

APPROVED MINUTES

BHCA Board of Directors Meeting April 4, 2023

Officers		Class of 2023		Class of 2024	
X	Amy Sheridan (President)	A	Gary Bianco	X	Robert Bunch
X	Steve Howard (1 st VP)	X	Amy Brown	A	Kevin Cross
E	Yulia Suslova (2 nd VP)	A	Zhee Chatmon	E	Andrew Dupuy
X	Bill Hamilton (Secretary)	X	Maurice Corbett	X	Barbara Francis
X	Chris Kingsley (Treasurer)	X	Tom Hasler	X	Stuart Galonoy
		X	Doug Kelso	E	Dan Gilbert (MICA)
				A	Florencia Gutierrez
		E	Elizabeth Peters	X	JR Kellogg
		X	Linda Stirling	A	Avendui Lacovara
		X	Marci Yankelov	X	Thecla Meyer
				X	Jason Perrotti
				X	Marcus Pratt
				A	Stephen Ruckman
				X	Jim Prost
				X	Lisa Savage Phillips
				X	Roberta (Bobbi) Schilling
				X	Bill Schmitz
				X	David Scott
				X	Sarah Scott
				X	John Timson

(X=present; E=excused absence; A=absence)

President Amy Sheridan called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. and asked for announcements.

Members were reminded to buy tickets to BHCA Night at the Baltimore Symphony performance on May 19 at 8 p.m. A party for new neighbors and members of BHCA will be held Sunday, May 23 at Sumpter Park from 4 to 7 p.m. Board members (but not spouses) are asked to attend. Lisa Johnson of the Bolton Hill Garden Club made several announcements.

Amy Sheridan spoke briefly in support of efforts by residents of neighboring Madison Park to block a plan presented by developers for redevelopment of a segment of Pedestal Gardens

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apartments. She introduced Nick Cohen, the vice president of Madison Park Improvement Association and BHCA member Charlie Duff to discuss the situation.

Cohen said that The Community Builders, Boston developers who acquired and are reconstructing five properties that make up Pedestal Gardens, submitted plans to a city planning department panel in February. They proposed to tear down troubled apartment buildings around Eutaw Marshburn school and then to rebuild units that essentially replicate and invite the same concentration of impoverished tenants to the new buildings. Earlier the developers had agreed to a mix of market-rate, workforce and low-income townhouses and apartments that offered greater residential balance and an enhancement of owner occupancy.

The planning agency expressed dissatisfaction with the plans and told the developers to regroup. Cohen asked BHCA to support MPIA's effort to get city leaders to bring greater pressure on the developers to encourage a range of residences that would enable more homeowners in the project. Duff, a building developer who is not part of the Pedestal Gardens project, presented ways that the project could be redesigned to better serve Madison Park residents without sacrificing low-income apartments by building more efficiently on the available properties.

BHCA's president already had sent a letter of support for MPIA's position. A Q&A followed Cohen and Duff's presentations.

City Councilmember Eric Costello announced plans for a meeting in early June to discuss plans for the Eutaw Marshburn school property when the school closes at the end of the current school year. He also announced that city council would begin budget hearings for the coming fiscal year. He said he had no news to offer on Bolton Hill residents' requests for traffic calming measures on West Lafayette Avenue and Laurens Street.

At the end of announcements and discussion of Pedestal Gardens, the secretary called the roll and declared a quorum present.

Treasurer Chris Kingsley gave a brief summary of the proposed BHCA budget for the new fiscal year beginning May 1. (The complete document will be posted on the BHCA website.) The budget was approved on a voice vote.

The nominating committee announced a slate of candidates for BHCA leadership and board positions to be voted on at the May 2 membership meeting. That meeting will be the first BHCA meeting at Baltimore Unity Hall, 1505 Eutaw Place.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Bill Hamilton
BHCA Secretary