Attendees

*Board members and staff present marked with “X”*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ben Osborn – Vice Chair | X | Carrie Henning-Smith - Secretary | X |
| Jake Schwitzer- Chair | X | Jake Reber | X |
| Courtney Laufenberg (Staff) | X | Katie Krisch - Treasurer | X |
| Bob Jorgenson | X | Brittany Resch | X |
| Cory Schaffhausen | X | Andrea Budke | X |
| Allan Cummins | X | Cassie Batinich |  |
| Corey Webster |  | Rebecca Donley (Staff) | X |

Meeting called to order: 7:02 PM. This meeting was held via Zoom due to Covid 19. Meeting minutes from December were approved. Katie Krisch made the motion and it was seconded by Jake Reber. Motion passed.

Agenda Item 1: Council Candidate Introduction

Emily Koski is running for City Council in Ward 11 and introduced herself to the Board. She lives in the Page neighborhood with her husband and two children, one who attends Field and one who attends Hale. Her website is emilykoskiformpls.com

Agenda Item 2: Councilmember Schroeder Update

Jeremy started by thanking Courtney for all she’s done for HPDL in her time on the staff over the years.

Provided update on vaccine distribution. State has website to sign up for vaccines and we’re still on schedule that was shared with board a couple of months ago. That was a tentative plan, which got both set back and sped up, keeping us on schedule on balance. Things that could change include new vaccines. Moving into group 1B now.

City just passed 50% of organic curbside pickup (meaning >50% of households are doing organics pickup from their home). Have continued this service during the pandemic.

Introduced Transforming Public Safety charter amendment, which would begin new office of public safety, including law enforcement and expanding public safety approach (e.g., if someone is having a mental health crisis, what type of help is most appropriate?). A lot of current 911 calls would be better served by a professional other than police. Held first hearing on public health and safety committee last week. This is on track to be on November ballot, but depends on layers of approval.

Opened up to questions. Questions on public safety during upcoming Chauvin trial and on equitable vaccine distribution.

Agenda Item 3: Introduction of Rebecca Donley

This is the first meeting for Rebecca Donley, the new staff member for HPDL. She introduced herself and her background.

Agenda Item 4: Block Listening Sessions

* Allan has begun planning for his block. Is working on getting handouts to advertise listening session. Will work with Rebecca to do that.
* Andrea is planning a session for her block, likely the week after next. She’s worked with Jennifer to reach out to block leader to get email addresses for block.
* Will hold off on additional listening sessions until April (after Allan and Andrea get done with theirs).
* Cory has survey instrument to help get additional feedback from neighborhood residents.

Agenda Item 5: Spring Planning

* City of Minneapolis is doing Earth Day, as DIY. Board could choose weekend to set out supplies for pickup at Pearl Park in April. Multiple board members expressed interest in helping to plan something for this. Jake will send a follow up email to coordinate. More information here: <https://www.minneapolisparks.org/activities__events/events/earth_day_cleanup/>
* Garage sale could happen – didn’t happen last year. Concern expressed from multiple board members about safety with garage sale. Idea raised to coordinate electronics recycling or hazardous waste pickup instead, coordinated with Earth Day events. Ben will reach out to county to investigate options. Cory will update website to say that garage sale is postpone/delayed.
* So much uncertainty about Picnic in the Park right now that not worth doing much planning at this point. Showmobile is reserved if it can happen.
* March meeting postponed because of upcoming trial – could happen later (outside?)

Committee Updates

* **Picnic in the Park:** none
* **Environmental:** none
* **Frost Fest:**
* **Triangle Park:** none
* **Garage Sale:** none; see Spring Planning update above
* **Business Association:** none
* **Communications:** Andrea provided report. Request for newsletter content was sent out after last meeting and all requests were filled. Copy is due Friday, 2/26 for mid-April mailing date. Committee received additional details about emails/text alerts for neighborhood communication. Committee will be reaching out to get contributors for website content. Andrea will sent a request for that next week.
* **Brew and Stew:** none
* **Housing:** none
* **Public Safety**:No meeting held this month. Some discussion about working with autoshops to help with adding installing safety features (e.g., catalytic converter shields).
* **Equity**: Ben provided report. Still working with Park Board to discuss options to better recognize Mr. Solomon. Option still on the table to rename Sibley Park in his honor instead, taking into account family and community member wishes. First Black Voices, Black Stories book club session held this month. Approximately 10 people participated and another book will be chosen again soon. Discussion of incident on Hale zoom event, including posting guidance on how to handle such incidents in the future. Board vote to post that passed unanimously.

Financial Review

Katie provided financial update. No changes since last month.

Pearl Park Sign and Other Park Updates

Katie and Jake provided report. Board was asked whether we still have money to replace electric sign at Pearl Park. We have $14,000 left in that pot of money, but are in a different place financially than we were when that money was first allocated; the estimate for the sign was much higher than anticipated (~$80,000) so some of the original pot of money was used for other projects instead (e.g., Triangle Park). Now that Pearl Park is undergoing updates, it may be more cost-effective to do sign now, but may still be better options for that money, including a plaque at Solomon Park. Katie is leading an effort to explore options for improvement projects at Solomon Park and welcomed other board members to join. Jake will work with Rebecca to reach back out to say we’re not interested in supporting sign, but are interested in other options.

New Business

Jake S. provided an appreciation of Courtney at her last meeting on staff.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:09 pm**