



AHNA



Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association A Neighborhood NRZ

AHNA General Meeting (Virtual – Zoom & Phone) Minutes September 14, 2020

Board Members;

Jackie McKinney
Chairperson
Edward Edgardo
Vice Chairperson
Nancy Rion
Secretary
Susan Tebolt
Treasurer
Janice Castle
Mayor's Office
Georges Annan-Kingsley
Michael Barr
Louisa Barton
Duguay
Wayne Benjamin
Jennifer Cassidy
Rev. Mia Douglas
Esther Gonzalez-Torres
Ken Johnson
Marian Leist
Elender Mathis
Mervin Mathurin
Yvonne Matthews
Michelle McFarland
Jeanine McMahon
Paul O'Mara

Executive Director David MacDonald

Board Members Present: Jackie McKinney, Nancy Rion, Paul O'Mara, Marian Leist, Wayne Benjamin, Janine McMahon, Georges Annan-Kingsley, Michael Barr, Yvonne Matthews, Jennifer Cassidy, Edward Edgardo,

Board Members Absent: Kolsie Mathis, Mervin Mathurin, Susan Tebolt, Michelle McFarland, Ken Johnson, Louisa Barton Duguay, Esther Gonzalez-Torres

AHNA Staff and Members Present: David MacDonald, Bernie Michel, Andrene Bent-Jarvis, Lynn Johnson, Katherine Anne Simcic, Sue Carey, Cathy Zeiner, Sarah Morin, Jesus Lopez, Sarah Adanti, David Corrigan, Claire Bergin

Visitors: Toni Gold, Julio Conception, Latoya Cleghorn-Harper, Frank Williams, Eli Mercado, Denise Gonzalez, Andrea Williams, Vanessa Cruz, Mary Falvey, Patrick McMahan, Marian Griffin **unidentified - iPhone and Mark's iPad Pro**
The meeting was called to order by Jackie McKinney at 6:25. About 35 people attended on zoom or the phone. Jackie read the AHNA Mission Statement.

Executive Director Remarks: David has continued to work on fundraising. The goal of the Development Plan is to raise \$34,000. We must raise \$12,000 by the end of the year to meet the goal. Update on AHNA's Love Your Block grants: (1) pollinator gardens – complete and celebration of completion with a cleanup and dinner was in August. David thanked Lynn Johnson for her leadership. (2) Painting of the mural on Farmington Ave and Marshall Street has begun. Extra funding will be used to beautify the corner area. Representatives from AHNA and WICA met re the future of the Farmington Ave Alliance.

Treasurer's Report: Sue did not attend the meeting. The current balance is \$15,024. The Directors of the Board were asked to make their donations soon.

Police Department Report: Asylum Hill's CSO, Sid Palmieri, (cell number 959-282-5138) was unable to attend the meeting.

Fire Department Report: Lt. Jesus Lopez, (860-757-4523), Special Services Unit, reported that in Asylum Hill, there have been 3,090 positive cases of COVID. Asylum Hill has the most of any Hartford neighborhood. Jesus reminded residents to wear masks and avoid crowds. He also mentioned that smoke detectors are available.

Report from the City: Andrene shared information about COVID 19:

- Everyone is encouraged to get a test
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- Call 311 to schedule free rapid testing at Pope Park through September

In other news, Andrene also announced

- Temporary Rental Assistance Program is available: call 860-785-3111. Residents who did not receive unemployment will be a priority.
- Census – residents are encouraged to complete the hard copy, or on line, or by phone
- Public Works Office is opening Sept 15.
- Many programs are still down because of the cyber-attack last week

Review of Minutes: The August General Meeting minutes were approved.

29 Ashley St update: the owner wants to demolish this historic house as a result of a March fire. AHNA and the City have recommended that rehabilitation be considered first. The Historic Preservation Commission meets this week to consider the request for demolition. AHNA encourages residents to attend the meeting.

Julio Conception- Hartford Chamber of Commerce: Julio described the work of the Chamber in Hartford. Membership is \$250. In response to questions, Julio said the Chamber would be happy to work with AHNA to develop Farmington Ave.

Voices of our Neighborhood:

- CT now charges prisoners more than any other state to make a phone call. Mike encouraged residents to contact legislators or learn more at worthrises.org.
- Asylum Hill Family Center is hosting a census gathering on Sept 15.

Farmington Ave Alliance: The future of the organization is unclear. Wayne, Jackie, David and Toni will meet soon with representatives of WICA to discuss the options.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00.