

## SENIORS BOARD MEETING

January 10, 2019

**Presiding:** Selby Clark The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Roll call:** Present: Selby Clark, Candyce Beneke, John Palmer, Ann Crowley, Joan Johnson, Rebecca Dozier, Judy Faulkner, Tom Brombacher, Stan McCandless, Virginia Lootens, Carlos de la Torre, Susan Davis

Absent: Ruth Becker, Virginia Lootens Tardy: George Baker

**Guests:** Mardi Turner (Council), Steve Brown, John Barnes, Kellye Burke (Council)

**Staff:** Toby Brooks and Susan White

Minutes of December 13 were amended and approved.

### **Citizen's Comments:**

Selby read a statement regarding the scope and tenor of citizen's comments, emphasizing that personal remarks be excluded.

### **Council Meeting Report: Mardi Turner**

Reported that Christmas trees, if stripped of lights, can be recycled and mulched (otherwise, they would be taken to the dump). Next year, enlist Boy Scouts in the stripping of lights from Christmas trees.

### **Steve Brown – Chairman of Buildings and Standards Commission**

Spoke of the lack of a good solution to the problem of the noise and dust pollution caused by gas-powered leaf blowers. Monitoring, measurement and enforcement are all problematic measures. Asked for suggestions and encouraged residents to speak with their neighbors about this issue.<sup>1</sup> Tom Brombacher suggested that residents stay inside during periods when leaf blowers are operating.

### **Kellye Burke (Council report)**

City Manager search still in progress. Meeting next Monday (Jan. 14) to consider zoning request of ATT and the selection of a city manager.<sup>2</sup> George asked for a summary of the matters in contention in relation to ATT's request for rezoning.

Discussed project to deploy security cameras in the city. Software exists for solar-powered cameras to register license plate numbers on vehicles. The goal would be to have all resident vehicles registered in the system.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/how-bad-for-the-environment-are-gas-powered-leaf-blowers/2013/09/16/8eed7b9a-18bb-11e3-a628-7e6dde8f889d\\_story.html?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.de80f0cad6be](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/how-bad-for-the-environment-are-gas-powered-leaf-blowers/2013/09/16/8eed7b9a-18bb-11e3-a628-7e6dde8f889d_story.html?noredirect=on&utm_term=.de80f0cad6be)

<sup>2</sup> Mr. David Beach was selected as the next City Manager during the Council Meeting of January 14.

### **Parks & Recreation (Susan White)**

Toby Brooks was named by the City as “Distinguished Employee of the Year.” Congratulations were offered.

Discussion of the remodeling plans at the Recreation Center, to provide better staff engagement with patrons, enhance safety and security and facilitate parent access to children attending swimming lessons. Susan observed that it is impractical to issue cards to everyone who uses the Rec Center, which is used by persons attending classes, swim team, as well as soccer players, among others.

Friends of the Park approved up to \$90,000 for remodeling. Center plans to remain open during remodeling.

New outdoor water bottle filler has been installed on the drinking fountain near the tennis court at Colonial Park. The revised sidewalk on Pittsburg at Hughes Park is almost completed.

“See something, say something” culture is needed to protect park facilities. In a recent instance, a tennis court net at Judson Park was damaged when teenagers carelessly sat on the net.

A survey review of Colonial Park programs and facilities is scheduled for 2020.

### **Good Neighbor Team (Toby Brooks)**

Valentine’s Day cards to be sent to 115 home-bound senior residents. Dorothy is seeking to identify other residents who are 85+.

There was discussion of the relationship of the Good Neighbor Team and the Seniors Board. Stan sees the team as the “operational arm” of the board.

### **Programs (Toby Brooks)**

Programs recently have brought in higher revenues than had been expected, \$2,300 in one day alone.

A new “contra” dancing series has begun, meeting 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays from 7:30-9:30 p.m.<sup>3</sup> A yoga class has been added.

A “Speed Friendship” event is scheduled for April 16 at noon. Participants will have the opportunity to exchange impressions with others in a series of timed, mini-conversations. Afterwards, people could connect with others with whom they might begin a friendship. George commented that he had recently read that loneliness is a greater health risk than either diabetes or obesity.

The Mayor’s Marathon Breakfast is coming up on Sunday, January 20. Registration is requested.

**Old Business:** There was no old business

**New business:** There was no new business.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

**Next meeting:** February 14, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

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<sup>3</sup> George and Mary Baker have attended two sessions. There were about 40 participants with live music and a caller. The group used to meet in the Heights for many years. Membership is available or \$10 session. The ages of dancers on February 2 ranged from about 12 to 99. The modal age was about 60. There were a dozen musicians.