

Highland Park Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting – April 1, 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 Hank Wedow, At Large & Business Liaison Larry O’Heron, At Large	Roger Ramsay, Treasurer

Agenda

1. Administrative Items:

- a. Treasurer’s report
 - i. Balance at bank \$10,347
 - ii. PayPal balance \$1,748
- b. Calendars - what to do with remaining inventory
 - i. Sell them at a discount or via the membership?
 - ii. We have about 25 left
 - iii. Vote sell the rest for \$15 each, no objections, unanimously passed
- c. Item from Planning Commission. Any concerns?
 - i. Parking
 1. Parcel has grandfathered parking with about 7 spaces and they require 16 or 17 spots. It seems they are getting an easement from the neighbor and will have 11 spaces
 2. The other establishments around haven't had parking and it hasn't been an issue as it was proposed at the meeting (Zoning Board of Appeals).Hearing at the Planning Commission is April 12th
 3. Groove Juice Swing has been in the neighborhood many years.
 4. Case Number: 7
File Number: E-21-20-21
Case Type: Special Permit Address: 293-295 Gregory Street
Zoning: C-2 Community Center District
Applicant: Mike Thibault, Groove Juice Swing, LLC
Request: To consider an Alternative Parking Plan for 11 spaces to serve the proposed public and semipublic use (Groove Juice Swing) with public entertainment; an action requiring City Planning Commission approval.
Code Section: 120-173
Enforcement: No SEQR:
Unlisted Lead Agency: City Planning Commission
- d. Sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop?
 - i. As a board cannot sponsor a group that has any religious affiliation.
 - ii. “The Boy Scouts are proud to be an organization of people who believe in God. But there are Jewish Boy Scouts, Catholic Boy Scouts, Protestant Boy Scouts, Muslim Boy Scouts, Boy Scouts not affiliated with any particular religion. Boy Scouts is not a religion. It is not a religious sect.”
 - iii. All in favor of not sponsoring boy scouts due to their religious affiliation
- e. Sponsorship in general?
 - i. Southside Little League? We have sponsored them in the past.

- ii. All in favor of sponsoring southside little league
- f. Decide if the board is ok with the Gaga Pit being moved to back corner (NE) of the Ellwanger & Barry park. Possible soundproofing materials added to fencing.
 - i. Northeast corner the property has a parking area that hits the property line and parking lot. So that part would backup to cars. The North part is $\frac{2}{3}$ garage and $\frac{1}{3}$ yard lawn.
 - ii. Sarah Scott from the city was pro sound barrier but was concerned the city was not going to cover it. It's about \$850 for 30 ft of sound barrier that goes on a chain link fence.
 - iii. HPNA to email the city and encourage them to contact neighbors at the proposed new location who are adjacent. Also request the city put in a sound barrier on the fence.
- g. Roger won't be able to manage the garden by Artisan Church this year. Options?
 - i. No interest in past years when asked for support from the neighborhood.
 - ii. Mulch is delivered and it's run by the county but we need someone to be responsible for it.
 - iii. Bob would like to walk it with Roger. Bob might be able to get a few neighbors to help with it.
 - iv. Sign for the Highland Park Neighborhood is oriented the wrong way

2. Actions from March Meeting

- a. Create lessons learned documentation for the calendar project. (Mike)
 - i. From last meeting – uploaded folder under Project/Activities - Can't find this documentation on shared Google Drive?
 - ii. This is the URL to our shared Google Drive.
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1G2GzAvAkSLT1qUO7Q245eu-w3KcfYheW>
 - iii. Review documentation Mike created. (Roxanne)
- b. Contact Fleet Feet for status of race and Spirit Contest in 2021. (Stacey)
 - i. Still is not opened up. They do not have anything scheduled.

3. Fundraisers/HPNA Membership:

- a. Local business discount card (Hank)
 - i. Starting to populate that and get it going.
- b. Neighbor Good Grant (Hank)
 - i. HPNA was declined for the 2021 NeighborGood Grant. Hank will follow up with Rochester Community Foundation to understand why.
 - ii. Should we move forward with the neighborhood boundary/gateway signage anyway?
 - 1. First step is to determine where the main "Welcome to Highland Park Neighborhood" signs would go? (Mike and Stacey to take the lead)
 - a. Goodman & Highland, South Ave & Highland, South Clinton & Artisan, South Clinton & Gregory, Gregory & South Ave
 - 2. Next step would be to approach the city
- c. Spirit Contest (Stacey)
 - i. Still no word. Waiting to see if the race is run.

4. Active Projects:

- a. 501c3 (Roger/Bob/Roxanne)
 - i. HPNA was declined. Next steps?
 - 1. Still waiting on a copy of the letter. Note says there was a title entered next to the names of the officers. You can't elect an officer before you have an organization. You have to submit it without that.
 - 2. Roger will take it forward
 - ii. Use an attorney for application?

1. Roger doesn't think we need an attorney to get through the process but we will see where that goes.
 2. Bob to scan the letter and upload it onto the shared drive.
- b. Historic Districts (Roxanne, Stacey)
- i. To apply for the Preserve NY grant, we need to find another 501c3 to apply on our behalf. SEAC can't as they already have an open grant for the Gregory Tract.
 - ii. Landmark society brainstorming who we could use to apply for the group and get the funds. They thought maybe the Highland Conservancy would be willing. The admin fee would go to the Highland Conservancy. Landmark SOciety will reach out and ask. HPNA will do all the writing and getting letters of support. But in name they would apply for the grant and receive the funds. We would have a note of understanding between HPNA and the HC to receive some percentage.
 - iii. Creating "Project 2" postal mailing list.
 1. Deb Quinn working on the maps and lists of postal addresses regarding the project ot ask for donations
 - iv. Updated donation webpage. Need to troubleshoot donation forms. Still need to rewrite some copy on the historic district main webpage.
- c. Local Business Archive (Hank)
- d. Zoning Re-write (Bob, Hank, Dan)
- i. Zoning will present at April/May Planning Commission meetings.
 - ii. There does not seem to be a way to give the city input on this except to use the comment page on the website but they aren't responding to comments.
 - iii. The information document the city posted today gives an indication allowing tiny houses and elimination of the parking requirements were two things that stuck out. Parking requirements held developments back. It seems right now those are going away.
 - iv. The city considers Goodman an arterial street but no bus runs the entire length. You cannot get on a bus here and go directly up there. You have to go through the downtown transit center.
 - v. Could we as HPNA go during open planning discussion during the meeting.
 - vi. Draft a letter to the CPC that neighborhoods are allowed to give input during their meetings and copy in all elected officials.
- e. Update HPNA Bylaws to accommodate changes to a corporation, add online options, and any other items that need updating. (Bob, Hank)
- i. Target first draft for June meeting.
- f. HPNA Inventory
- i. Folder in the HPNA share drive
 - ii. Tab for anyone who has accumulated
 1. Jennie Sutliff (Linden) inventory of the basement we just need to set up with her and go over to take inventory. Dan will be primary inventory with Kiersten and Bob helping.
5. E-newsletter
- a. No March e-newsletter sent.
 - b. Possible e-Newsletter Topics
 - i. How to receive help with food insecurity and how to donate.
 - 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 April 6 NBN6 meeting.
 - a. We can ask questions about the dumptrucks and such and take any concerns.

- 4. 3/11/20 was date when the COVID state of emergency was declared
- 5. Highland Hospital will not be a community vaccination hub
- v. Elmwood/South Ave Construction project

6. New Projects

- a. Increase email list Section leaders will tackle this question in early 2021. (Stacey, Mike, Dan)
- 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
- d. Revive PacTac

7. Other topics?

8. Updates from other groups

- a. MNBN
- b. NBN6
- c. PCIC – Did the March meeting happen? There were a lot of emails about the Zoom link being incorrect.
- d. City Presidents Meeting – 3/9/21
 - i. Primary discussion was about recycling and what should go into the bins that are picket up at residences.
- e. SCMA (S. Clinton Merchant’s Assoc.)
 - i. Update: Meetings resuming April.
- f. Other meetings?