

Minutes of Brookdale Citizens' Association Board Meeting on March 21, 2023

Those in attendance: Adrienne Nassau, Dick Podolske, Thomas Husted, Lisa Clark, Sibyl Erdman, Manuel Ochoa, Heather Paul, Maha Haddad and Darcy King-Leatham.

Absent: Peter Biersteker, Jack Morton and Mike Makuch.

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Monthly minutes were approved and posted to our website.

Next meeting will be held on April 18th.

Treasurer's Report

Total balance as of today is \$15,735 of which \$5,884.45 is in checking and \$9,851.08 is in our CD. New revenue was \$160. Expenses this past month were \$270 for rental of Wisconsin Place Meeting Room.

40 residents or 10% of total households have paid dues for 2023.

Discussion

Brookdale Bugle. The target date for printing the next Bugle is May 1st. Submissions are due by April 1st. We adopted a list of articles we wish to include in each edition: President's Report, Upcoming Events, Reports of recent events, Dues report, Friendship Heights development issues, real estate report, transitions, classified, and how to join the Listserve. We then discussed content for the next issue of the Bugle. Dick volunteered to write a review of the Alley Cat, a new restaurant. Maha will write a short report about a film she edited and co-directed. Darcy will provide an update on the Little Falls Parkway controversy. Manuel will write something about the recent forum we held on Thrive 2050. Maha suggested that we strive to invite more participation from the community.

Status of tribute to Amy Rispin. Mike has continued to reach out to the county but has not received a response regarding the date of bench installation.

Brookdale concerts.

Abner Oaks suggested we hold six concerts in the coming months. The Board approved four events: Mariachi el Rey on April 22 (\$750); Pete Papageorge and Russell Strum on May 13 (free); Gabe Hunter trio on June 24th (\$400); and classic rock on September 16th (\$250).

Dick will ask Abner if he could schedule the AU a cappella group at a later date.

Manuel suggested that we establish a budget for music events including Porchfest.

Website development.

We have reconfigured the webpage to feature future events in a more prominent position. We discussed the possibility of providing links to online petitions on the website but decided against it. Instead, we can circulate petitions on the list serve.

Updating Brookdale Directory.

Lisa reported that she has created a new electronic list of residents by address. Before she alphabetizes the list by name, a group will proof the list this coming Saturday.

Amy's History of Brookdale is now available on our website. Lisa will have 50 hard copies printed before our annual meeting. We will announce on the list serve that copies will be available for \$10. The estimated cost of printing the *History* is \$652.

Thrive 2050 Committee Forum.

Manuel led a forum on the Montgomery County (MoCo) Thrive 2050 plan on March 8. Several Board members expressed dismay that the plan is amorphous. Manuel said that the plan is policy and zoning changes will be required to implement the plan. Dick asked what we should do now. The Board agreed that we should each become better informed about MoCo's Missing Middle housing plans and analogous plans in Alexandria ("Zoning for Housing/Housing for All") and in Arlington. The Arlington County Board will vote soon on a proposal to allow multiunit dwellings in neighborhoods reserved exclusively for single-family homes. Manuel promised to distribute background resources to Board members.

The proposed dog park on Willard has been postponed indefinitely.

We discussed whether we should take a formal stance on the proposed road diet and linear park on Little Falls Parkway. We decided against taking a formal position now as we do not have a good read on residents' sentiment. Heather reminded us of our proposed protocol for Board endorsements.

Dick asked whether we should consider lining up legal counsel for Jose Hernandez. The Board decided that it is outside our bailiwick and individuals were free to donate.

Friendship Heights Urban District

Councilmember Andrew Friedson has proposed that MoCo establish an urban district to foster commercial development in Friendship Heights.

GEICO

Adrienne is trying to arrange a meeting with GEICO's new vice president for real estate.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy King-Leatham