HPCC Community Zoom Meeting
September 15, 2022

19 Participants in attendance

Called to order at 7 P.M. by Howard Degenholtz

Agenda

HPCC Updates/ October Activities - Howard Degenholtz
- 10/15 from 9 am - 12 pm = Bryant Street Parklet Clean up in preparation for
- 10/16 from 11 am - 2 pm = Annual HPCC Pumpkin Patch
- 10/29 from 10 am - 12:30 pm = Kids' Halloween Parade at the Highland Park fountain.
- 10/20 = October HPCC Meeting

PLEASE VOLUNTEER FOR ANY/ALL ACTIVITIES BY EMAILING HPCCpgh@gmail.com

Zone 5 Update - Commander Stephen Vinansky
- There were 8 crimes reported in Highland Park over the last 30 days.
  - 1 burglary in the 6700 block of Jackson St.
    - A subcontractor stole equipment from his contractor
    - A warrant is out for the subcontractor.
  - 6 thefts from vehicles.
    - 5 of the thefts were stolen catalytic converters.
      - 4 were from Toyota Prius’
      - 1 was from a Honda.
    - 1 vehicular break-in in which a handgun was stolen
    - 1 theft from a care recipient by their care aide
- Shooting Range Update:
  - Several dates will be scheduled for meetings of all concerned parties - information to follow.
  - Commander Fisher is now the Commander of the Cadet Academy.
  - Additional dates have recently been announced for training activity.
    - Commander Vinansky has emailed these out and they have been posted on the HP Listserv.
  - Lt. Palermo runs the trainings.
    - Commander Vinansky will provide him with the HPCC email address.
  - Shots heard after dark are not generally from the firing range.
Always call 911 in these instances.

- Discussion regarding the increased theft of catalytic converters from vehicles.
  - Toyota Prius’ are a definite target.
  - Easier to remove converters.
  - Questions from a resident who is a Prius owner as to how to deter thefts.
    - The Commander stresses keeping vehicles in well-lit areas if on the street or in a driveway.
      - He has a 300 watt LED bulb on his front porch that is on dusk until dawn.
    - Cameras were also a suggestion.
  - It is important to watch out for your neighbors and report any suspicious activity to 911 immediately.
  - Zone 5 follows up on all reports.
  - Gun thefts from vehicles
    - NEVER leave a gun in your car, locked or unlocked.

Tree Pittsburgh - Clara Kitonga

- Overview of the Negley Run Tree Planting - Fall 2022
  - Specifically the One Tree per Child Program
  - They are now working right off Negley Run Blvd.
  - Kids from Ellis and Dillworth schools are planting trees now.
  - Goats will be there tomorrow to provide clearing assistance!
  - There will be an open date for community volunteers on November 12
    - Please go to the Tree Pittsburgh website for further information.

- The goal is to plant 365 trees by year’s end.

MomsWork - Megan Rose

- MomsWork is a project of the National Council of Jewish Women Pittsburgh, a nonprofit that has operated in the city for more than a century.
  - All programming, including advocacy, educational, and networking opportunities is free and open to women of all socioeconomic backgrounds.
  - They are looking forward to collaborating with the HPCC.
- Website National Council of Jewish Women Pittsburgh
- Email info@ncjwpgh.org

Councilwoman Deb Gross’ Office - G.L. Johnson

- Shooting Range
  - Working to pull together a public meeting.
○ **Tennis Courts Lights**
  - Not aware of a date but there is a chance of a public meeting regarding the court lights prior to the first permit for lights being lit is approved.
    - Lights will be turned on by permit only.

**Mayor Gainey’s Service Manager - Rebekkah Ranallo**

○ **Shooting Range**
  - The Range Master position is one of very high turnover.
  - It has been a struggle to obtain updated information
  - The mayor will now deal directly with the new Academy Commander, Commander Fisher.
  - Commander Fisher wants to meet directly with the community.
  - This may occur at the HPCC October meeting.

○ **Tennis Courts Lights**
  - The current City Administration is trying to standardize the format for community input/engagement
    - The process differs among City Departments at this time.
  - DPW considered these lights as a “sustainment” issue.
  - There is no dedicated staff for community engagement due to budget constraints.
    - It is budget time now and the Administration is rethinking its community engagement process across the board.

More will follow on the firing range and tennis court lighting at our October meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.