

Highlands Civic Association (HCA)

- To strengthen the sense of community, responsibility, and livability in the Highlands for all residents.
- To protect, preserve, and further the residential quality of the Highlands area.
- To maintain an open line of communication among the Highlands neighborhood, the Borough of State College, the University community, and other Borough neighborhoods and agencies.
- To facilitate the exchange of information among HCA residents.

MINUTES

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

7:00pm

Zoom Video and Phone Conference

Meeting convened at 7:00 pm

1. Introductions: Mark Huncik, Eric White, Margaret Sebastianelli, Vinnie Scanlon, Laird Jones, Svitlana Jones, David Stone, Jacob Werner, Theresa Lafer, Jennifer Stahl, JoAnne Miller
2. Treasury Report and Dues Collection - \$5 per household (cash or check) arrange with HCA Treasurer, Vinnie Scanlon, at mvinnies@icloud.com: Current balance \$1,499.41
3. Ukraine "Sister City" Update, Svitlana Jones:
 - Nizhyn in the Chernihiv region, north of Kyiv was selected by HCA as a "Sister City" to State College as reliable partners in cooperation and brotherhood; both cities are educational centers of their countries and graduates receive world-wide recognition of their achievements; both cities have a history of international cultural and economic relations (tenants of the mayor of the city of Nizhyn's letter to Svitlana)
 - Action items: identify Nizhyn's immediate needs in the Russian invasion; include all State College neighborhoods in the initiative; secure support from the Borough Council
 - Two separate initiatives were identified: a group to draft a sister city agreement of cooperation once both cities confirm interest and receive local government support and a group to develop a strategic plan to

manage the collection and dispersal of items/funds to meet immediate needs

- Identify reliable people in Nizhyn to facilitate the exchange of help needed and local volunteers to manage the work
- Employ social media to assist as one option for consideration

4. E Fairmount Park Update:

- Lance King, Borough Facilities Manager and Arborist, called for construction bids on Tuesday 5-3-22
- Completion schedule is on track to start construction of pavilion, placement of playground equipment and landscaping in June

5. Open discussion and other topics:

- Borough has not opened meeting rooms for in-person gatherings; HCA meeting continue to be scheduled through Zoom
- Susan Shincovich inquired about having a yard sale the week of August 13th (week prior to fall semester student move in); to be discussed at a future meeting
- Applications for the vacated seat on Borough Council are due next week
- HARB update: meeting held once a month on the first Tuesday at 7:00 pm are open to the public; application for demolition of 420 E. Foster Avenue was denial by Council but may be contested - May 5th is the deadline to file an appeal; application for construction of a portico on the front of a single-family dwelling on E. Prospect Ave has been reviewed and approved as a recommendation to Borough Council for final vote; more applications are expected for the historical preservation of homes in the Highlands

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Margaret Sebastianelli, May 2022