

BROOKDALE NEIGHBORHOOD CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Board Meeting on November 20, 2023

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

Absent: Matt Paccinelli, Maha Haddad and Manuel Ochoa.

Administrative

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

October minutes were approved. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2024.

Treasurer's Report.

Total balance as of October 23, 2023 is \$10,167.54 of which \$2,212.95 is in checking and \$7,954.59 is in our CD. Dues collected were \$857 (and another \$724 has not yet been reflected from a PayPal transfer).

Due to unusually high expenses and low dues payments, we transferred \$2,000 from our CD to our checking account to cover a possible shortfall. Expenses in this past month were \$3,591.87 that included directory costs (\$3,600), Halloween, Porchfest and quarterly website payment.

Only 37% of residents have paid dues year to date. Heather will remind residents to pay on the list serve.

Traffic Issues.

The county installed 20 mph signs on southbound Park Avenue. The county balked at installing "local traffic only" signs claiming it would be impossible to enforce. Joe Breslin is investigating whether the county's decision to not install another stop sign at Dalton and Westbrook is appealable. Darcy updated the Board on the controversy over Parks' plans on the Little Falls Parkway. Dick continues to ask the District to cross hatch the intersection of Harrison and Western. Dick will include a summary of traffic issues in the next Bugle.

Recent events.

Our new directory has been distributed. The Halloween parade and spooky house contest were a success.

The Bugle.

At our editor's suggestion, we will conduct a survey to ask residents whether they prefer to see their newsletter in print or on-line. Submissions for the next issue are due December 1. Target dates for printing and delivery are December 18 and 25, respectively. The Board will review the editor's proposed topics for each issue.

Future Brookdale events.

Luminaria will be held on December 3rd at sunset. Stacey Yochum has agreed to again lead the event with her A cappella group. Dana Rice is offering free supplies.

Brookdale-at-Home events.

—On December 7, Eric Sanne and Mike Makuch will present on their recent pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago. The event was quickly fully subscribed.

—Maha is in communication with Rachel Davis of the Friendship Alliance to arrange place and date to show her documentary on the District of Columbia.

—Dick will reach out to Deborah Kalb about holding an event in February. He will also speak with Eric Sanne about an event on artificial intelligence.

We will reimburse hosts for Brookdale-at-Home event expenses up to \$100 upon receipt of documentation.

Results of meeting with GEICO

Adrienne and Dick recently met with a GEICO representative. The rep said he would have an arborist look at the condition of trees along Cortland. They told him that the path between Willard and Saratoga has deteriorated and that the portion between Saratoga and Sherill is blocked. He said he could look into it.

Development Issues

Lord and Taylor site. We discussed which points we want to raise with our elected officials about the future bus depot. Heather will draft a letter for the Board members' review.

Western Avenue bike lane. Peter reports that DC won't start designing the Western Avenue bike lane until January 2024 at the earliest.

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy King-Leatham