



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2023

Board members present: *(asterisk indicates not present)*

President – Donald Campbell
Vice President – Rob Schuler
Secretary – Brandon Dhande
Treasurer – Marc Tammes
Membership – Sarah Chatel
Security – Phyllis Wingo
Parks – Micah Coleman*

Webmaster – Grant Davies*
Events – Ryan Murphy
Zoning – Rebekah Falkler*
Legal – Josh Kirschner*
Communications – Marla Johnson
Licensing – Ashley Milam*
Public Affairs - Michael Parkerson*

Call to Order and Welcome

Don Campbell called the Zoom meeting to order and opened the floor to discussion topics.

Initial discussions included:

- The Board plans to approve the July minutes by email.
- Don opened the floor to community members and elected officials, including:
 - Council Member Alex Wan:
 - Groundbreaking for Monroe Beltline section, including the Tenth and Monroe intersection, which is key for the complete streets effort. Lots of momentum for traffic mitigation strategies that we've talked about for a while. Other discussion about North Pelham and Rock Springs, among other areas.
 - Savi Provisions: Business plans are still intending to move forward; no specific update from the Savi representatives at this time, including the alcohol license.
 - Alcohol Technical Advisory Group: submitted final recommendations to Council and Mayor office. The recommendations include a software platform regarding review board and decisions. Other recommended changes include code and process changes. Work product is delivered; now the Council will consider them with community input.
 - Ken Zeff, Candidate for School Board joined the meeting:
 - Ken presented the reasons for his candidacy for the APS Board. The vote is November 7.



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION

- John Closs, from Virginia Highland, shared plans for a community pool:
 - Land owned by APS. Field across from Virginia Highland Elementary will not be used by APS, which is willing to lease it to benefit the neighborhood. Idea is for APS to lease to nonprofit, build outdoor pool. In summer it will be community pool and in winter it will be covered by a bubble and be utilized for lap swimming and APS teams. Ton of demand from adjacent neighborhoods for membership. More information at vahipool.org. Not currently working through VHCA; memberships will be tied to fundraising.

Committee Updates and Discussion

- **Zoning Topics:**

- No zoning requests for this meeting.

- **Events Topics**

- Ryan provided the update:
 - For Gala: total tickets sold is currently 63 tickets out of 264. Committee is asking Board to assist with driving interest. Will be opened to non-members on August 25. More communications and reminders to come. Alex Wan and Kennedie McClung from Stacey Evans' office offered to boost communications.
 - New Member Social - coming up on August 24 at Family Dog.
 - Next Concert in the Park is August 25.

- **Membership Topics**

- Sarah provided an update:
 - We have had various discussions about a neighborhood tour of homes, similar to the tours in nearby neighborhoods. There is permitting and insurance involved. Need volunteers for each home. Sponsorships and tickets are sold for fundraising. Virginia Highland is now using an app for ticketing, no printed booklet, no shuttle, and social media presence. Sarah is willing to take lead with target date for Mothers Day 2024
 - We have 450 lapsed members. Would like Board members to call those members to encourage people who have ended memberships to make phone calls to engage/drive memberships.



MORNINGSIDE LENOX PARK

ASSOCIATION

- **Financial Topics**

- Marc updated the Board:
 - Cash balance has recently declined as a result of Gala expenses and related planned spending.
 - We have a number of events and programs; more important than ever to review our financial spend. Board members should check with Marc for planning of cash outlays, even if a particular item is already in the budget. Guide post: is the financial commitment something the Board would reasonably be expected to already know about.

- **Security Topics**

- Phyllis updated the Board:
 - We recently had a positive interaction regarding a camper living in the Cheshire Bridge area (under the bridge) and the Security Patrol helped with ensuring the situation was handled appropriately with the police officers in Zone 6.
 - The License Plate Reader donation program is up and running. Donations can be made by Zelle or credit card. Discussion with Whiskey Bird restaurant to do fundraising for the LPRs.

- **Communications Topics**

- Marla updated:
 - Currently reviewing neighborhood association platforms for the best website platform that meets our needs.
 - Discussion about website plans and timing.

- **Concluding notes:**

- Don thanked the Board and concluded the meeting.

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