**GPSMNA Board Meeting**

**June 1, 2022, Virtual Meeting**

Board members present: President L. Arevian, Vice President D. Nave, Treasurer C. Cline, Secretary L.A. Schwietz, immediate past president S. Escovitz, CAN representative A. Escovitz, S. Foster, J. Quinn. Meeting called to order 7:05.

I. Consent Agenda

 a. May 2022 meeting minutes and Treasurer’s report were reviewed.

 b. C. Cline summarized Treasury activity in the past month. Sprinkle Creek was paid for 3 months of work in May.

**Motion to approve May minutes + treasurer’s report by L. Arevian, seconded A. Escovitz. Approved**.

II. GPSMNA Administrative Updates

1. About 40 households responded to the membership mailing. Additional members will be solicited through email.
2. L. Schwietz asked about adding a “lifetime membership” for $250. Though board members thought this would save mailings and would eliminate neighbors forgetting about annual $25 dues, no further action was taken.
3. C. Cline will research details regarding the database system, “Apricot”, to help organize GPSMNA membership and other activities. Apricot software is a nonprofit database platform that can track and manage data sets, then export that data with custom reporting, and manage user access with role-based permissions and security.
4. A neighbor, David Atkinson, inquired about the open GPSMNA area 5 board representative position. S. Escovitz mentioned we need to check if bylaws allow this before adding him to the board.
5. The board and President Arevian discussed personal GPSMNA membership information. All agreed members should choose what information (address, phone number, email) they wish to share. In addition, the names of GPSMNA members should be accessible to other members only, not to the public.

III. Parks Updates

1. President Arevian shared feedback from neighbors. A neighbor in the Sunset Park vicinity has stump grinding capability. The stumps in Sunset Park have been there for months. In the fall the Asheville city arborist committed to having the city grind the stumps. This work is contracted out and takes months. S. Escovitz will check with the city arborist to assure Sunset Park is still on the city’s stump grinding list.
2. The planning committee for the lower part of Sunset Park has nothing new to report.
3. It has been more than two years since the summer yard sale in Sunset Park. For the yard sale to resume, someone needs to spearhead the event and establish a date, then advertise (Craig’s List, *Mountain Express* and *Awanna*).
4. Mention was made of Jones Park. Though not officially in the Grove Park Sunset Mountain neighborhood, it has been a public children’s play area. Neighbors have collected even money to rebuild the playground, but the city has refused to provide maintenance. A. Escovitz suggested yearly maintenance would be about $1500 for mowing and trash pick-up. The board discussed having GPSMNA write a letter to the city in support of a new Jones Park playground along with strong encouragement for city maintenance.

IV. CAN Update

1. A. Escovitz reported the Open Space Amendment got a 5 to 1 approval vote at the city Planning and Zoning Committee meeting. The city council is expected to approve the amendment.
2. Homestays and short-term rentals were discussed. A lawsuit against a Wilmington city ordinance will change whether a NC city can charge yearly fees for either. Homestays, defined as use <30days of up to 2 rooms in an occupied home (the owner doesn’t have to occupy, a tenant can do so) will remain unchanged; there will be one permit fee paid at permit issuance with no recurring fees. Short term rentals, defined as house rental of <30 days (without an owner or tenant occupying the property) are permitted in certain city zones. The problem in Asheville is that rules for homestays and for short term rentals are not enforced. Any investigation or enforcement action is complaint based. CAN has repeatedly cited short term rentals and homestays as major contributors to the problem of (un)affordable housing in Asheville.

V. Tour of Homes

 a. S. Escovitz reported with COVID still looming there is homeowner reluctance to make their home available.

 b. S. Escovitz suggested 5-6 homes could make a tour worthwhile. If enough homes aren’t on board by late July,

 there will no Tour of Homes in 2022

VI. Upcoming Election

1. President Arevian suggested a candidate forum outreach in our neighborhood for city council and mayoral candidates. The forum should be held sometime between Labor Day and early voting.

Motion to adjourn made by A. Escovitz 7:54. Seconded by J. Quinn. Next meeting July 6, 2022. 7pm.

Minutes submitted by Leigh Anne Schwietz MD