

Highland Park Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting – March 2, 2021

| In Attendance | Absent |
|--|--|
| Roxanne Townsend, Chair Bob Thompson, Vice Chair Kiersten Shinrock, Secretary Stacey Bershod, North Section Leader Mike Thompson, South Section Leader & Highland Hospital Liaison Dan Barnak, East Section Leader Larry O’Heron, At Large | Roger Ramsay, Treasurer Hank Wedow, At Large & Business Liaison |

Agenda

1. Administrative Items:

- a. Treasurer’s report
 - i. Total assets \$12,114.32
- b. Do all HPNA board members understand how to use the shared Google Drive?
 - i. Can upload/download and see all HPNA documents there
- c. Updates sent in by Hank
 - i. Deli opening up on the corner of Goodman and Henrietta in former GoldCrest. Same owner as Lily Nails.
 - ii. Trying to learn more about Cinema plans (lease or sell)
 1. They broke even and did not renew their lease.
 2. Question about if John Trickey will sell it or lease the space
- d. Item coming before the Preservation Board this month. Any concerns?

Rochester Preservation Board March 3, 2021
File Number: A-038-20-21
Case Type: Certificate of Appropriateness
Applicant(s): Adam Hamilton, Poke Sushi LLC Allegra Lucci, Property Management Agent
676-680 South Avenue
Zoning District: C-2 Community Center District
South Avenue/Gregory Street Preservation District Section of Code: 120-194
Purpose: To install a 9 SF, externally illuminated hanging sign reading, “Poke Sushi” at the southern tenant space, and to review a 10 SF, externally illuminated sign and a 1 SF window sign previously installed at the northern tenant space reading, “Harry G’s New York Delicatessen”.
Enforcement: No SEQR: Type II Chapter 48-5B(22)(f)

2. Actions from January Meeting

- a. Send follow-up email closing out Gaga Pit questions. (Roxanne) – **complete**
 - i. Walk through at park scheduled for 3/25/21 @ 3 p.m. with city rep & Ms. Kates
- b. Create lessons learned documentation for the calendar project. (Mike)
 - i. Uploaded a folder that says 2021 calendars under the “Projects/Activities” and included a copy of the calendar and a 1-page summary document. Names included on who was involved so they could be included in the future.
 - ii. Included the quotes
 - iii. Included the template for another calendar
 - iv. Mike plans to upload a number of other documents and historical information this way but will likely need to buy more space from Google Drive down the road.
 - v. Roxanne hopes to upload Boulevart info as well so we have it centralized. Inventory. Etc.
- c. Contact Fleet Feet for status of race and Spirit Contest in 2021. (Stacey)

- i. No updates yet
 - d. Schedule Zoom meeting with Hank, Roxanne, and Jen Topa regarding the discount card project. (Hank)
 - e. Create an initial action plan for how HPNA will address and interact with the city regarding the zoning re-write. (Bob, lead – Hank and Dan) – **complete**
 - i. Bob has set up an online discussion board as a single repository for zoning input.
 - 1. <https://roczoning.com/>
 - ii. No emails from the city about zoning. Seems to be moving slowly.
 - f. Invite people to sign up for HPNA emails using Nextdoor. (Mike)
 - i. Task for month of March. Will update next month.
3. Fundraisers/HPNA Membership:
- a. Local business discount card (Hank)
 - b. Neighbor Good Grant (Hank)
 - i. Update: NeighborGood grant application submitted. Thank you to Roxanne and Mike for their help.
 - ii. If we do get the grant we should focus on a sign for the neighborhood first to delineate the neighborhood and then go deeper for various neighborhood historical aspect.
 - iii. Historic markers throughout the neighborhood with facts and make a digital version long term.
 - c. Spirit Contest (Stacey)
 - i. Still awaiting updates
4. Active Projects:
- a. 501c3 (Roger)
 - i. NY State has not processed our corporation paperwork yet or billed us. So, we are not an official 501c3 yet.
 - ii. Will add a small process document for what we need to do annually to stay in compliance as a 501c3.
 - b. Historic Districts (Roxanne, Stacey)
 - i. **Update:** Next fundraising meeting scheduled for 3/8/21
 - ii. Received an email from the Landmark Society the people who purchased the B&B on Mt. Vernon are interested in historic district work. It will likely be turned into 3 luxury apartments and will live in one unit.
 - c. Local Business Archive (Hank)
 - i. **Update:** Focus now shifts to our business distribution list. Have a list from Jen Topa I will start with filling in our sheet. Then I'd like to canvas the neighborhood. Volunteers to help with sections? I have a simple 1-page form for each business to fill out.
 - d. Zoning Re-write (Bob, Hank, Dan)
 - e. Update HPNA Bylaws to accommodate changes to a corporation, add online options, and any other items that need updating. (Bob, Dan)
 - i. What parts of the bylaws need the update based on becoming an incorporation and 501c3
 - 1. Voting
 - 2. Membership
 - 3. Rotate years for Board officers' terms
5. E-newsletter
- a. No February e-newsletter sent.
 - b. March topics
 - i. How to receive help with food insecurity and how to donate.

1. Roxanne will take a picture of all of them to include and highlight the South Wedge Food Program and any other organizations.
 - ii. HPNA Election Results
 - iii. Historic Districts Updates
 - iv. Highland Hospital Updates
 1. Promote sign up for HH Facilities Blog
 2. <https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/highland/facilities/tower-project>
 3. Highland Hospital will do a construction update at the April 6 NBN6 meeting.
 4. 3/11/20 was date when the COVID state of emergency was declared
 5. Highland Hospital will not be a community vaccination hub
 6. Highland Gala "Fest" will be on channel 8 March 11 at 7 p.m.
 - a. Can participate in silent auction
 - v. Elmwood/South Ave Construction project
 1. A lot of the construction is not in HPNA and then when they spoke of South Avenue, North of Highland. They will narrow South Ave to become 1 lane each direction north & south with a turn lane into the middle and move bike lanes adjacent to the curb. It maintains the parking that exists north of highland. They will improve signaling at Bellevue and the driveway that goes down to the pond.
 2. Start construction 2022 and end 2023.
6. New Projects
- a. Increase email list Section leaders will tackle this question in early 2021. (Stacey, Mike, Dan)
 - i. Ultimately, we may need to have block captains or neighbors distribute and solicit emails from neighbors.
 - b. Website updates
 - i. Updates to neighborhood history on website from Facebook Group discussion
 - ii. Safety page – add PDF info documents from RPD
 - iii. Membership page – update to include option for using PayPal for membership payments
 - iv. COVID page updates – is all info up-to-date
 - v. Local business page – can start by adding the S. Clinton food map to the stie
 - vi. Create volunteer page – need copy and how to archive volunteer information
 - c. "History Trail" – contact Michael Tomb for archive of street histories
 - i. This will roll out with the grant
 - d. Revive PacTac
 - i. Hold for now but hoping to roll out later spring
7. Other topics?
8. Updates from other groups
- a. MNBN
 - b. NBN6
 - c. PCIC – 2/10/2021
 - i. Attendees: Capt Elwood RPD, Lt Wilson RPD NSC, Ofc Cannon RPD, Kelvin Knight NSC, Joan Lindberg - Lilac NA, Larry O’Heron – HPNA, Marianne Pastecki, Karen Olson, Judy Hay – Swillburg
 - ii. Any crimes of interest were in other neighborhoods than HPNA.
 - iii. Majority of larcenies are unlocked vehicles and package deliveries. Best protection is to lock the car and pickup package at UPS/Fedex/USPS/Amazon/etc shipping point.
 - iv. Kelvin Knight is pulling double-duty as the NSC head and as the assistant. Hopes to fill asst position soon.

- v. Notes regarding Changes coming from interim Police Chief
 - 1. RPD moving to a national model of response that integrates RPD / RFD/ RG&E etc, as appropriate to the situation.
 - 2. Mapping out planned responses and responsibilities into a flow charted decision process based on roles rather than experience. Using experience to develop the flow chart. Roles would be pre-defined as to responsibilities.
 - 3. Develop response levels: Level 1 – Peaceful Protest, Level 2 – More Severe Situation, Level 3 – Riot
 - 4. Response plans would be tailored to level. RPD employing less confrontational methods, esp. regarding peaceful protest.
- vi. Need to ensure the Seegar street nuisance violations are taken care of/addressed (Larry)
- d. City Presidents Meeting – 2/9/21
 - i. Will go back to one per month for the remainder of 2021
 - ii. Zoning Alignment Project has a website: <https://rochesterzap.com>
 - iii. Erica Hernandez is the new Assistant Administrator for the SE NSC
 - iv. Emergency Business Grants have used up all funding. ~ 1,000 grants were given out
 - v. Senior Meal Program provided by local restaurants continues to run. Seniors can sign up by calling 211.
- e. SCMA (S. Clinton Merchant’s Assoc.)
 - i. Update: No South Clinton Merchants meeting in Feb/March. Meetings resuming April.
- f. Other meetings?
 - i. South Ave/Elmwood Reconstruction Meeting (Thank you Larry for attending on behalf of HPNA!)
 - ii. Timeline:
 - 1. Public Mtg: Oct 20, 2020
 - 2. NBN 6 Mtg: Feb 8, 2021
 - 3. Stakeholders: Feb 25, 2021
 - 4. Bidding: Fall 2021
 - 5. Work: 2022 – 2023
 - iii. <https://www.cityofrochester.gov/SouthAndElmwood>
 - iv. Goals of Reconstruction:
 - 1. Improve street infrastructure
 - 2. Maintain parking
 - 3. Maintain trees
 - 4. Provide pedestrian & bike facilities
 - 5. Traffic control devices (signage, lane markers, lights)
 - v. South Ave: Highland Ave to Bellevue Dr
 - 1. Narrow road from 40 ft to 34 ft
 - 2. Install off-road bike paths & separate sidewalks
 - 3. Existing street parking to be maintained
 - 4. Improved signal lights at intersection of South Ave, Bellevue Dr, School 12.