

**Brookdale Neighborhood Citizens/ Board
Minutes of Meeting on July 18, 2023**

Members in attendance: Dick Podolske, Mike Makuch, Heather Paul, Maha Haddad, Peter Bierkstekker, Jack Morton, Adrienne Nassau Manuel Ochoa and Darcy King-Leatham.

Absent: Mat Paccinelli.

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

A motion to approve the agenda was made, seconded and approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the June meeting. The motion was approved.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 21 at 7 pm at Jack Morton's home.

Treasurer's Report.

Total balance as of July 18, 2023 is \$13,450.46 of which \$3,557.11 is in checking and \$9,893.35 is in our CD. Expenses in this past month were \$870.50 that included quarterly and annual Web fees as well as July 4th expenses (roughly \$325). There was no new revenue and we're still at roughly 22% of residents having paid.

Discussion

Heather suggested and the Board agreed that Darcy should periodically send a list of upcoming events to Board members.

Heather suggested and the Board agreed that she would initiate the creation of an advisory board of young parents.

Timing and content of the Bugle

Abner has said all copy for the next Bugle must be submitted by July 31st. Adrienne volunteered to write something about GEICO's recent improvements to the pathway off of Westport. Dick will write an article about the letter the Board recently wrote to the Montgomery County Council and their response. Abner anticipates that the next Bugle will be ready for distribution in the fall. Jack promised to write something about the annual block party.

Status of Directory

Heather has taken the lead on this project and is working with Michael Oliwa. Maha verified the validity of emergency numbers. Maha and Heather will consult on the selection of a cover. She anticipates it will be ready for distribution in the fall with a goal of distributing it with the next issue of the Bugle.

4th of July

There was a good turnout for our annual 4th of July parade. Next year we will consider expanding the event to include food. Richard Lucas did a good job with signs promoting the event.

Fall Block Party

We are holding our annual block party on September 23rd from 5 to 8 pm at Dover Court. A band is scheduled to play. Jack will advertise the event in the Bugle and on the listserv. Jack and Peter are organizing the event.

Reschedule

Two concerts were cancelled due to bad weather. One concert has been rescheduled to coincide with the annual block party. Abner suggested that we hold another concert in early September. The Board expressed concern that we would be over scheduling if we held a second concert in September. Dick said he would confer with Abner.

Brookdale at Home Events

We plan to invite Deb Kalb to present her new novel in January or February.

We discussed sponsoring an event with the Friendship Heights Alliance (FHA) presenting a film Maha edited and co-wrote. Manuel said he would speak to the FHA.

Development issues

Missing Middle Housing and Zoning.

The Board sent a letter to the Montgomery County Council regarding public participation in any and all zoning changes. Montgomery County Council President Evan Glass wrote a response. We will post the letter and response on the listserv and in the Bugle. CCCFH endorsed our letter.

Meetings with council members.

CCCFH member Jenny Sue Donner has set up meetings with council members. Dick participated on one such meeting held this week with Council member Katz in which they discussed the Little Falls Parkway.

Manuel proposed that we take a position on the Little Falls Parkway LFP). We are at a loss as to how to elicit public input. Darcy said that CCCFH has scheduled a public meeting with council member at large Laurie Ann Sayles on August 2nd and if the agenda includes LFP, we could invite input at the event. Darcy will post a notice about event on the listserv.

Western Avenue bike lane- we are still awaiting plans from DC Transportation.

River Road Growth Corridor. Peter has been looking into this issue.

MoCo Design Urban Design Study - Manuel reported that MoCo planning has again transformed the scope of its study. They will hold public meetings in the fall.

WMATA Bus garage/Lord and Taylor site/DC ANC

Heather suggested that we take time to evaluate a newly formed DC neighborhood group's priorities for the redevelopment of the Lord and Taylor site. Heather will form a subcommittee to tour the site with the priorities in mind and report to the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Darcy King-Leatham