
BROOKDALE NEIGHBORHOOD CITIZENS BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING ON APRIL 17, 2024

Members in attendance, Dick Podolske, Jack Morton, Maha Haddad, Heather Paul, Mike Makuch, Peter Bierstaker, Manual Ochoa, Adrienne Nassau

Absent: Darcy King-Latham, Matt Pacinelli

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

The minutes of the March 2024 meeting were adopted. It was agreed that the testimony to the Planning Board be attached to the minutes and put on the website.

Next meeting will be the annual meeting of BCA to be held on May 16, 2024.

Treasurers Report

As of April 17, 2024, there is \$4,504.28 in checking and \$8,018 in our CD, with a total of \$12,522.83 in available assets. Expenses in the last month included \$162.24 in a quarterly payment for web and listserv fees. There were no dues submitted. (Note that Concert costs were \$1,050 for two performances, in a check that has not yet been cashed).

Roughly 50 residents have paid dues, (18%)

Status of Attainable Housing and Possible Community Action

Funds are in the 2025 Planning Department budget for the Friendship Heights Sector Plan. We will ask that the boundaries of the study include Brookdale. Adopting the sector plan will precede any zoning changes.

Status of Traffic Issues

Little Falls Parkway issue has been resolved. Planning for the bike lane along Western Avenue is delayed. We had to resubmit our request to a different department in DC for cross hatching at Western and Harrison.

Boundary Park

Montgomery County has been responsive to BCA's concerns. Peter will follow up on plantings

Nominating Committee

Three board members plan to resign (Manuel Ochoa, Maha Haddad, and Jack Morton). Members who are resigning will solicit volunteers to replace them within their districts to assure distribution of Board members within the various sub-neighborhoods within BCA.

Annual Meeting arrangements

Wine and snack bags will be served at the annual meeting which will be held on the first floor of the community center. Peter Bierkstekker will moderate a group discussion on affordable housing and other potential zoning changes. Microphones will be available for audience participation. We will ask Dominique to put up directional signs.

Brookdale Bugle

Abner Oakes has drafted the Bugle and will try to have an additional article on graduating seniors.

Comments on A1 Presentation by Eric Sanne

The presentation was well attended and well received.

Upcoming Brookdale Music Events

April 20 Song Riot concert will include cupcakes funded by BCA. We will request a food truck for the Mariachi concert on May 18.

Proposed Upcoming events

Maha Haddad's documentary may be shown at the Collection in the fall. Deborah Kalb will give an at home presentation on her book in the summer.

Dick will contact Eric Sanne who has proposed additional topics for at home events. We will have the Brookdale Block party in the fall at a time and location to be determined.. A possible house and garden tour could be held next spring.

We will allocate \$100 for reimbursement for at-home events.