deadline is Oct 1. Heather has a newsletter in which she will include info.

Invitations should be received in the next day or so.

Farmers Market needs volunteers to sell Raffle Tickets. We will NOT sell tickets on Oct. 27 since one year anniversary of Tree of Life killings. Suggest Farmers Mkt be cancelled. 600 raffle tickets total printed

Distributed packets of 12 tickets to each Board member.

Raises issue of having a software program to track donations. Possibly using a process that connects Giftworks and Kindful. Mardi, Dalia, and Maria are going to take training on the system.

Night Market – Jean, Helen will volunteer for SHUC table at Night Market. Notify Maria if want to volunteer.

Check Google Drive for who has signed up to volunteer for Night Markets and Farmer's Markets

Discussion of where to put SHUC Tent; Two choices: 1) remain where we are or 2) move to intersection of Bartlett and Murray. Consensus: stay where we are for August & September. Possibly change in 2020.

Sept. 17 annual Meeting Update

Marshall. Outlined general program

- I. Overall of SHUC – Committee chairs 2 min. each – emphasize volunteer opportunities –
- II. Corey O'Connor and Erika Strassburger
- III. Q&A from audience.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm