



LPCA General Meeting Minutes - October 11, 2017 - FSK School Cafeteria

Preliminaries:

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call of Officers Present: Greg, Ginny, Sarah, Justin, Damian, Kate, Jessica, Matt
- New Neighbor Introductions: 3
- Treasurer Update: \$52,772.42 in main account; \$3,718.02 in Dog Park.
- Festival recap: Total income was \$25,600 (up \$3,500), expenses were \$15,700 (down \$3,700) due to efforts to outsource & reduce costs. Net profit was ~\$9,900.
- Membership: 158

Approval of previous minutes: September 2017 minutes will be reviewed at November meeting.

General Updates

Communications/Newsletter: No newsletter rest of year, first issue under new editor will be January.

Education/Schools: Erin Karpewicz, PTO President: New principal has brought in extra staff outside school during dismissal. Big focus has been placed on gifted & learning program. First open house was last week with over 20 families attending. Like school on Facebook to find out about upcoming events. Oct 25 5-7pm is grand opening of Weinberg Library, join us at Ruby8 afterwards for fundraiser dinner. PTO is funding professional maintenance for Blue Sky outdoor classroom, but will be seeking volunteer assistance in the spring. Facing big budget cut after adjustments for enrollment numbers this month.

Safety: Ellen Worthing - last month there was a commercial robbery, larceny (4), assault (2), stolen auto, larceny from auto. Fewer tall grass and weeds on ECB. 128 calls for 911 service, down significantly from last month.

Concerns about speeding on Fort Ave, and pedestrian crossing safety. Request for speed sentry sign. It was noted that there are not school zone markings outside FSK either.

Committee Reports

Design Review:

- Councilman has filed rezoning registration for industrial properties at base of Woodall & Stevenson, from I-1 to C-2.
- Second phase of Alta development in full swing.
- Please email us with any questions about zoning or renovations.
- 311 complaint about leaking pipe near CSX bridge on Fort, next to PQ factory - water leak.
- Need to look into re-opening Circulator stop at Fort & Lawrence.



Dog Park:

- Amanda Greene has decided to step down, but is being replaced by Laura Plitt. Please continue to bring plastic bags to LPCA meetings. Plan to continue same concept of operations.

Parks & Beautification:

- Had fall maintenance day last Saturday, with great volunteer turnout. Kim Asner, Jennifer Benson, and Robert Sailer have been coordinating these.

Social:

- Holiday party will be in December 13, in lieu of regular LPCA meeting, at Knights of Columbus. Planning another event for the winter.

New/Old Business

Thread - City non-profit focused on involving freshman students to provide academic & professional support

- Have over 1000 volunteers that help with rides to school, homework, resumes, advice, etc. Average entry GPA is 0.9 and rate of graduation is 6%. Thread students graduate at rate of 65%, 4 years, 87% within 5 years. Same amount continue on to graduate from bachelor or associates degree.
- Every student gets 3-4 volunteers, and 1 volunteer coordinator/leader/coach. Would like to have Locust Point residents serve as volunteers. Working in 3 high schools currently, opening 4th program at DHHS this year, in January. Biggest need is for volunteer leaders, plan on 32 students every year and need same number of leaders.
- Q: Why are there students that aren't in this program?
A: Resource intensive on volunteer labor, and non-profit. Have 300 students total now.
Q: How many students at DHHS are in bottom 25%?
A: 64 of DHHS students freshman are in that category.
Q: How long has program been in place?
A: 13 years overall, but only staffed 5 years ago. Several graduates of the program are now employees of it, as well as on the board of directors.
Q: How are applicants identified?
A: Accept students every January based on fall grades from school, and then interview as much of bottom 25% as possible.

Community Grants -

- Board has discussed opportunities to better utilize LPCA funds given windfall with Festival, and how to better engage residents in bettering community. Community Grant program has been in place for over 5 years at \$500 limit, but it's been difficult to get funding ideas applied for. Want to maintain structure and process, but will be lifting the \$500 cap to open it up for broader proposals. Will be having workshop in November to help brainstorm ideas and educate residents on the process and application.



LPCA will continue to maintain some reserves for cashflow & event planning purposes, as well as a buffer for large potential costs like legal fees. One idea is to fund programming and supplies/equipment for upcoming field house.

Community Announcements

- Upcoming Komen Walk will still involve closing of Andre Street. Moving forward, LPCA is working with Councilman Costello and City to better coordinate impact of these events. Suggestion to explore more permanent measure to prevent continued frequent impacts, such as seeking injunction against city to prevent excessive events in a binding fashion.
- Problems with Airbnb house on Lowman, being overfilled with guests impacting parking and noise issues. State was looking into legal status. Property in question does not have multi-family dwelling permit. Suggestion to reach out to Southern District Major about noise complaints, as well as filing 911 and 311 complaints.
- There will be large high school football game at Latrobe Friday. Lack of safe & orderly departure of attendees occurred in past events, due to inadequate transportation. Needs to be more frequent or higher capacity pickup from Circulator, which provides most direct route back to DHHS. DHHS doesn't have budget for shuttle buses.
- Discussion of fire station potentially losing ladder truck. Councilman investigated with Fire Chief's office, who responded that these sorts of evaluations are always ongoing, and there are no immediate plans for changes. Additional concerns regarding increased need for ladder truck given new high-rise residential structures like Anthem House & Silo Point. Suggestion to get list of signatures together opposing any potential moves.
- Belles of Good Counsel raising money for charity to benefit homeless veterans, Nov 11 at Knights of Columbus. \$20 tickets, with raffles, live music, refreshments, and other fun.
- LPCA partnered with Riverside Neighborhood Association to help sponsor Halloween event in park on 28th, from 1pm-3pm.
- Domino hosting annual bake sale to help feed the hungry tomorrow at McHenry Row from 9-2, across from Dunkin Donuts

Adjourned 8:55pm