

APPROVED MINUTES

**Bolton Hill Community Association
Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2020**

| Officers | | Class of 2020 | | Class of 2021 | | Class of 2022 | |
|---|---|------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| David Nyweide (President) | X | Alexis Mogul | X | Avendui Lacovara | A | Ashley Chertkof | A |
| Kendra Rice-Parlock (1 st VP) | X | Amy Sheridan | X | Bobbi Schilling | X | Beth Ely Torres | A |
| Neal Friedlander (2 nd VP) | X | Bill Hamilton | X | George Dailey | | Jim Prost | X |
| Barry Blumberg (Treasurer) | X | Doug Kelso | X | Joanne Bennett | A | John Kyle | X |
| Lisa Robinson (Counsel) | X | Jessica Wyatt | X | Kevin Cross | X | Linda Stirling | X |
| Margaret De Arcangelis (Secretary) | X | Joe Palumbo | | Melanie Alfano | X | Lisa Savage Phillips | X |
| Linda Rittelmann (Past President) | X | Lisa Scott | A | Robert Bunch | X | Paul Seaton | X |
| | | Margaret Carruthers | X | Stephen Ruckman | X | Stephen Martin | A |
| | | Marjorie Forster | X | Thecla Meyer | X | Steve Howard | X |
| | | Tom Hasler | X | Yulia Suslova | X | Susan Dumont | A |

X = Present; A=Absent; E = Excused Absence

1. Welcome and Roll Call – 8:01 pm
 - a. BHCA offers condolences to Madison Park’s Adrian Harpool, who lost his wife to complications from COVID-19. Adrian has chaired the Midtown Community Benefits District board and been part of the State Center Neighborhood Alliance.
2. Approval of March Minutes
 - a. Minutes approved.
 - b. April meeting was canceled.
3. Announcements
 - a. Councilman Costello
 - i. Daily COVID-19 updates documented on Costello’s web page: costelloforbaltimore.com .
 - ii. The intersection of Park and North Avenues has had a couple of serious accidents lately, so working with DOT; Yulia Suslova indicated that neighbors near the intersection are interested in staying in contact with Costello’s office on updates on traffic improvements for the intersection.
 - iii. Costello is co-chairing the mayor’s council on small businesses reopening safely in light of COVID-19.
 - b. Strategic Planning Update
 - i. Great response to a neighborhood survey thus far but still trying to increase the number of renter responses.

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- ii. Hoping for a charette in the fall to share survey results and hear more from the community.
 - c. COVID-19 Task Force
 - i. Margaret Carruthers organized a group of board members at the end of March to brainstorm how BHCA could disseminate public health messages to combat the spread of COVID-19 and coordinate assistance for those who need it.
 - ii. The task force posted public health signs on neighborhood kiosks; used sidewalk chalk to spread positive messages; and launched a poster contest for kids about what they like about Bolton Hill and at the suggestion of a board member, will expand it to adults.
 - iii. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the task force should contact Margaret Carruthers.
 - d. Boltonstock
 - i. Will need to cancel June 6 while investigating the possibility of holding Boltonstock instead this year at the end of August or early September.
 - e. BGE Gas Main Task Force
 - i. Resident Eric Biagioli is organizing a resident task force to interface with BGE during a gas main upgrade project. This work will happen in phases, with the first taking place at the southern end of the neighborhood. According to BGE, the work is not terribly disturbing, but the task force will be the ears and eyes of what's happening from the residents' perspective and be an ongoing conduit of communication between BGE and the neighborhood. Anyone interested in participating on the task force should contact Eric Biagioli.
 - ii. In his capacities with Costello's office, Neal Friedlander will help the neighborhood interface with BGE as well.
 - iii. BGE is gathering more information to inform where the digging will take place before the work starts, currently scheduled to start in late July or early August.
 - f. 1743 Park Avenue Adopt-a-Lot
 - i. BHCA did not Adopt-a-Lot at that location, but the City has been supportive of neighbors making light greenscaping improvements while applying for grants.
 - ii. Owners of the two row houses with walls facing North Avenue on either side of Park Avenue are very interested in painting murals on them and have approached a mural artist and project manager for the work, intending to organize community input sessions on the design.
 - iii. BHCA will be a fiscal sponsor for fundraising for the murals and other improvements to the lot, including for a Baltimore Office for the Promotion of the Arts Community Arts Grant.
 - iv. Reservoir Hill will be included as part of the community input.
 - g. Annual BHCA Membership Meeting
 - i. The meeting is on hold from the governor and mayor's gathering restrictions. Stay tuned for updates.
 - ii. The executive committee will consider hosting a virtual meeting to simply vote in new board members.
 - h. Bolton Hill Bulletin
 - i. The Bulletin needs your ideas and content. Please write stories and submit to bulletin@boltonhillmd.org.
- 4. 2021 Budget Update
 - a. Income at \$16,400 and expenses are on budget.

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- b. Recommendation from a board member - Consider adopting a committee to focus on bringing in revenue. This is one of the main functions of the membership committee.
 - c. Barry will provide monthly updates at future meetings
5. Proposed Standing Rule on Group Endorsements
- a. The special committee on group endorsements was charged with recommending a policy for BHCA on how it should handle endorsement requests from other groups.
 - b. The proposed standing rule states that BHCA will entertain endorsement requests from any group but favors endorsing events or plans covering a specific time, rather than endorsing other groups themselves for an indefinite period of time. If there is a strong desire to give a general endorsement of a group or organization, at least three board members will need to become thoroughly familiar with what such an endorsement entails before the board would vote on their recommendation.
 - c. Motion passed with no opposition.
 - d. The new standing rule for BHCA on group endorsements will be posted to the Bolton Hill website and can be revisited with a majority vote of the board.
6. MDOT Grant Proposal for Improvements to Transportation around Penn Station
- a. Recent request from the Baltimore Department of Planning for BHCA to provide a letter of support for the project, on which the board received background information.
 - b. The board didn't raise any opposition but asked that David Nyweide check with the BHCA architectural review committee chair, BHCA zoning committee chair, and Midtown Community Benefits District neighborhoods to gauge their support for this request since the area around Penn Station isn't directly in Bolton Hill.
 - c. If there are no concerns from all parties, then David will send a letter of support by May 12.
7. New Business
- a. Farmers' market
 - i. There is interest from a neighbor in hosting a farmer's market in the neighborhood, particularly in Sumpter Park.
 - ii. Board members were generally receptive to the idea but raised several concerns with Sumpter Park such as multiple uses, small area, and clean-up responsibilities. Other locations such as the Mount Royal Elementary and Middle School parking lot were suggested.
 - iii. Currently the No Boundaries Coalition has a Saturday market on Pennsylvania Avenue and there are markets in Druid Hill Park and State Center. Any farmers' market in Bolton Hill must complement the timing of existing markets.
 - iv. David Nyweide will reach out to the interested neighbor and share the board's thoughts.
 - v. The board will remain fully informed if this idea takes shape.
8. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Margaret DeArcangelis
BHCA Secretary