

## 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.

### AGENDA

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

7:00pm

Zoom Video and Phone Conference

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Meeting convened at 7:05 pm

1. Introductions: Mark Huncik, Eric White, Peg Hambrick, Margaret Sebastianelli, David Stone, Mary Ann Schreck, Elaine Schuckers, Elizabeth Berryman, Mary McGuire, Jacob Warner
2. Annual Dues Collection - \$5 per household (arrange with HCA Treasurer, Vinnie Scanlon, at [mvinnies@icloud.com](mailto:mvinnies@icloud.com)); \$1,329.41 is the account balance plus additional HCA dues to be posted.
3. LION Bash: – Thursday Sept. 9th, 5-8pm ([www.statecollegepa.us/298/Living-in-One-Neighborhood-LION](http://www.statecollegepa.us/298/Living-in-One-Neighborhood-LION)):
  - HCA will host table #238. Holmes-Foster neighborhood located nearby is stationed at table #240.
  - Volunteers are asked to wear HCA t-shirts for identification.
  - Neighborhood map, candy and orange wrist bands will be available.
4. E. Fairmount Park Project Update:
  - Volunteers to water new plants is still needed for a 2-hour commitment through September. Thank you to neighbors Leif Jensen, Jim and Susan Shincovich for their diligence in watering on behalf of the neighborhood.
  - Project completion date remains fluid. The hope is that the project will see completion by late spring 2022.

## 5. Borough Updates:

- Watch the HCA LISTSERV for weekly information coming from the Borough staff and Neighborhood Coalition meetings. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13, 2021.
- Volunteer opportunity is available on the Community Oversight Board (COB). For information on qualifications, training requirements, continuing education and application go to:  
[pa-statecollege-gettingstarted.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/23665](https://pa-statecollege-gettingstarted.app.transform.civicplus.com/forms/23665) .
- A number of small business/non-profits COVID recovery grants and loans are available.
- Borough received funding earmarked for economic recovery of revenue losses due to COVID. One area with significant loss is downtown street and garage parking. Go to the State College Borough web site for a fuller understanding of the budget plan.
- The Days Inn on Pugh Street was purchased to convert to a multiple student housing complex.
- Major concern was expressed for former fraternity houses used as boarding houses without proper approval and oversight.
- New high-rise housing (Edge, Pugh Center, Rise) project incentives calls for an extra floor for inclusionary housing. Unfortunately, it appears the space may be used for other purposes. HCA would like to encourage more coordination among inclusionary housing entities across all housing incentives.
- The State College Downtown Improvement District (SCDID) is due for reauthorization by year's end. A public hearing is scheduled for October 4 at 7:00 pm by Zoom as part of the Borough Council's meeting (Zoom address will be part of the online meeting agenda). A remonstrative vote submitted by letter stating reason for opposing the reauthorization of the DID as it is in its present state will be required to be submitted to Council by the end of November 2021.
- Downtown street and garage parking reverts to the pre-COVID parking enforcement on September 7, 2021.
- Concern emerges for the illegal removal of street signs that identify the names of the streets and avenues. Members of the HCA will meet with Borough officials for solutions this fall

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

Minutes submitted by Margaret Sebastianelli, September 2021