

Bellevue Civic Association Fall Meeting

November 17, 2020 – Virtual via Zoom

The Zoom connection was opened at 6:00 pm to allow members ample time to connect.

The meeting began at approximately 6:32 pm.

- I. **Call to Order** - President, Zak Saul, called the meeting to order. Attendance numbers varied during the meeting with an average of ~50 connections.
- II. **Minutes** - The minutes of our August 18, 2020 meeting were approved.
- III. **Treasurer's Report** - Zak Saul reported our bank account balance on hand as of 11/14/20 (\$12,256 in checking, and \$2,254 in PayPal. Reserves are at \$5,003. These amounts do not reflect pending payments for the last newsletter printing. Zak Saul reported that Angie Warner, our Treasurer, has completed the yearly financial report covering the period from 1/1/20 to 11/14/20). She was assisted by Bob Almond, Janet Brown, Zak Saul, and Margaret Hutchison. There are outstanding balances for advertisements. This report is available upon request.
- IV. **Crime Report Update** – The RPD could not join our meeting. Zak Saul reported that Lt. Fleming will be back in our district soon and plans to attend our February 2021 meeting. A report provided by the RPD provided these statistics for the last 28 days: 2 residential B&Es, 2 shopliftings from CVS, 1 unlocked vehicle break-ins, and 1 bike stolen off a car roof rack. There were 6 total crimes in the last 28 days which is 67% lower than the same period last year.
- V. **New Business**
 - a. **Slate of Prospective Officers:** Margaret Hutchison introduced the Nominating Committee members (Joyce Foster, Bob Almond, and Margaret Hutchison) and updated the membership on their process for determining a slate of candidates which included creating a document that provided a detailed description of roles/responsibilities/time commitment expectations for each office. This document was given to candidates to review as they considered serving on the board. The Nominating Committee then met with all candidates to review officer responsibilities and to answer questions about the BCA. Margaret then introduced each candidate to the membership with a brief summary of the strengths they would bring to the board positions. The slate presented is as follows:
 - President – Jerry DeVoss
 - Vice President – Chuck Epes
 - Treasurer – Angie Warner
 - Secretary – Mary Virginia Overholser
 - b. **Election of Officers:** Bob Almond, BCA Parliamentarian, opened the election to nominations from the floor, by office, in this order: Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President.
 - For the offices of Treasurer and Vice President there were no nominations from the floor. Don Glazer made a motion to elect these two candidates and the membership voted them in by a show of hands.
 - For the office of Secretary, Liz Pettit nominated Jami Bricker; and for the office of President, Micah Morris nominated herself. If we were meeting in person, nominations from the floor would require a paper ballot to choose between candidates. Because we were in a Zoom meeting format, the board discussed a plan to send emails to members with an electronic ballot link to

finalize the selection of Secretary and President. Our goal is to distribute ballots by 11/20/20 and to allow approximately 7 days for members to respond due to the upcoming holiday. Zak Saul will work on the ballot layout and logistics. The four candidates were asked to submit short bio statements. Paul Quel will work with his team to put out sandwich sign notifications if the board sends him a request.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. **Membership:** Joyce Foster reported that membership currently stands at 334. Joyce recommended that we start our membership drive in early January 2021. Annual membership runs from January to December. The Gift Card drawing will not be held this meeting. A donation of \$50 will be sent to the Food Bank instead. Joyce asked for volunteers to join the Welcome Wagon sub-committee.
- b. **Garden Walk:** Jo Murphy gave an update on the Spring Garden Walk which is scheduled for Sunday April 25, 2020 from 1 – 5 pm and will include gardens both north and south of Bellevue Avenue. David Lydiard asked the committee to consider extending the walk by one hour since the area is spread across Bellevue. The committee will consider this request. COVID-19 rules are being developed to keep everyone safe. Many more volunteers will be needed to work this event to monitor social distancing.
- c. **Newsletter Editors:** Carrie Parker reported that the fall issue of the Bellevue Times has been distributed. Many members complimented the increased content and color photo for the front cover. Carrie encouraged the membership to submit articles for the next issue.
- d. **Sandwich Signs:** No report.
- e. **Security Patrol:** Jerry DeVoss asked for more volunteers. He also reported that lots of volunteers have joined the Walking Patrols recently.
- f. **Beautify Bellevue:** David Lydiard reported that the spring Meet & Mulch event will be coordinated to occur prior to the Garden Walk date. David 's update on the Keep Bellevue Green advised that the City of Richmond has not yet selected a nursery for the tree replenishment program yet. The good news is the nursery will plant throughout the winter season as long as the ground is not frozen. David also thanked the 12 volunteers that conducted a Bellevue tree survey which documented all empty tree wells in the neighborhood. This information was given to the city arborist to update tree maps. The next phase of the Keep Bellevue Green will call for volunteers to mark tree wells with spray paint to aid the tree planting crews.
- g. **Newsletter Distribution:** Barry Long reported that his committee has been especially busy this year. In addition to distributing 4 newsletters, the volunteers have delivered COVID-19, Bellevue Mutual Aid and Porchella flyers.
- h. **Engagement & Outreach:** Don Glazer thanked the primary organizers of Porchella (Brooke Ullman, Rob McAdams and Summer Gentry) for providing the neighborhood with a first rate and extremely popular musical event. The committee will conduct a debrief session in the next few weeks and plans to repeat Porchella in 2021.
- i. **Social Media:** Jami Bricker reported that Porchella bumped up the BCA's Instagram by 80 followers. She also thanked Barry Long for coordinating flyer delivery and Paul Quel for sandwich sign notifications on extremely short notice.
- j. **Real estate Update:** David Lydiard reported on home sales in the past quarter: average of 7 days on the market; sales prices 11% over asking price; average price of \$407,809; and price per square foot has jumped to \$232 as compared to \$165 in 2017.

VII. **Ongoing Business**

Bellevue & Fauquier Project: David Lydiard reported that our contractor has discovered a 15 inch slope on the patio plot that was not anticipated when his quote was submitted in 2019. The cost of materials has also increased significantly in 2020 and he is requesting an additional \$1850. Bob Almond made a motion to approve the additional \$1850 and Don Glazer seconded the motion. A brief discussion of total cost and current bank balance occurred before a vote was taken. The membership approved the additional expenditure unanimously. After the vote, Bob Almond reported that named pavers can be sold to generate revenue.

VIII. **Community Announcements**

Light Up the 'Hood: David Lydiard is working out the logistics of making this a neighborhood voting event. The last date to enter the contest is December 14, 2020. Many members at the meeting indicated they plan to participate.

Christmas on MacArthur: Zak Saul reminded the membership that Christmas on MacArthur is canceled this year due to COVID-19. Toys for Tots canisters will be set up on MacArthur Avenue.

Elaine Summerfield Recognition: Liz Pettit thanked Elaine Summerfield for running for City Council. She would have represented our district very well and we thank her for running.

Potential Mural Project: Elaine Summerfield reported that the CVS wall has been tagged with graffiti recently and asked if there was interest in researching a possible mural for this wall. Elaine will determine who owns this building and if they will allow a mural. If she gains approval, the project will move into a discovery phase and will roll up under Engagement & Outreach.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 18, 2020. Location to be determined but Zoom is a viable option.

Respectfully submitted by,

Margaret Hutchison, Secretary