

Washington Square West Civic Association

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

February 9, 2021

Conducted Via Zoom

- I. Call to order by the President, Neal Pratt at 7:02 PM
- II. Attendance: 1. Neal Pratt, 2. Robert Sher, 3. Deb Sweeney, 4. Rick Spitzborg, 5. Judy Applebaum, 6. Catalina Gonzalez, 7. Tami Sortman, 8. Jonathan Broh, 9. Sukrit Goswami, 11. Richard Lee, 12. Marisa Shaaban
- III. President's Report:

The Civic mailbox, currently located in the Jefferson Custodial building, will move to a PO Box at \$180 annually. Board approve unanimously.

2019 WSWCA voted to adjust boundaries to run through the south side of Market St. This would allow for Chestnut St. residents to have a voice within the WSWCA. Neal entertained feedback from board and community. Community members spoke in favor of extending the WSW boundaries. A motion was made to adopt the new bylaws and extend the boundaries to the south side of Market St. Motion was approved 24-1 to adopt the bylaws. RCO will make the revisions and residents notified.

The Development Working Group initiative update was shared by Catalina. All from the WSW community are invited and encouraged to engage in the discussions to share concerns and input. This is a working/learning group. Options, including a temporary demolition moratorium, were briefly discussed after having been mentioned as a recourse. Historic preservation within WSW is also being discussed. The committee was informed that considerable work has already been done regarding historic designation and significance.

- IV. The board approved minutes from the January 12, 2021 meeting.

- V. Treasure's Report:  
No updates.

Community gardens are self supporting within their designated budget.

- VI. Committee Reports:

Zoning Committee:  
There were not projects presented requiring a vote.

1203 Pine St. deck was discussed.

123-127 S 12th St. applicant presented the project. Community input was received regarding design and construction.

Tree Tenders:  
Tree planting may be postponed to the Fall.

A request was made by Rick for WSWCA to provide \$50 per tree to fund gator bags, mulch for tree pits and signage recognizing the tree tenders organization and WSWCA for this initiative. Requesting \$50 per tree for 15-17 trees. Approved by the Board.

#### VII. Community Comment

-Concern regarding about safe pedestrian traffic and can the contractors provide sidewalk space. RESPONSE: Once demolition on 12th St. is complete the builder will be contacted to request.

-Concern expressed regarding trash put out on non-designated trash days and dog owners leaving the bags of waste in inappropriate areas. RESPONSE: 311 can be contacted or sanitation department code violation request can be made.

-Philadelphia Police Department is seeking community outreach for homeless individuals. Project Home @ 215-232-1984 can be called 24/7. They will send out caseworkers to the individual. This contact information has been posted.

NEXT MEETING VIA ZOOM: March 9, 2021 at 7 PM.

**~The WSWC always welcomes and encourages the public to attend meetings. The Civic is in need of individuals willing to be involved in the Civic activities and to serve on the various committees.~**