

HPCC Board Meeting Minutes

January 4, 2023 - 7 - 8:30 P.M.

In Attendance:

Sabrina Culyba
Judy Beck
Howard Degenholtz
Jason Giess
Laura Ferra Myers
Kathleen Paola
Beth Hutton
Becky Marinov-via Zoom
Rebecca Maclean - via Zoom
Justin Bhagat - via Zoom

Agenda:

- Recap of Food Drive (Laura)
 - Thank-you documents from Vintage were shared, a letter, pictures, and a poster
 - 135 food bags (as requested) were delivered to Vintage.
 - HPCC donations were down this year from previous years.
 - 40 bags worth of "fixins" were donated.
 - One \$50.00 gift card was donated and a cash donation was received.
 - The remaining bags were purchased by Laura.
 - Total amount short and paid by Laura = \$666.00
 - Going forward HPCC and Vintage will realign re: what is needed with what can be provided. This will involve earlier upfront planning and "pushing out" the event more frequently to HP residents,
 - **VOTE TO APPROVE HPCC MONIES FOR REIMBURSEMENT TO LAURA MYERS FOR VINTAGE FOOD DRIVE:**
 - **Moved by Judy**
 - **Seconded by Sabrina.**
 - **Ayes = Unanimous, 0 Abstentions.**
 - **Motion passed as requested unanimously.**
- Recap of Light Up Night (Judy, all)
 - Big success
 - Several hundred people participated.
 - SOS Techs provided needed assistance with electronic maps.
 - Light issues - battery pack got disconnected; batteries died over the week; not bright enough for the photo booth (moved to the sidewalk.)
 - Going forward explore lighting options, set up a table for donations a calendar sales
- Bags and Calendar Sales (Kathleen)
 - There are approximately 100 2024 HPCC calendars left unsold.

- It was agreed that the calendars are very attractive and well done.
- Calendars and bags remain for sale at Bryant St. Market.
- It was recommended that calendar prices be reduced to \$12.00 each at the Market from the original price of \$15.00. This will allow the market and the HPCC a small profit margin.
- If calendars are not sold, we can give out to Bryant St. businesses and new HP residents,
 - Kathleen will explore possibilities.
- The Market requested additional bags; customers seem to like them.
 - A price reduction may be an option with the bags.
 - Kathleen will check with the Welcome Committee to confirm how many bags remain available.
- Heth's Run (Beth)
 - A group of representatives from various non - profits has been loosely formed to begin to work out a plan for clean up and future usage possibilities of the area.
 - Their plan is to start roughing out possible trails to create a plan for the area.
 - What could HPCC's role be?
 - A cleanup day/days. Could it be an Earth Day/Garbage Olympics Day?
 - Engage Boy Scout troops in Morningside to adopt as a project?
 - Add to an upcoming HPCC Community meeting agenda,
 - Low key educational presentation.
 - What would it take to cut a trail?
 - How can we use the space as part of the Park?
- Zoo (Sabrina)
 - The Zoo and City to date have no written agreement in place.
 - There is ongoing conversation with the City re: the DPW dumping site.
 - HPCC role = encourage the City and the Zoo to come to agreement.
 - The Zoo Communications Director will be presenting at the January HPCC meeting.
 - The presentation will be general and not specific to any controversial topics.
- SOS (Judy)
 - SOS continues to be a valued HP service. All participant feedback has been very positive.
 - We finished 2023 by spending \$4983.97 of the \$4999.00 City of our Pittsburgh Community First grant.
 - The City granted us an additional \$2000.00 to continue.
 - HPCC has contributed \$1250.00 in additional going forward funding.
 - We will continue to pursue additional funding through grant possibilities as this intergenerational, in - home technology service has proven to be a growing need.
- Finances (Howard)
 - We have approximately \$16,000.00 in the HPCC checking Account and are holding steady.

- Membership (Jason)
 - As of December, 2023, we have 301 HPCC members.
 - The Committee's goal for 2023 was 10% of HP residents to be members.
 - The goal was missed by only 9.
 - There were 172 renewed memberships.
 - Sabrina will be mailing out the 2024 New Years membership cards very soon.
 - Memberships should pick up post delivery.
- Firing Range (Sabrina)
 - The monies designated in the City's 2024 budget to cover costs of constructing a new shooting range at the former VA facility have apparently been cut from the budget.
 - Pittsburgh City Council voted to remove the budgeted item.
 - According to Finance Director Pawlak, communication and dialogue is going on re: this issue behind the scenes.
 - More to come.
- Upcoming Community Meetings
 - January , 2024 = Zoo
 - February, 2024 = PWSA - Reap of work completed this construction period and a preview of the Pumping Station work this Spring.
 - March, 2024 = Community Plan discussion?
- Parklet (Sabrina)
 - Much discussion occurred re: URA's response to our request to consider comparable properties.
 - See attachment below
 - Rebecca Macclean volunteered to assist Sabrina in the HPCC's formal response to the URA.
 - Although nothing was formalized, the consensus seemed to lean toward signing a one year lease before moving forward in any other direction.
 - There is currently no signed lease for this property.
 - Other suggestions included contacting a lawyer, not paying anything to the URA, and media coverage.
- Community Planning (Jason)
 - Jason went over his document regarding a Plan,
 - See attachment below.
 - Jason also referenced the City's recent Community Planning Proposal and the possible pros and cons of both.
- **VOTE TO INSTALL JASON GIESS AS THE HPCC COMMUNITY PLANNING CHAIRMAN THROUGH JUNE, 2024.**
 - **Moved by Beth**
 - **Seconded by Kathleen**
 - **Ayes = Unanimous; Abstentions = 0**
 - **Motion approved unanimously as requested.**
- Updates from the Childrens' Committee (submitted by Elisa)
 - Turkey Trot had approximately 150 people participating

- Light up Night - 75 kids. Craft was supercute provided by Periwinkle Fox and then we purchased the Hot Cocoa from Starbucks that was outside of the shop
- The Kids Committee is now having monthly meetings - 4 people attended in December. The next meeting is on 1/10

Comparables Notes from URA

Buyer	Price, Including Costs	Comments	Future Use
The Pittsburgh Land Bank	\$ 4,500	To be conveyed to Amani Christian	CDC, prospective use not specified
Pittsburgh Housing Development Corporation	\$ 7,907	Rehab - affordable for-sale housing	Housing, income generating
The Pittsburgh Land Bank	\$ 12,600	To be conveyed to City of Bridges CLT for	Housing, income generating
average price of properties sold for commercial use	\$ 8,336		
The Pittsburgh Land Bank	\$ 9,325	To be conveyed to long-term Hill District	Non commercial use
Carnegie Mellon University	\$ 1	Two small side yard parcels created by	Non commercial use
The Pittsburgh Land Bank	\$ 4,682	To be conveyed to Hazelwood Initiative for	Non commercial use
The Pittsburgh Land Bank	\$ 10,000	To be conveyed to Allegheny Land Trust for	Non commercial use
The Pittsburgh Land Bank	\$ 5,200	Future side yard TBD - we did not charge	Non commercial use
price of properties sold for non commercial use	\$ 5,842		
Highland Park Community Council	\$ 107,635	Based on comparable sales. We wrote off	Non commercial use

Sale	Address	Block & Lot	Neighborhood	DHS Community Needs Level of Need
5	Ledlie Street	9-M-171	Crawford-Roberts	Extreme Need
1	830 Adelaide Street	26-P-185	Upper Hill	High Need
4	Hazelwood Avenue	56-B-326	Hazelwood	High Need
2	Bedford Avenue	9-M-273 & 274	Crawford-Roberts	Extreme Need
3	Technology Drive	29-A-306 & 314	South Oakland	No data available
6	5113 Lytle Street	56-P-72-A	Hazelwood	High Need
7	Rosetta and Hillcrest streets	50-G-49 & 129	Garfield	High Need
8	1843 Webster	9-S-200	Crawford-Roberts	Extreme Need
Subject	5902 Bryant Street	82-M-183	Highland Park	Low Need

Draft of Response to URA

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1w13Y85ktwYWfVw9Dwe3z9lo8Tbi2TqH7tOh8twOp_P0/edit

Community Planning Proposal (from Jason's email)

Over the last few months, Rebecca Maclean, Sabrina, and I have been chatting informally about pulling together a board committee to explore the idea of a new Highland Park Community Plan. I've brought this up a couple times now at board meetings, but haven't pushed the process along yet. As the city's Comprehensive Planning process seems to be starting soon and as we

approach the 20-year anniversary of the last community plan, I think this is the right time to craft a vision for the future.

I propose a committee that has one purpose - to facilitate a community planning process that results in a clear vision for the future of our neighborhood. To accomplish that goal, I believe we should have two major projects running in parallel:

Project 1: The committee will designate members to liaise with the city during its comprehensive planning process, communicate with HPCC and neighbors about its progress, and advocate for HPCC and neighbor concerns where appropriate.

Since we have little details about the timeline on the comprehensive planning process, I consider this to be an ongoing project. The designated committee members would be responsible for attending relevant meetings with DCP, understanding where HPCC can and should advocate for neighborhood-specific concerns, and communicating with members/neighbors to gather their feedback.

Project 2: The committee will explore the feasibility of launching a formal community plan process in 2024.

I propose that we use the February Community Meeting to recruit residents to a hybrid committee - where 1-3 HPCC board members serve as formal representatives to partners, the city, etc., but the committee itself is a mix of residents and HPCC board members to ensure we have as much capacity as we can manage. I propose the committee meets monthly, with work assigned and completed in between meetings.

In 2024, the committee would begin conducting the research and outreach necessary to present to the Board a project roadmap for a formal community plan process. There are many questions about a community plan that we currently do not have the answers to, such as:

1. What is the purpose of a community plan in our context? Do we need a formal plan, or do we really need something else?
2. How much time, effort, and **funding** do we need to do a community plan?
3. How do we make the community plan an effective roadmap for HPCC, our community partners, and the city regarding development, infrastructure, and other projects?
4. What role should we play in this process, considering we have limited resources and time to allocate to this?
5. If it is necessary to fundraise (likely) for this project, how do we target and pursue funding?
6. What steps can we take to accelerate this process? E.g., can we conduct a neighborhood survey to establish an informal list of concerns, needs, and projects?

7. Which parts of the city's Comprehensive Plan is specific enough to be helpful to our neighborhood vision, and which are not?
8. How can we work with existing partners and other neighborhoods throughout the process?