

Fulton Heights Neighborhood Association

Board of Directors

July 20, 2020, Start 6:34 pm pm End7:51 pm

Location: Google Meeting

Board Member Participants: Kayla Domeyer, Andrea Lehman, Arielle Leipham, Gwen Howey, Mark Staves

Guest Attendees: Michaela Meighan- neighbor, Gloria Cangelosi- events committee rep

Absent: Chelsea Beckman, Don Wheeler, Sam Warber, Bill Robinson, Jim Coe (invited guest)

1. CALL TO ORDER- **Kayla - call to order at 6:34 pm**
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - **Motion to approve last month's minutes: motion Gwen, Andrea seconds. Kayla, Gwen , Arielle, Mark, & Andrea approve.**
3. REPORTS OF OFFICERS
 - a. **President -**
 - i. **Kayla- summing up email.** Since last meeting two major events, two major interim decisions. 1- crime posting on Fulton Heights Facebook Neighborhood Group, google drive form for neighbors to report crime including theft, suspicious activity, and even door to door sales. This was done because the postings in the group were turning into such a document. Also these posts turned up negative comments, characterizations and vigilante talk which is not beneficial. This form would move from anecdotal reports to actual data that can be compiled and analyzed if needed. There is sometimes a sentiment that “Nothing Happens” so as a board we can do this information gathering to help neighbors feel more heard and understood and like there is an environment for change in the appropriate capacity. 2- Discussion guidelines were updated on the Fulton Heights Neighborhood Group page so that posting images of suspected people are now not allowed. The Image of two women were taken down, and also an image of a seller of a bike (that was suspected stolen) from Craigslist. At that point it was added to the discussion policy. These actions by the president were further discussed and this is recorded in the “New Business” section below.
 - ii. **To streamline the meeting** due to time restrictions, Kayla proposed via email to table several items in the agenda for this meeting they include:
Treasurer's report (unless something pressing)
Secretary Report (Unless something pressing)
Document in Google Drive telling where things go.
Onboarding and New FHNA Board Members Policy write up and vote

Power Grid Progress update

Historical FHN info update

iii. **Kayla Motioned and Gwen Seconds via email.**

b. **Secretary - Andrea (tabled)**

c. **Treasurer - Gwen (tabled)**

4. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a. **PR Committee Report - Kayla-**

i. Flyer to distribution update- waiting on Events Committee finalization of upcoming summer events.

1. Dumpster Day- rescheduled date August 29th

2. Picnic Day- August 9th

3. If filler space is needed, ordinance info can be added

b. **Events Committee Report**

i. **Garage Sale 7/17-19 post sales discussion (tabled)**

ii. **Picnic 8/9 - Gloria-** Events Committee AKA "social distancing events committee" has planned the Picnic, however, we have an alternate plan. Due to the county's recent increase in positive Covid-19 cases, we are thinking of having an alternative picnic plan which would include having neighbors gather in their own driveways, and have a local ice cream truck come to each street. A Zoom meeting could also take place to fulfil the membership meeting. The reason behind this is that many older neighbors would be at risk, also the neighborly interactions would be greatly decreased due to 6 feet & face mask rule, and many children could be at risk due to their running around and having fun as children do. Gloria and the Events Committee asks does the board approve of this change?

1. Kayla- This Could help with block captains getting more involved and fostering more block involvement.

2. Arielle- in favor of either block activity and/or ice cream truck

3. Andrea- in favor of both

4. Gwen: The entire event should be cancelled. I am not in favor of having an ice cream truck, even though it would be yummy....but our revenue is WAY down this year due to not having membership meetings and asks how much would it cost?

5. Mark- agrees not a full fledged picnic.

6. Arielle & Gloria- an Uptown grant would be utilized to pay for the ice cream truck, which would cost \$2.50 a cup of ice cream and reduced fee for the truck which would be a minimum of \$500, again, covered by the Uptown grant.

7. These comments were given back to the Events committee. They will be making a proposal and will inform the board as soon as possible. After this, the flyer can then be completed and

distributed since Facebook is not the only way that people receive information and many do not have Facebook in the neighborhood.

- iii. **Dumpster Day 8/29-** Arielle- still on, so far so good.
 - 1. Gwen : is Protective gear required?
 - 2. Arielle- more info to come on that from the events committee.
- c. **Block Captain Committee Report - Don-** not present.
- d. **Garden Committee Report - Mark-** encroachment update:
 - i. Mr. Elinger has agreed to help draft the letter and share this with Gwen and Don.
 - ii. Mark did not find the survey.
 - iii. Gwen has a file, it is just too big to print.
 - iv. Kayla will get together with Gwen and print this due to the architectural size of the document as Kayla has that ability to accommodate that size.

5. STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

a. Unfinished Business

- i. **Summer Newsletter/Flyer- update-** waiting for Events Committee to finalize summer picnic plans. Kayla also has Sourced an intern- design student who is interested in this newsletter project.
- ii. **Document in Google Drive** telling where things go.
 - 1. Update **(tabled)**
- iii. **Onboarding and New FHNA Board Members Policy** write up and vote
 - 1. Volunteer **(tabled)**
- iv. **Facebook membership purge & dues discussion- ongoing-**
 - 1. people who do not respond to the address question are purged. Also, people are asked about the membership dues and most are doing a subscription so it will be automatic next year.
 - 2. Also, Officer Michael Maycroft may not be a resident of this neighborhood, yet he is posting on the group page. There are other people who are on the group page who do not reside here, however, they are administratively here. When should a non-neighbor be allowed in the Facebook group? It was agreed that a Spokesperson or coordinator or a person with a direction connection with Fulton Heights would be allowed. Realtors continue to be not allowed, unless they are residents of the neighborhood.
- v. Power Grid Progress update **(tabled)**
- vi. Historical FHN info update **(tabled)**

b. - New Business-

- i. **Interim Change of Facebook Neighborhood Group, membership Posting policy** (regarding posting images of “suspects”)
 - 1. **The prompting event-** notified via email from Kayla: “...we've had two instances of posts on the FB page including images of people

that the poster is supposing has committed a crime. I took the first one down, and now also the second one. But both sparked discussions of retaliation or other vengeful speech about the persons pictured....” “...These images lead to a public conclusion of guilt, without due process or any sort of investigation. That makes FHNA arbiters of innocence/guilt and I believe that is outside our purview. We're also seeing more and more mob type thinking, where comments degrade into dehumanizing and vilifying when not all factors are known....”

2. **The action taken-** Kayla added language to discussion guidelines and removed the images.

3. **Input from board members**

a. revisit the posting policy:

- i. Gwen: where is the “I agree”? They are in the initial request to join along with “have you paid your dues”? And “What is your address” questions.
- ii. Arielle: does “suspects” means any sort of camera footage of people? Kayla- images in relation to a crime.
- iii. Gwen requests Kayla to read the Facebook post that she made in response to the images being removed., it is as follows: “In the past we have allowed photos of suspicious activity to be posted here. In the past 2 weeks we have seen two such threads lead to threats against people who potentially resemble those pictured.”

“As the FHNA cannot investigate or convict persons under due process, posting images that lead to a public conclusion of guilt, will no longer be permitted.

We acknowledge that images are often valuable in police reporting, so please do not hesitate to save, record, and share those lawfully collected. Add: As the FHNA cannot investigate or convict persons under due process, posting personal information and/or images that lead to a public conclusion of guilt, will no longer be permitted.”

- iv. Motion to approve the addition to the Facebook Neighborhood group posting guidelines: Mark Motions to approve, Gwen seconds. Gwen, Arielle, Mark, Andrea, Kayla - all approve and the change is made.

- ii. **Facebook Moderators Needed** (only Kayla and Sam currently)
 - 1. Volunteers- Andrea will volunteer and be added as a moderator.
- iii. **FHNA Crime-** most people have concerns but each person has a different perspective of whether crime is increasing, it is a typical urban setting, or crime has decreased.
 - 1. **Steps taken:**
 - a. Kayla created a crime report form and posted it to the Facebook Neighborhood Group page. Neighbors are encouraged to fill this out for every potential criminal incident from theft, suspicious activity, to even unsolicited door to door activity.
 - b. Kayla comments that at the last GRPD presentation at the 2014 spring meeting the info was the same which included- lock your doors, keep valuables out of car/sight. And stay aware.
 - 2. **Neighborhood watch** (pros/cons) is this something we could do?
 - a. Some members feel that Neighborhood watch signs could devalue homes? However, there No evidence of that via Ty (past board member).
 - b. Kayla Looked up the last time this was discussed which was about 4 years ago when it was tried but this died due to the potential expense of purchasing signs.
 - c. Kayla further researched through www.nnw.org which says neighborhood watch can be done, without a huge expense and along with hopefully a stronger block captain program. The program provides training material, with a strong observation campaign. And a very clear do not engage tone. Would this be something that could help neighbors feel like they can make a difference without relying on GRPD-
 - d. Mark- what would be the potential outcome? - nothing but typically a phone call rotation list is created to use in case of emergency which wouldn't resolve the actual issue of cars being broken into. Or, is the problem **the concern** that the car break-ins will lead to something bigger?
 - e. If we engage in the program as a neighborhood, Signs are \$10-\$30 a sign, which placed at each cross street on the boundary would be a hardship.
 - f. Gwen asks that more research is done to review and become aware of, Kayla shares the link www.nnw.org
 - g. Mark says we need to emphasize what it is and what it is not.
 - 3. **Other ideas** (what we should do & what is feasible.)

- a. Andrea- promote block involvement! We can't have people patrolling blocks with or without weapons.
- b. Kayla comments that we could petition for more funding for police, however, this runs in contrast to defunding police which is a current divisive social issue and Kayla feels FHN board will not take a stance on this due to its political implications. Counterpoint- none.
- c. Gwen: I don't think we can do anything as a board.....people need to have personal responsibility about their vehicles - although I do know that locked cars around floodlights have also been targeted!

c. Guest Talking Points

- i. Jim Coe- not present
- ii. Michaela Meighan- concerned that people will be empowered to drive around with guns, and that makes me really nervous.
- iii. Gloria- it seems like a summer problem, but at this time it feels like it's worse than it is. Neighborhood awareness is being aware and the block captain program could be redoubled and use the momentum to channel this and if you feel strongly about this then you can be a block captain.
- iv. Arielle- promote national night out and other block orientated ideas.
- v. Maybe Block Captain co-chairs because it's a big responsibility.
- vi. Looking towards our next flyer and facebook campaign- report crime-form & GRPD, crime in the neighborhood being done, and be a block captain! Drum up people for this position. But we also need a curriculum so we have knowledgeable proactive block captains.
- vii. Gwen: what are other hoods doing?
- viii. Arielle: will investigate and will add to next meeting agenda.
- ix. Kayla will state points on Facebook with minutes.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. none**

7. ADJOURNMENT- Mark motion to adjourn, seconds by Gwen. 7:51pm.