



Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association A Neighborhood NRZ

AHNA General Meeting (Virtual – Zoom & Phone) Minutes – October 4, 2021

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Board Members Present: Jackie McKinney, Nancy Rion, Paul O'Mara, Wayne Benjamin, Marian Leist, Lynn Johnson, Michelle McFarland, Janine McMahon, Esther Gonzalez-Torres, Ken Johnson, Yvonne Matthews

Board Members Absent: Mervin Mathurin, Kolsie Mathis, Louisa Barton Duguay, Georges Annan-Kingsley

AHNA Staff, City Representatives and Members Present: David McDonald, Bernie Michel, Cid Palmieri, Lt Rebecca O'Shea, Andrene Bent-Campbell, Doug Ovian, Sarah Adanti, Claire Bergin, Sue Carey, Ted Carroll, Domenic Ciavarro, David Corrigan, Barbara Morton, Barbara Robbins, Katherine Anne Simcic, Grace Yi, Cathy Zeiner

Visitors: Carolyn Austin, Malika Buscaino, Barbara Carmen, Abby Charmut, Victoria Chavey, Natalia Crispin, Glenn Davis, Gary DeLong, Holly DeYoung, Jane Dunbar, Stacey Dumas, Cydonie Fukami, Sandy Wood Forand, Jenn Ford, Nat Gale, Chantel Gray, Constance Belton Green, Ali Hager, Ruth Hofstatter, Anrita John, Alex Kahn, Eric LaChapelle, Patrick McMahon, Maxine Nugent, Mary Pelletier, Bernie Pelletier, Rob Peters, John Prescod, Luz Rivera, Rick Standish, Jennifer Stevens, Carrie Stockman, Mike Stockman, Beatrice Sullivan, Tom Trumble

The meeting was called to order by Jackie McKinney at 6:15. Sixty four people introduced themselves on zoom or the phone. Jackie announced that the entire meeting would be focused on the 2021 draft of the Strategic Plan for Asylum Hill. She introduced Ted Carroll who chairs the Steering Committee for the Plan.

Ted presented the draft of the Strategic Plan in PowerPoint slides prepared by Alex Kahn and Jenn Ford from the Hartford. He introduced the Steering Committee who has met several times to identify the goals and priority projects for Asylum Hill. They were also eager to foster wide participation in this effort. He introduced the eight Taskforces and their goals: Arts and Culture, Economic Development, Employment, Environmental and Green Initiatives, Housing and Historic Preservation, Human Services, Public Safety and Youth and Education.

All attendees were encouraged to choose one of Taskforces in each of two breakout sessions. In these breakout groups, the chair of each Taskforce then described the vision and goals and proposed action steps. Attendees then discussed these and shared their ideas for about 25 minutes. In both breakout sessions, each group had from 5-8 participants.

When all the attendees returned to the whole group, Ted explained the approval process going forward: Each Taskforce will revise the draft in response to comments made in the breakout sessions. The Steering Committee will meet once again to revise the Strategic Plan and share it with stakeholders at the AHNA community breakfast in November. With the additional input, the AHNA Board will vote on the plan and then the residents will finalize and vote on the Strategic Plan for Asylum Hill at a General Meeting.

Announcements:

- Oct 9 Hartford Marathon
- Oct 16, 10-11:30 Webinar on City Finances
- Oct 16, 1-5 Energy Fair at Sigourney Park
- Oct 19 Town Hall meeting
- Nov. 1 AHNA Annual Meeting
- Nov - leaf collection begins
- Reminder that free tickets to Hartford Stage are available at the libraries for Hartford residents

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10.

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