

Highlands Civic Association

- 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.

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

7:15-9:00 pm

State College Municipal Building, Room 241

Meeting Convened: 7:15 pm

1. Introductions: Mark Huncik, Eric White, Margaret Sebastianelli, David Stone, Susan Venegoni, Danielle Stemple, Vinnie Scanlon, Paul Scanlon, Laird Jones, Elizabeth Shirey
2. Treasurer's Report: \$1,136.86 – All receipts for potluck picnic purchases for reimbursement go to Vinnie. HCA membership dues will be collected in the fall.
3. Approval of May 1st Meeting Minutes pending corrections:
 - a. Change in rank: Captain Christopher Fishel
 - b. Clarification: Warnings vs citations for neighborhood behavior and noise violations: Capt. Fishel stated issuing a citation is considered an arrestable offense and must be supported by probable cause. The issuance of multiple warnings for repeated unreasonable behavior or noise is neither a common practice nor is it helpful. The NEAT (Neighborhood Enforcement Action Team) is made up of 2 Penn State and 2 Borough officers working from mid-August to mid-May to build community relations and enforce violations (holding all accountable). Actions are based on unreasonable behavior or noise complaints in a case-by-case situation. Effort is made to determine what is going on and if the behavior or noise is considered unreasonable before addressing the situation and responding to the complainant. For an effective citation outcome, a court presence by the complainant and supporting community yields the best results.
4. Final Planning and Discussion on Neighborhood Yard Sale and Potluck Picnic Gathering – June 9th and 10th :
 - Yard Sale: Event communication went out on Craig's List, nextdoor.com: and yardsale.net. Highlands posters are available for posting to help identify participating neighbors. Sixteen families/residents signed up to host a yard sale from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 9th..

- Potluck Gathering: All attendees are to bring a dish of their own choosing, beverages and appropriate seating. HCA will provide paper supplies, eating utensils, hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers; tables will be provided; games will be available for youth and adults. The dessert truck will arrive at 2:00 pm. Parking is available on Hetzel and Fairmount; drop off available on Glenn Alley. Restroom facilities will not be provided.
5. Other Business or Items of Interest:
- Downtown Allen Street Plaza: A group of local business owners, State College Young Professionals and members of the Downtown Improvement District gathered to brainstorm what it would look like to close Allen Street between College and Beaver Avenue from May through July. If approved, Centre Foundation will donate \$150,000 to assist with the expense. Some downtown business owners objected to the closing. The business representatives were concerned about a possible reduction in sales and inaccessibility for vendors to deliver supplies. The concept did not garner the support needed for 2018.
 - Happy Valley Music Fest: There will not be a music festival this year.
 - The Rotary Club sponsored the Ice Cream Festival on June 2nd and 3rd.
 - Parking: Penn State's red lot A will gain a parking garage to help with sporting event parking. Access will be from Atherton Street and W. College Avenue. To provide additional parking options on the East side of town, the Days Inn and Borough are partnering for additional spaces.
 - Lion Bash: The early fall semester event (previously known as Lion Walk) brings together town and gown, fraternities and public works to introduce new students, faculty and residents to the community. August 25th is the anticipated date. No details of the event are known at this time. HCA has yet to receive an invitation to participate.
 - Highland Historical Home Tour is scheduled for Friday, June 29th. The tour is co-supported by HCA and Penn State OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). The walk will provide an external look at the lovely Sears and Roebuck homes and majestic fraternity houses in the Highlands.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Margaret Sebastianelli, June 2018