

SQUIRREL HILL URBAN COALITION



SERVING: RESIDENTS • INSTITUTIONS • BUSINESSES • VISITORS

Board Meeting, March 19, 2024, 6:30 PM, Room 220 JCC Minutes

Board Attendees: Ray Baum, Dalia Belinkoff, Guy Costa, Marshall Hershberg, Melissa Hiller, Martha Isler, Jeremy Kazzaz, Rachel Lecrone, Lisa Murphy, Vida Passero, Mary Shaw, David Vatz, Erik Wagner

Guests: Ashley Bryant, Christian Umbach, Shannon and Dave Mischler, Helen Wilson, Tony Indovina, Scott McMurtry, Sean Harrington, Ann Besler, Pitt Students (Izzy and Sophie)

• Welcome

1. Roll Call - Maria

- Announce Guests

2. Action Items

- Approve Recommendation for new Board Member – Marshall Hershberg Motioned, Lisa Murphy seconded the motion, Motion carried.
- Approval for 2024 Budget – Erik Wagner motioned to approve; Guy Costa seconded the motion, Motion carried.
- Approval to Submit State Grant \$74, 807, 18 trees; replace banners; Day of the Dead; Murray; Community Day; Office furniture; technology; holiday lights –Jeremy Kazzaz motioned to approve; Guy Costa seconded the motion, Motion carried.
- Approval to submit URA Grant for 2025 Holiday Mingle – Marshall Hershberg motioned to approve, Melissa Hiller seconded the motion, Motion carried.

3. President's Report

- Neill Log House Update – The forestry department took down 12 dead trees and pruned others. FONLH is ready to do the grading. Time lapse photos and video taken. There will be a garden in the back and Orchard in the front. The city order for the steps have been drafted and are ready to be ordered. FONLH applied for RAD funding. It is possible that the city might take responsibility for the educational programming, or a RAD funded organization might take the responsibility.
- Deer Management Update – 61 Frick; Riverview 48; Most of the meat was donated to the Foodbank; April 2nd Deer Management Update – Mardi will be

the moderator for the Q&A. Recommendation: All 5 parks will participate next year.

- Need Board Member to fill Treasurer Position

4. Fiscal Report (We need a Treasurer)

- P & L for February – You will notice that the February report still has the past fiscal year starting June 1. That will be corrected in March. February was a light activity month. There was approximately \$3,800 in revenue mostly from our fiduciary activities with the FONLH, winter donor contributions and Magazine revenue. Expenses were typical including rent, payroll and office supplies. The ending Feb account balance was \$15,263.61.

5. Executive Director's Report

- Clean Sweep in person event and weeklong clean up – SHUC's in person Clean Sweep event will be held on Sunday, April 21st (9 am – 12 pm). The virtual clean up with group and individual options will be held April 14 -22nd due to when Passover falls. SHUC needs volunteers for our booth and for the clean-up in general. Please also support us by getting the word out. There will again be a fun photo contest with prizes from merchants. Please share and participate if you are able.
- Gong Universe and Meditation at the JCC – On Sunday, April 21st in partnership with Monique Mead Sound healer and violinist with AWC and professor @ CMU, Azure Family Concerts, JCC 10.27 Healing partnership and the Coalition, Mike Tamburo will give two incredible, healing, sensory friendly musical performances. The programming supports individuals on the spectrum/with Autism. All performances will be at the JCC Katz Auditorium. The first concert will be Gong Universe with 40 gongs, bells, hammered dulcimer and other tuned metal instruments. There will be an opportunity to learn how to play some of the instruments. That performance requires registration but is free to the public. The next performance from 4:30 – 6:30 pm will be a meditative sound healing experience with a \$35 ticket charge with all proceeds benefiting Autism Pittsburgh and the artists. Please share and come out if you are able.

6. Committee Reports

- Built Environment – No DAM
- Litter Patrol – Clean Sweep week; Broader communication in the coming weeks
 - Earth Day – Already explained – Clean Sweep in person and week long event
- Ped-Bike – Meet with Hazelwood Initiative, GCA and SHUC bike ped met to come up with a plan of what the priorities should be for all three neighborhoods. PennDOT is working actively on the interchange at the parkway. Community meetings will be held in May 2024.
- Trees and Parks – Jeremy has been going through all of the larger priority area to secure signatures to plant trees. CDS signed off.

. May 1st Application to TreeVitalize

7. Old Business

8. New Business

- . Christian Ubach - Senior City Planner – Christian is the liaison between city planning and the neighborhoods. His focus is on neighborhood plans and the comprehensive city plan. The plan will be all elements in the city and how they connect. The focus traditionally has been neighborhood by neighborhood not a full city plan city wide vision for the future. Element of the plan: 1) Values and Aspirations inform 2) Road Map; Plan will include: Environmental Justice; Waste, Energy, Climate Action, Stormwater Management, Parks and Open Spaces, Vacant Land, Food, Youth, Housing, Economic Opportunity, Public Housing, Technology + Digital Equity, Civic Engagement, Democracy + Participation, Arts and Culture, Historical Preservation, Urban Design, Mobility and Transportation, Neighborhood planning; It will give the opportunity for a more proactive approach and departments will have an aligned vision making collaboration more effective. Future land use and zoning will be part of the comprehensive plan.

A group of 12 consultants are putting together the plan. Christian will be SHUC's representative.

9. Announcements

- . Mayor's office – Ashley Bryant from the Mayor's office shared her relationship to Squirrel Hill. Wed, July 17th is City in the Streets in Hazelwood
- . Councilwoman Warwick – No report
- . Erik Ledge – Erik has a project for a database of all businesses.

Adjourn Motion to adjourn, meeting adjourned