

**BROOKDALE NEIGHBORHOOD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION**  
**Minutes of Board Meeting on June 27, 2023**

Present: Dick Podolske, Jack Morton, Darcy King-Leatham. Adrienne Nassau, Mike Makuch, Heather Paul, Peter Biersteker, Maha Hadad.

Absent: Matt Paccinelli, and Manuel Ochoa.

Administrative

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

Next meeting will be held on July 18.

Treasurer's Report.

Total balance as of June 26, 2023 is \$14,322.21 of which \$4,428.86 is in checking and \$9,893.35 is in our CD. Expenses in these past two months since our May 18th board meeting were significant: \$1,862.28 ( including Annual Meeting, last Bugle expense and Abner's last and upcoming concert). However, we moved over \$1800 from Pay Pal into our account and total dues revenues totaled \$1,930. 90 households or 22 percent of Brookdale residents have paid dues for 2023. Heather will be including dues envelopes in the Directory and expects significant additional support.

Status of new directory.

Heather has taken over responsibility for the publication of the new directory from Lisa Clark. She is working with Mike Oliwa. Heather distributed copies of a rough draft of directory to the vice presidents to review. She anticipates that it will be ready for distribution in September. Maha will check to make sure the emergency numbers listed in the directory are still valid. Ideally the directory will be distributed with the next issue of the Bugle in September.

Status of the Bugle

Abner Oakes has taken over responsibility for the Bugle from Amy Clark. Darcy will circulate a list of items the Board previously agreed should be included in every Bugle. Abner expects to have the next issue ready in September. Maha volunteered her son to distribute it.

Signs announcing Brookdale events

Richard Lucas has volunteered to take responsibility for posting signs in the neighborhood to announce events.

Preparations for 4th of July

Fire trucks will arrive at 10:30 to lead parade. In the past, we held a larger celebration that included food. The Board agreed to consider hosting a larger celebration in 2024.

Upcoming Events

Concert on July 1 at 6:30 in Brookdale Park.

Fall block party - Peter and Jack volunteered to take lead. Party will be held at Boundary Park and Park Place on September 23rd at 5 pm.

Rising Start. Heather will ask a young family to take lead on this annual back-to-school event.

Brookdale at Home events. Debra Kalb is willing to present her new novel. The Board agreed to hold this event in January or February. Maha offered to show her documentary but said we would need a large venue. She will approach neighbors to ask if they would be willing to host the event. At the next Board meeting, we will consider Adrienne's suggestion that we hold an event at the newly opened food court.

#### Strategies for communication and getting feedback from residents on development issues.

The Board decided that it would take a case by case approach. Sometimes a survey would be appropriate. In other cases, it might be enough to share a proposed letter and seek approval.

#### Development Issues

Missing Middle Housing - Dick and Rich Lucas drafted a letter to the Montgomery County Council imploring the Council to avoid hasty changes in zoning policy and to promote a robust public engagement instead. The Board considered asking CCCFH to co-sign the letter but instead decided to send it first to the Council and then share with CCCFH. Dick had mentioned the letter at a recent CCCFH meeting. Adrienne said that it was important for this association to express its views independently.

Western Avenue bike lane. Dick reported that a specific proposal should be made public in August.

River Road Growth Corridor. Peter could not find any activity on this front.

Alliance (not to be confused with FH Alliance). Heather has spoken at length with DC residents who have formed a group named the Alliance. The Alliance has formulated specific priorities with respect to redevelopment of the Lord and Taylor site and the WMATA (Washington Metro Area Transit Authority) Western Garage (bus depot). Heather asked us to carefully review the Alliance's priorities with a goal of discussion which we share at the next Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Darcy King-Leatham