

SQUIRREL HILL URBAN COALITION



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Board Meeting, May 21, 2024, 6:30 PM, Room 220 JCC Minutes

Welcome 1. Roll Call – Maria

Present Board Members: Guy Costa, Lori Fitzgerald, Marshall Hershberg, Mardi Isler, Jeremy Kazzaz, Lisa Murphy, Vida Passero, Rachel Lecrone, Jon Prince, Mary Shaw, David Vatz, Eric Wagner Guests: Ann Besler, Christian Ubach, Zelda Curtiss, Sean Harrington, Helen Wilson, Tony Indovina, Missy Eppenheimer, Councilmember Barb Warwick Staff: Maria Cohen

2. Action Items

- a. Approval of April Minutes - Lisa Steindel motioned to approve the April minutes, Jeremy Kazzaz seconded the motion, the motion carried.

3. President's Report

- a. Proposal : Election of SHUC Officers for 19 months – Now that our BCO 10 and 990 will be on a typical calendar year moving forward. If the board approves, SHUC can have the 19-month term length.
- b. Marshall Hershberg motioned to approve, Mary Shaw seconded the motion, the motion carried.
- c. Neill Log House Update – A French drain will be added tomorrow. Trees will be planted on May 25th. There will be trees planted outside and inside of the fence eventually. There will be an opening event in July. Everything is falling into place. The herb garden is last.
- d. Deer Management Update – Council is voting on the contract and there will be a Deer Management plan in place for 24/25 Hunting Season.
- e. Garden at the Parkway. We will schedule dates for caretaking this summer.

4. Fiscal Report -

- a. P & L April – SHUC had a lot of activity in April. The Coalition was awarded a NIF grant by the URA. The \$17,809 for benches was deposited in April and a payment was made. The income for the month included \$4,740 in Magazine revenue and \$1,000 donation by Steven Glickman Real estate (checking to see if he wants it to be a Silver Sponsorship for the Treasure Dinner). It was a higher than usual month for expenses with \$11,705 in magazine printing, layout and design and \$6,000 to our Financial Consultant for the Forbes Funds. The end of month account balance is \$9,992.30 Our summer donor campaign will also be coming up in mid-June/early July.

5. Executive Director's Report

- a. Blue Zone Update – On Saturday, May 11th board member Vida Passero and Maria Cohen presented information about the Blue Zones and the Loneliness

epidemic at the Phipps May Market. The presentation was very well received. Phipps is onboard with partnering should we move forward with a Blue Zones activate program. As some of you might already know, Phipps announced today that it is reached an agreement to purchase the Irish Centre to create a *New Phipps Program Staging Center to Host Homegrown Edible Garden Program, Community Greening, Nursery Space, and Research Projects*. Next week we are meeting with Jason Kunzman, AgeWell, 10.27 Healing Partnership and hopefully the CFLK who are all very interested in learning more and in a potential partnership.

- b. Farmer's Market – The 2024 Squirrel Hill Farmer's Market Season kicked off on Mother's Day. The Coalition has the booth on Sundays June 2, August 25, September 22nd, October 6th and November 17th. Volunteers are typically in 2 shifts one set up @ about 8:30 am with booth support until about 11 am, then a second shift from 11 am – 1 pm with tear down after.
- c. Night Market Volunteers – Squirrel Hill will again host 3 Night Markets: June 29th, August 31st and September 28th from 6 – 10 pm. We really need volunteer support for the SHUC booth and litter patrol on June 29th. Rachel will be out of town and most likely Bob Danenberg and I will take the lead. We will have a clean up at 9 am that morning to prepare for the Night Market and will need volunteers throughout the evening to make sure that the garbage cans and recycling bins are emptied. We will also need volunteers for clean up and the SHUC booth.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Built Environment – Neill Log House and Irish Centre – already reported
- b. Litter Patrol - Earth Day – Our May clean up is finished and all thank yous have been sent. The bench map was completed by Joe who volunteered.
- c. Ped-Bike – Since January, Ped-bike has been working with Hazelwood and Greenfield to collaborate on traffic calming initiatives. All neighborhoods are guests. There is a list of 19 projects. They have been sent to DOMI and PennDOT. The community meeting has been postponed. The hope is that they will review the requests for the meeting that will be rescheduled.
- d. Trees and Parks –2024 Application: Schools; CDS, Chabad of Squirrel Hill, Colfax, Minadeo, Allderdice and entrance of Frick Park @ Blue Slide Park. Do we need an encroachment permit for Murray Ave?

7. Old Business

- a. Task Force to consider Acknowledgement of Sq Hill Veterans – Questions: Does it need to be banners? Maybe bricks or a memorial in one of the parks. It is not necessarily democratic because the families pay for it.

8. New Business

9. Announcements

- a. Mayor's office – The Mayor's office is checking on the bathrooms at the Schenley Oval and Wightman Park opening.
- b. Council – No report

Adjourn