

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 neighborhood.
- 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.

AGENDA

Tuesday, June 4, 2019

7:15pm

State College Municipal Building, Room 241

Meeting convened at 7:18 pm.

1. **Introductions:** Mark Huncik, Dave Stone, Eric White, Margaret Sebastianelli, Tom Gesell, Mary Conner-Righter
2. **Treasurer's Report and Dues Collection:** \$970.95 balance; additional funds will be reflected in the July meeting report
3. **Approval of Dec. 4, 2018, Jan. 8, 2019, March 5, 2019, and April 2 Meeting Minutes:** Quorum not reached; all minutes for approval are moved to the July meeting
4. **Neighborhood Yard Sale:**
 - Scheduled for June 22, 2019, 9:00 am to 2:00 pm; possible rain date set for June 29
 - Laird Jones should be notified of resident interest in participating for inclusion in the advertising about the Highlands Yard Sale; to express intention to participate, email kocherhouse357@gmail.com
 - Yard signs will be provided by HCA

5. E. Fairmount Park Improvements Update:

- Borough with HCA support are submitting two grant proposals
- Competition for funding is highly competitive
- More information to follow

6. Annual Meeting and Elections – Sept. 12, 2019 - Pre-planning Discussion:

- Meeting will be held from 6:00 – 9:00 pm at the Friends Meeting House at 611 E. Prospect Avenue
- HCA election year: HCA Board is accepting nominations or applications of interest for all positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) at large members
- Potluck dinner will be available
- Guest speaker to be determined

7. Highlands Parking Pilot Update:

- Initiated March 2019 as an 18-month pilot
- Borough parking is understaffed by two part-time and one fulltime enforcement officer positions making coverage more difficult; overtime was provided for event coverage
- Warnings and enforcements were given at the Blue White game and Penn State spring commencement
- Activity data was provided by Patrick Ward, State College Parking Manager, are as follows:

Blue White Game Statistics

82	2A-6A warning violations issued by handheld device	
400-450	2A-6A warning violation issued by preprinted information	
6	Lawn violations	

Registration and Permit Information for the Pilot as of 5-15-19

47	Registered residents of the Highlands for the program
250	Overnight permissions for residents during non-event times
28	\$10 permits for overnight parking during Blue White and Commencement

- Staffing and enforcement of violations will continue with Central Festival of the Arts starting July 10
- Evaluation for the pilot may be after the initial football season and require a full review of the spring/fall activity and discussion of how the program is working or what may increase the program's effectiveness

8. International Town & Gown Association Conference – May 19-22, 2019:

- Attendees reported the conference as effective in bringing visiting attendee, presenters and State College/Penn State hosts together for good conversations, connections and program sessions
- Borough provided registration support for 4 neighborhood residents
- To access sessions/presentations:
 1. Go to www.itga.org and select Sign In at the top right corner of the page
 2. Email: Conference2019, Password: 2019
 3. Select "The 2019 ITGA Conference"
 4. Select "Schedule", then select date of the session
 5. Select "Resources" button beside the session Abstract button

9. Neighborhood Coalition Activities:

- Next meeting is scheduled for July
- Main topic for discussion may be the concept of a self-assessment
- In preparation for future discussions around stabilizing the growing need for additional/expanded municipal services to protect and preserve the Borough's citizenry, examining the Homestead Exclusion Act and its protection for qualified owner-occupied dwellings used as the owner's primary residence may be key to the tax/self-assessment discussion

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.

Submitted by Margaret Sebastianelli June, 2019