

# **Chestnut Hill Community Association Board Meeting**

Minutes of the Meeting of September 27, 2018

## Members Present

Tony Banks, Susan Bray, Catherine Brzozowski, Mike Chomentowski, Kathi Clayton, Patricia Cove, Lucie Daigle, Craig Hosay, Andy Kite, Keith Kunz, Laura Lucas, Larry McEwen, Karl Martin, Dan Pulka, Lynn Schroeder, Richard Snowden, Anne Standish

## Members Absent

Lindsey D'Angelo, Joyce Lenhardt, Jenny McHugh, Hillary O'Carroll, Drew Meschter, Marilyn Paucker, Jason Pierce, Jean Wedgwood, Bradley Wells

## Others Attending:

Anne McNiff, CHCA Executive Director  
Phil Dawson, CHBA Executive Director  
Don Tippet, Councilman Oh's Office  
Kathy Meadows, CHBA  
Ralph Pinkus  
Heather and Jack Dugan

Laura Lucas, president, opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

## **President's Welcome**

- Approval of Agenda: After the roll call, the agenda was distributed. It was moved that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion was seconded and approved.
- Approval of August Minutes: It was moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded, and the minutes were approved.

## **Executive Director Updates by Anne McNiff**

- Green Space updates – Anne reported on meetings that have been taking place with past committee members and reviewed what the initiative's mission is - to coordinate the restoration, maintenance & expansion of the commercial, residential & public green spaces in our community. Priorities of the group will be pocket parks, continuation of Re-Tree project on Germantown Ave. & Bethlehem Pike, signage, and ongoing upkeep and maintenance.
- Streetscape Committee – The committee will have 3 chairs – Anne McNiff, Philip Dawson and Lori Salganicoff or their designees. This model is being put in place to insure administrative continuity going forward. The next meeting will be October 2.
- Building Update – Anne reported that we experienced some flooding in the basements. Andrew Glendenning from the CHCF addressed the issue and had repairs made, however the back basement remains very damp primarily because of the dirt floor, and many of the things stored there are getting ruined. Currently we are not putting anything down there in cardboard boxes and will need to make an investment in plastic bins soon. Richard Snowden made a motion that a resolution be passed asking the Chestnut Hill Community Fund to consider finishing that basement with a cement floor, cutting down on the dampness. The resolution was seconded and passed unanimously.

## **Social Division Updates**

Anne McNiff reported for Marilyn Paucker:

Reminder of the following dates and events:

- Special Movie Night in conjunction with Witches and Wizards Weekend – October 19<sup>th</sup>. Showing previously rained out movie. Thanks to the CHBA for including us in event materials.
- Black & White Gala – October 6. Tickets can be purchased tonight. Hope to see all board members there.
- Holiday House Tour – December 8 – need sponsors and suggestions for houses
- Circle of Trees – November 17, partnership with CHBA and Woodmere Museum
- Holiday Parade – December 16 – Brien Tilley will once again Chair that event

### **Physical Division**

- Larry McEwen presented the following recommendation from the Development and Review Committee: to support this Special Exception for Assembly and Entertainment at 8217-19 Germantown Avenue – VFW Post 5205, specifically for the VFW use of the Basement as the VFW Meeting Room, and for an Escape Room business to be located on the second floor of the building, with the following provisos:  
 That the Special Exception for the second floor is limited to use as an Escape Room, that no other use within the Assembly and Entertainment category is permitted, and that the area of this Special Exception is limited to the second floor of the building.  
 A motion was made to support this recommendation, seconded and approved unanimously.
- A draft of the CHCA response to the Upper Northwest District Plan draft and the joint memo from the CHCA, CHBA, CH Conservancy and the Friends of the Wissahickon was shared and approved for submission.

### **Budget & Finance**

- Karl Martin gave an update on the budget that is close to completion and asked that any board members interested in serving on the Budget/Finance Committee contact him.

### **The Local Board of Directors update on Publisher search**

- Richard Snowden reported that search is ongoing, and the search committee includes representatives from the CHCA board and The Local's board. A motion was made to pass a resolution thanking Larry Hochberger for his many years of service to The Local and the Chestnut Hill community. The resolution was seconded and approved unanimously.

### **Community Partners Update**

- **Chestnut Hill Business Association** – Phil Dawson reported on the activities of the CHBA and the Business Improvement District including:
  - Several parking lots in Chestnut Hill will have short term closures for improvements to the lots.
  - The BID is part of a group of local communities that received a Penn Dot grant for signage
  - The business directory will be available next week
- **Chestnut Hill Conservancy** – Susan Bray reported that the Conservancy is currently finalizing several easement agreements in the community; they continue ongoing conversations with the CH Hospital regarding property bordering Norwood Ave.; The Night of Lights event will take place Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>; and, the Architecture Hall of Fame gala is December 1.
- **Water Tower Advisory Council** – Keith Kunz reported that the Water Tower summer camp program had 190 children enrolled this year; the fields are fully engaged, the roof project is currently in process, and they are planning for the 100 years anniversary.

- Chestnut Hill Hospital – Cathy Brzozowski reported that the Hospital is wrapping up their community needs survey and will report back on the findings. The Hospital is ready and excited about hosting the Black & White Gala.
- Woodmere – Anne Standish reported that the Museum has a very full fall/winter calendar and highlighted that admission is free on Sundays.

**Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.