

Spruce Hill Community Association (SHCA) Board Meeting

June 9, 2020 - 7:30 pm

Board Attendance via Zoom and Teleconference

Present: Evan Johnstone; Leslie Medley; Veronica Alvarez; Vicki McGarvey; Laura Line; Libby Rosof; Andrew Richman; Chris Bole; Rebecca Geller-Pulchalsky; Monica Calkins; Richard Moore; Ken Steif; Eric Santoro;

Absent: Alexa Bosse; Julie Bush; Barry Grossbach; Abigail Su; Rich Guffanti; Sylvia Hamerman-Brown; Emily Dowdall; Sugirtha Stathis; Al Suh; Jon Potter; Craig Santoro; Tyree Carr II

Meeting Minutes

Exec. Update

- Moving forward, SHCA to partner with UCD to support small businesses
- Small businesses may apply through UCD Retail Restart Program for loan/grant
- SHCA will match donations dollar for dollar
- Evan will continue to send outreach and COVID resources via email
- An SHCA statement on civil unrest and police brutality was discussed, and methods for sharing the statement were suggested: West Philly Local, SHCA List serve, and Email blast

Education

- New PAS principal was selected. Lauren Overton, former principal at William Meredith, will serve as new PAS principal
- Ms. Wapner will continue as Assistant Principal, which will help with continuity
- It was suggested that SHCA send a thank-you note to Ms. Wapner for her service as interim principal. Note might also include an SHCA t-shirt and hat

PAS Playground

- The Philadelphia School District left some documents unsigned at the start of quarantine, and this resulted in a delay to the start of construction. UPenn reviewed agreement in fall 2019

Operations

- The 2nd floor tenants in SHCA building will be moving out at the beginning of June 2020.
- Andrew and Evan to walk through and determine what work is needed.

Bird Sanctuary

- No new sightings, but many Spotted Lanterfly nymphs – leaves are being vacuumed with shop vac
- Julie to post about Spotted Lanterfly for visitors to the sanctuary

Business Attraction

- Is there something SHCA can do re: labor disputes at local small businesses to avoid closures like that at Milk & Honey
- These businesses have been hit by not just labor disputes, but by vandalism

Libraries

- West branch is closed

Halloween Celebration

- While a parade and party are not possible, other ideas for a celebration were discussed: car procession to view decorated porches, Thriller dance instruction, online costume display or contest

Crosstown Coalition

- Meeting was held the Monday after protests and the looting. Crosstown Coalition to convene police-community relations committee

Zoning

- Barry is working with Councilwoman Gauthier's office to get outdoor seating approvals to spur business restart

43rd & Baltimore

- There have been signs posted targeting people who work or once worked at U3, with their personal information. A conversation with the person who is posting was suggested, if they are known and approachable