

SQUIRREL HILL URBAN COALITION



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Board Meeting, March 21, 2023, 6:30 PM, In-Person - Room 220 JCC Minutes

Board Attendees: Ray Baum, Justin Berk, Dalia Belinkoff, Heather Graham, Melissa Hiller, Lisa Murphy, Jon Prince, Mary Shaw, Erik Wagner

Guests: Patsy Boone, Sean Harrington, Councilmember Barb Warwick, Tony Indovina, Helen Wilson Staff: Maria Cohen

1. Welcome

2. Action Items

Approve February Minutes – Erik Wagner motioned, Ray Baum seconded the motion, the motion carried

3. Executive Director's Report

- a. Barb Grover Sendoff as Chair of Litter Patrol - Barb's sendoff luncheon was on Friday, 3/3 at Aladdin's. The core litter patrol group, Robyn Crawley and Ray Baum were there and we welcomed Rachel Lacrone as new head of Litter patrol. We gifted a beautiful photo with frame from Ten Thousand Villages, a plant from Squirrel Hill florist and a famous burnt almond torte from Prantls for dessert. Barb sent a lovely thank you note.
- b. Forbes Fund Update – The Forbes Fund reviewed the MAGs grants and approved the Coalition's application with a request for additional details. Dr. Karolak and Maria are meeting tomorrow morning to go over details.
- c. JCC Center for Loving Kindness – Thursday Anna Hollis, Executive Director of Amachi House, joined us as we dissected her selection Under the Skin by Linda Villarosa examining the health/healthcare of Black Americans. The JCC Center for Loving Kindness will host a Tapas Passover event next Thursday evening.

4. Treasurer's Report

P & L for February - For the month of February we had income of \$4,170. Of that, \$3,500 was in the form of sponsorship income from the treasure dinner. Our expenses for February were \$5,888, mostly comprised of salaries and professional fees. As a result our operating income for the month of February was negative \$1,718.

Balance sheet: \$22,853 in our main checking account. This is a bit less than the \$34,000. we had last year at this time but still enough cash to carry out our monthly activities.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Built Environment – A DAM will be hosted by SHUC regarding the Irish Center new development on Tuesday evening, May 2nd via zoom. SHUC had a preliminary meeting with the Developer on Monday, 3/20.
 - b. Litter Patrol – SHUC is hosting its annual Earth Day event on Sunday, April 23rd 9 am – 12 pm. There will be a clean sweep week where individuals and groups can sign up to clean anytime that week. We are writing to confirm that there will be a Wightman Park event on Sunday, April 30th.
 - c. Ped-Bike – Mary Shaw attended the recent Bike Pittsburgh meeting. All city projects are listed on the Bike Pittsburgh Site. The Beechwood – Forbes intersection was discussed with nothing new to report. The Anderson Bridge project and Five Points intersection fatality was also discussed.
 - d. Treasure Award’s Dinner – All four Treasures accepted, were announced and we are excited to host on Wednesday, 11/8 @ PGC. The 2023 Treasures are Helen Wilson, Ellen Kessler, Liz Miller and JFCS.
6. President’s Report
- a. Preserve Our Parks and Gardens – Refer to Magazine article. Gardens were added to Parks because residents are being affected.
 - b. Neill Log House Update – The FONLH has raised approximately \$250k meaning construction can begin in June. FONLH is waiting for the final lease to sign off from the city. FONLH is now planning for educational programming when opened in summer 2024.
7. New Business
- a. The Mon Water Project – Annie Quinn discussed Four Mile Run and drainage issues. It is important to continuously evaluate all water sheds. What are the water issues in Squirrel Hill – send to Annie!
 - b. Councilmember Warwick – There has been an after-school issue with the Bus stop at the GetGo on Murray & Forward. Principal McCoy is supporting us. It is 3 blocks from the school making it more challenging. Zone 4 has been present daily. Barb went to observe on Friday, 3/17. It is a lot of kids but they are really just kids waiting for the bus. Barb has been in touch with Reach. They do outreach to students. Negative issues are caused by a handful of kids – not all. PRT is aware of the issue. The pass rate for the 93 bus was high. PRT started sending two buses. SHUC should write a letter to adjust the route to change the stop to be in front of Allderdice.
 - c. Mayor’s office updates: **Mayor's Office is Hiring!** The Mayor's Office teams on Communications, Neighborhood Services, and Executive Advisor on Legal Policy are hiring! Please see the opportunities below and share them with your networks to help us recruit candidates. For more information go to: pghjobs.net

Let's Go Get It

The City is hosting an event- 'Let's Go Get It- Job & Procurement Fair' on Thursday, March 30, 2023 at Schenley Ice Rink, Banquet Hall from 8.00 am-12.00 pm. There will be information sharing around City's Procurement opportunities and City jobs. There will be workshops for small businesses around-

- PRT Certification Process
- URA Small Business Loans
- RCI Financial support for emerging businesses
- PennDOT-How to register for PennDOT contracts.

Link: bit.ly/PGH0330

Learn and Earn

The Learn and Earn Summer Youth Employment program provides summer job opportunities for youth ages 14-21. Residents of the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County may apply for this program.

- Applications close June 9th
- First Day of Work June 26th
- Last day of Work August 4th

Link: <https://www.partner4work.org/programs/learn-earn>

CITIPARKS LIFEGUARDS WANTED!

Lifeguards are hired to work at Citiparks Aquatic Facility locations June through Labor Day. Citiparks offers Lifeguard Certification Training courses prior to the season as well as recertification for experienced lifeguards. Candidates must have a Red Cross Lifeguard Certification valid through September 4, 2023 and additionally are required to submit criminal background clearances and pass a medical exam. Link: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks/lifeguard-info>

Healthy Homes Asthma Program

- The WHE Healthy Homes Asthma Program will identify and enroll 130 households to deliver interventions proven to improve the health outcomes of children with an asthma diagnosis.
 - The interventions taken may include:
 - repairing or replacing leaking roofs, windows, and downspouts
 - installing bathroom and dryer vents and dehumidifiers
 - removing and replacing carpeting
 - sealing holes and walls to eliminate pests
 - For more information go to: <https://womenforahealthyenvironment.org/asthma-program/>
8. Announcements

Adjourn –Ray Baum motioned to adjourn, Lisa Murphy Seconded the motion, the motion carried.