

Attendees: Ray Baum, Jill Beck, Dalia Belinkoff, Guy Costa, Heather Graham, Mardi Isler, Marshall Hershberg, Melissa Hiller, Lisa Murphy, Mary Shaw, Lisa Steindel, Erik Wagner
Guest: Emilie Yonan
Staff: Maria Cohen

Welcome

1. Roll Call - Maria
 - a. Announce Guests
2. Action Items
 - a. Approval of August Minutes – Approval motioned by Guy Costa, seconded by Lisa Steindel, the Motion Carried
 - b. Neill Log House – SHUC as Fiduciary (see attached) – SHUC will hold the funds and pay the bills for the restricted account. We would receive a fee for service. Charlie Stewart has committed \$20k to get started. Goal: Stabilize, renovate and eventually operate the Neill Log House as an educational facility. Ray is creating a non-profit. Corporation, FONLH Board and bylaws. SHUC will have 2 board members and will not have any liability. Donations will be made to the Coalition and deposited in a restricted account, but approved expenditures will be by the FONLH Board. The Board will have its own insurance and operate as a separate entity. Mary Shaw motioned to approve SHUC acting as the fiduciary for FONLH, seconded by Marshall Hershberg, the motion carried.
 - c. Office Assistant – Approval for Hiring (job description attached) We need to provide back office assistance for about 20 hours a week that would be a staff person. We could be do a lot more if we had more staff. Lisa S motioned to approve advertising and hiring an Office Assistant, seconded by Ray Baum. The motion carried
3. Executive Director's Report
 - a. Friends of Wightman Playground - Friends of Wightman Park/SHUC hosted our first mulching event on Thursday, August 19th @ 5 pm and Picnic in the Park with Alison Zapata and Oreen Cohen was directly after. Both were a success! We plan to host our next Mulching Event on Sunday, October 10th from 10 am – 12 pm and a pruning/clean up event on Sunday, November 14th. Details for both events are included in our latest Newsletter. Unfortunately, we had a vandalism issue reported by our cleaning crew. The city can't add the electronic locking system until the Spring so they are planning to increase evening patrols and might have someone manually open/close the restrooms for the next month until the season is over.

\$1,191.35 has been raised in our Go Fund Me account and has been linked to our Paypal charities account. The money has been deposited into the Friends of Wightman Park restricted account. The anniversary of the first year ribbon cutting is at the end of the month.

- b. JCC Center for Loving Kindness - We along with several other local community organizations are partnering with the JCC Center for Loving Kindness to host a Yom Kippur commitment this Thursday, September 16th from 2:30 – 3:30 pm. The event will be via zoom. The speakers will be discussing how to combat hate. Please join if you are able.
- c. We will also partner on a 3-part book series that will take place on 3 Thursdays and 3 Fridays in October, November in December. Books include: October's conversations explore Sally Kohn's *The Opposite of Hate: A Field Guide to Repairing Our Humanity*. November's conversations explore Nadine Strossen's *Hate: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship*. December's conversations explore Valarie Kaur's *See No Stranger: A Memoir and Manifesto of Revolutionary Love* The conversations have been added to the JCC Loving Kindness.
- d. Saltwater Rewards Update – If you haven't already, please sign up for Squirrel Hill rewards at squirrelhillrewards.com. Several of our key merchants including Little's, Kiin, Sunburst, I am Yoga and more are participate with several others in line to sign up. You can earn rewards at local shops and at the neighborhood level. You can even choose to donate your neighborhood point to some favorite charitable orgs including the JCC, Brother's Brother and 1Hood. Sign up by October 2nd for your chance to win a \$100 Visa gift card!
- e. Love Your Block - The Love Your Block Grant has been approved! We will use it neighborhood beautification project that we mentioned in the last meeting. If the City Forester can remove the stumps quickly we might be able to use the funds for even more improvements! The project is located on a frequently used pathway connecting from Forbes/Beacon to Hobart. There are currently about 10 large tree stumps -some over a foot in diameter, and weeds covering the hillside. The size of the stumps makes it difficult to beautify the area. The neighbors would love to restore this hillside by removing the stumps, adding top soil, and planting flowering trees, evergreens, bird feeders, and a bench as it would make it an inviting space for the people who prefer a quiet stroll down Guarino/Kamin away from the more trafficked Hobart.

4. Treasurer's Report

a. P & L for August - In August, we had income of \$23,538.35. Thanks to the incredible efforts of the Treasure Dinner committee and especially Ray, Mardi and Dalia we had \$21,000 in sponsorship income! We also started selling raffle tickets for the Treasure Dinner. Our Expenses were \$9,775.92 mostly related to typical expenses like payroll, our summer intern, and rent other expenses included litter patrol campaign and supplies and our quarterly insurance payment. Overall we are in a good position

with an ending balance of \$64,204.80 in our general account. Our net operating income was \$13,762.43.

5. Committee Reports

1. Built Environment – Next month will be the CMU Master Plan.

2. Litter Patrol - Litter Patrol Report

Changes suggested for Oct. 2, 2021 Night Market

a. More Trash bins and fewer recycling bins; None of the recycling bins needed to be replaced but the Trash bins were filled quickly b. Cart the folded bins and bags to their location and then set them up rather than doing that at the parklet. Awkward to carry them. Or set up by Parkvale Savings to get out of the heavy traffic area at the parklet. c. Request that the city empty both their trash and recycling bins PRIOR to the night market. Mardi will contact Hersh to help us accomplish that. d. For those monitoring trash bins, If a city trash bin is full/overflowing, move some of these items to our trash bins to alleviate the overflow.

October 2 Night Market

a. Volunteers are needed for the 6-11pm shifts. We have enough for the 4-6 shift. Kim and Bob Norman will meet with Barb about assembling the trash & recycling bins. 2. Eleanor and Kim will try to recruit some of their neighbors using our flyer. 3. Alex will contact Melissa at Starbucks about providing volunteers. 4. Four of our new volunteers are contacting people at Chatham, Pitt, and CMU to recruit volunteers 5. Barb's contacted Americorps for volunteers but only 1 response so far. 6. ALL SHUC Board Members are encouraged to recruit volunteers.

b. We are getting Litter Patrol T-shirts and dolly.

3. Ped-Bike Committee - 1. Footloose has made a great deal of progress and we are almost ready to launch. SHUC did a soft launch at the Squirrel Hill Pitt Welcome Event. 2. Speed bumps near Mellon Park. – It might be cost prohibitive. District 8 and SHUC are looking for other lower cost solutions. 3. DOMI/Bike Pittsburgh Quarterly meeting summary by Mary Shaw – Move Forward Pittsburgh has upcoming meetings about . DOMI is trying to reduce accidents to zero. There will be much more public transportation. The Spin Scooters presented. We are having some growing pains but DOMI is getting ahead of it. They do have a few requirements/questions before rental. Spin is trying to train the users so that we get the benefits without the nuisance. If you report an improperly marketed scooter the person will be penalized. Email: support@spin.pm or use the Go Burgh App.

The directions for using MyBurgh to report spin scooter problems, including parking violations is: When it says "choose issue type", choose "parking", then in the submenu under parking choose "SPIN (Stand Up) Scooters"

For parking problems, try to provide a photo that shows the 5-digit number that's in big white characters at the bottom of the handle. In the text, give the location and the 5-digit number in case the photo doesn't go through. Also say what's wrong, like "parked on sidewalk" or "parked blocking handicapped ramp"

4. Trees and Parks – TreeVitalize application is due October 15th if any streets are interested in getting Tree Request Forms signed and submitted.

5. Treasure Dinner - We are at \$57k and collected \$51k. There might be another \$10k out. We are not doing an ad book and it will be jpgs. Each board member should sell tickets and hopefully volunteer for selling at the Farmer's market. Are we going to be able to do this as an in-person event? Do we have fewer attendees? Do we require vaccines? The committee is studying the alternatives and will decide by Invitation mailing mid October.

6. President's Reporta

a. 6444 Landview Rd Hearing – The last hearing was cancelled because the owner lied to the magistrate and said that the property had been cleaned up. It had not!

b. Post Office Parklet Issues – No loitering signs were added. Acting Commander Kroll and the Post Office police are working together. 1) Some assistance for those who do not have homes and mental health services 2) Enforcement of no loitering sign

7. Old Business

a. Raffle Tickets Sales

8. New Business

a. Mayor's Office Update – From Hersh, Maria was asked to send out to the Board.

b. Introduce Magazine Editor – We are happy and excited to report that our new hire Missy Melissa Eppihimer has started. We have her contracted for at least 4 issues. Missy is a very good fit with an impressive background. We look forward to our next Holiday issue!

c. Email: Report of Accomplishments to the Community (see attached) By consensus, board thought it was a good idea to make it “pretty” and send it out to our Email list.

9. Announcements

f. Hiring new work study graduate student: Fritz Jan Manzano

b. Coming Soon: New SHUC Website

c. Events – Should we do an outdoor happy hour? Could it be virtual? We might want to table it until Spring.

Adjourn – Lisa Steindel motioned to adjourn.