



AHNA



Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association
A Neighborhood NRZ

AHNA General Meeting (Virtual – Zoom & Phone) Minutes – August 2, 2021

Board Members;

Jackie McKinney

Chairperson

Edward Edgardo

Vice Chairperson

Nancy Rion

Secretary

Louisa Barton

Dugway

Treasurer

Janice Castle

Mayor's Office

Georges Annan-

Kingsley

Wayne Benjamin

Jennifer Cassidy

Rev. Mia Douglas

Esther Gonzalez-

Torres

Ken Johnson

Lynn 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, Ken Johnson, Louisa Barton Duguay, Wayne Benjamin, Marian Leist, Lynn Johnson, Janine McMahon

Board Members Absent: Michelle McFarland, Mervin Mathurin, Kolsie Mathis, Georges Annan-Kingsley, Esther Gonzalez-Torres

AHNA Staff, City Representatives and Members Present: Bernie Michel, Sid Palmieri, Jesus Lopez, Interim Chief Barco, Andrene Bent-Jarvis, Paul Bengston, Doug Ovian, Sarah Adanti, Claire Bergin, Sue Carey, Barbara Morton, Barbara Robbins, Katherine Anne Simcic, Lynn Webber, Cathy Zeiner

Visitors: Shanica Bynoc, Natalia Crispin, Claudia Dinep, Rex Fowler, Marion Griffin, Chris McArdle, Sonsearae Sawyer, Kristin Schwab, Chion Wolf

The meeting was called to order by Jackie McKinney at 6:15. Over 40 people introduced themselves on zoom or the phone. Jackie read the AHNA Mission and an acknowledgement that Asylum Hill is located on native lands.

Executive Director's Report: Because he was delayed on his return from Florida, David was unable to give his report.

Treasurer's Report: Louisa reported

July expenses	\$3,985 (payroll, insurance, website)
Aug 2 operating balance	\$9,803
Estimate of end of August balance	\$7,700
Anticipated income	\$2,500 – Webster Bank

REPORTS FROM THE CITY:

- Police Department Report:** Asylum Hill's CSO, Sid Palmieri, (palmc002@hartford.gov) reported he is now working night shift to help decrease incidents of larceny. He encouraged residents to remove valuables from their cars. He's concerned about an increase in public drinking, especially in the morning; he's encouraging stores not to sell liquor in the morning. He is addressing complaints about loud music in Sigourney Park.
- Fire Department Report:** Lt. Jesus Lopez, (860-757-4523), Special Services Unit reported the most recent stats for Asylum Hill. Hartford reports 16,818 cases of COVID.

- **CITY Update:** Andrene encouraged residents to get vaccinated. They can call 311 for locations, or check the weekly newsletter from the City. National Night Out will be in 4 locations on Aug 3.
- **Hartford Planning Department Update:** Paul Bengston reported approval of three projects. He reminded residents to visit meetinginfo.org for an update on all committees. He announced the South Branch Train Project public meeting August 18.
- **Community Court Report:** Doug Ovia (douglas.ovian@jud.ct.gov) reminded residents that the Community Court is now fully open. Community Service has begun.

Committee Reports:

- **Economic Development:** St. Francis Hospital is planning some major renovations.
- **Quality of Life:** met recently to identify various safety problems in Asylum Hill including the need for more crosswalks.
- **Green Committee:** the Energy Fair Festival will be Oct. 16 from 1-5. The next meeting will be Aug 9 – focused on the north branch of the Park River.

Review of Minutes: The May General Meeting minutes were approved. The June minutes were approved with an amendment that the Communications' Committee's report be attributed to the Green Committee.

Covenant Prep School: Lisa Tica described the work of the boy's school for grades 6-8. She encouraged residents to consider Covenant Prep.

Hartford Community Loan Fund: Rex Fowler described a landscaping proposal for 207-215 Garden St. He requested a letter of support for the improvements. It was approved. He then shared concerns about the many accidents that have occurred by his building. He requested a letter of support to the City requesting traffic calming initiatives on Garden Street. The YWCA supports this effort. This request was referred to the AHNA Board.

Voices of our Neighborhood and Announcements:

- S. Marshall Street Block Party is August 25. Entities that would like to sponsor the party or host a table should contact Nancy Rion
- CPA is offering a Prison Arts Program with over 1000 pieces at Mark Twain Gallery
- Hartford Next- Program Manager Position is available

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47.