



Colonial Heights Neighborhood Association

March 10th, 2021 6:30-8pm

Zoom: Meeting ID: 897 6159 4771
Passcode: 891358

- Welcome/Introductions
- Police Update
- Jay Schenirer Update
- Library Update
- Communications Committee Discussion
- Other Committee Updates
 - Finance, Traffic & Safety, Park, Welcome
- Chris Jones: Organization Options as a Non Profit
- Other Business/Announcements

Upcoming Events:

Easter Carnival April 4th

National Night Out August 4th

Yard and Craft Sale September 18th

Colonial Heights Monthly Meeting Minutes March 10th, 2021

Police Update:

Tony Parham SPD provided an update –

- Many questions about speeding issues, there have been some motor units assigned for enforcement.
- We have placed speed signs to collect data.
 - 21st and 54th to see what normal speed is and how many chronic speeders there are and time of day.
 - Have prioritized enforcement on 14th due to collisions and add portable speed signs.
- Have seen an increase in catalytic convertor thefts.
 - SPD has map of area that has been hit, and officers have a list of known offenders and their vehicles to look out for them.

Jay Schenirer Update:

- Have experienced catalytic converters myself – 2 have been stolen.
 - Purchased a cage that goes over converter which makes it more difficult to get it off.
 - About \$150 but cheaper than replacing convertor which is about \$3000.
- Lots of focus on homelessness
 - Voted unanimously to open respite centers year-round which is about \$3 million dollars
 - Looking at larger facilities as well.
- Aggie Square
 - Negotiating community benefit agreement – April 6th
 - Hoping to have productive conversations around pending lawsuits
 - Would like to break ground at the end of the year
 - City has asked to intervene in lawsuit against UC Davis so that they can be part of the discussion.
- Youth Programs
 - Will be seeking bids (\$6 million) for youth programs
- Stimulus program
 - City will get approx. \$120 million
 - Likely will do something similar we did with the last stimulus money but there is more flexibility with the use of the funds.
- District 5 homeless planning Meeting in S. Land Park
 - No current plans to host one for colonial heights but agreed to host one with Eric Guerra if this is something our neighborhood is interested in.
- Resident Concerns/Questions:
 - Shared concerns around Mercy Housing
 - Response: Will be in 2 phases – 120 units moving forward
 - San Juan Motel – will provide additional housing
 - Will have 200 beds on UC Campus, as well as 340 units nearby
 - Mercy still is looking to gather funding, but will keep neighborhood updated.
 - Shared concerns around the encampment on Stockton Blvd.

- Response: City is going to clean up the property and bill the property owner
- City code enforcement is working to try to address the issue of blocking the sidewalk
- Jay is going to follow up on an updates from code enforcement as well as any info on what is going in on Stockton blvd.

Communications Committee Update:

- Has been difficult to get this all figured out – Greg has stepped in but looking for help/permanent lead.
- Website is up and running, KC is handling the social media
- In 2017/18 there were conflicts around contacting government officials so this is the reason for all of the rules around how we communicate with the neighborhood so there is not one person seen as the “main person”
- Need to work on Easter Flyer and push people to the website
- Should we focus social media efforts on certain platforms

Finance Update:

- None

Easter Event Update:

- Will be doing the scavenger hunt again – all ages are welcome
- Prizes will be similar to last year- appreciate donation of \$250 from Jay Schenirer for the event
 - Alcohol prize for adults - must be 21
- Encourage people to participate and provide clues for the scavenger hunt.
 - Email Nicole Costanzo – ncostanzo3@gmail.com for clues
- Event is all day – start at around 8 AM
- Last year some of the clues were very difficult and took some people most of the day
- Easter Event is 9 years strong

Public Safety/Street Safety Update:

- Idea is to form an unofficial group to put together a list of all of the problem areas and then provide a letter requesting the city to address concerns listed.
- Power in numbers concept and avoid “Reinventing the wheel” so there is a united effort.
- Suggestions included lawn signs “slow down”
 - Potentially get funds from Jay Schenirer for printing
 - Example of signs on 58th and Broadway
 - Similar to efforts around the neighborhood watch

Other Committees:

- National Night Out Committee – Steve and Kathy Bicker
- Welcome Committee – Mark and Chelsea
 - May go backwards to people who have moved in during pandemic
- Park Update:
- Looking to replace soccer nets
- City is considering changing the wading pool to a splash pad
 - Neighbors want to be involved
- Restroom issue-
 - We have been contacted by Parks Department as part of the master plan for parks

Creating a non-profit

- Currently not eligible for grants
- Forming would be tax exempt and could get grants
- There are two options 501c3 or 501c4
 - Most neighborhoods are 501c3 – donations are tax deductible but cannot “lobby” or participate politically
 - OakPark, Elmhurst, Curtis Park, Land Park, Hollywood Park
- 501c4 is harder to get grants but are allowed to engage in lobbying.
- Would allow us to endorse actions of the city
- Gives formal govt structure with bank account, apply for grants
- Power in numbers – provides liability protection and is a separate legal entity
- 1 time costs of \$750.
- Lots of discussion from neighbors about what the pros and cons are of forming a non-profit, but given the limited time of what was left of the meeting, the topic was tabled until the next meeting for further discussion.
- History of neighborhood – this was a conversation in 2017 but decided against it given the smaller size of neighborhood and other additional burdens.

Final updates:

- KC joined the SIWD on behalf of Colonial Heights
- Kickball is about to begin