

Longfellow Community Association

June Meeting

June 7, 2021, 6:30 pm

In attendance:

Jessica Blubaugh, Cindy Wissinger, Lenita Johnson, Rodney Sampson, CJ Adams Henry Wash (High Aspirations), Jeff Ullmann (MCC), Tyjuan Lee (MCC), Mary Esselman (Operation Breakthrough), Robb Traylor, Brett Creason, Clare Shaw, Mark Green, Nancy Norman, Matthew Macchietto, Ben Peyton, Lisa Spaulding, Stephen Krauska, Erin Royals, Ami Freeberg, Jeff at 2811 Harrison, Steven Lammers, Share Bane, Josepha Lara-Smith

Community Update – MCC Project

A Dean and site administrator has been named for the Advanced Technical Skills Institute (ATSI). They are also working on a collaboration with Operation Breakthrough. The new entrance of the Institute will be on the north side of the building facing the parking lot. New windows on the north side and transition from glass block to window along Troost will bring more light into the space. The cranes on site this week are lifting HVAC units onto the roofs.

The project is still on track to be completed in November 2021 with classes beginning January 2022.

Question regarding additional parking for students. MCC has purchased the KCPS parking lot. They are leasing the lot to KCPS during constructions.

The number of students on site could vary between 300-500 students per day from 6:30 am- 10:00 pm.

Community Update – Operation Breakthrough Waiver Request

Mary shared a short video about the demolition and renderings of the Ignition Lab. They have submitted a waiver request for the Troost Overlay. They would like to keep the existing sign pole and replace Midas Muffler with Ignition Lab. They would also like to have a 6-foot fence rather than a 4-foot fence. This would help secure the bus lot and equipment.

She would like to have something in writing from LCA. (within the next month)

They plan to open the space in September, and the final approval and permits would be dependent on the waiver.

Question asked of both Operation Breakthrough and MCC regarding bird-safe glass.

Elections

Jessica Blubaugh was elected unanimously as President.

Mark Green was elected as Secretary with one member abstaining.

Ben Payton was elected to fill the roll of Vice Preseident, vacated by Jessica Blubaugh.

A slate of board members was approved with one “no” vote. The slate includes:

- CJ Adams
- Steve Krauska
- Rodney Sampson
- Brett Creason
- Robb Traylor
- Matthew Macchietto
- Josepha Lara-Smith

Minutes and Treasurer’s Report

Motion by Clare to approve the minutes of the May meeting. Second by Robb Traylor. Approved unanimously

Review of the Treasurer’s report by Clare Shaw. Motion to approve the LCA general report by Ben Peyton, Seconded by Robb Traylor. Approved unanimously.

Review of the Farm report by Clare. Motion to approve the Farm report by Ben Peyton, seconded by Robb Traylor. Approved unanimously.

Troost Coalition update

Updates by developers have been shared with Troost Coalition adjacent to Longfellow. RFPs have gone out for properties at 31st and Troost as well as Lynwood and Troost.

Troost CID

Petitions have been started. Signatures needed from 50% of property owners based on number and value. The boundaries are 27th south to the north boundary of the next CID. Does not include any property with residential, including mixed use.

3000 Campbell

The power to the house was hotwired, creating a dangerous situation. The City turned off the utility and deemed the property uninhabitable. The city attorney became involved in removing the final squatters at the property still using the water for showers. Because of Covid, the City could not turn off water services. The property has been cleared of most trash and tires – as well as rehoming abandoned cats at

the property. We are currently waiting for next steps until we find legal counsel. Clare seeking options for legal counsel and getting quotes. The cost can be dramatically different for contested vs. uncontested processes. The City mowed the property, but a few people volunteered to help mow if the City does not continue to maintain the grass. Please keep a look out for any activity at the property.

Yard Sale update

Communication Committee

The newsletter is being reviewed for printing and mailing.

Jessica received an initial quote for neighborhood signs (for polls), and the cost would be covered by the Neighborhood Rising grant. We will obtain two additional quotes to meet the guidelines of grant.

Jessica is trying to establish a neighborhood account on Nextdoor for more formal publication of information.

Committee Leadership Transition based on Jessica and Ben's new leadership positions.

- Robb Traylor volunteered to lead the Communication/Membership Committee.
- Brett Creason volunteered to lead the Development Committee. This committee can meet Ad Hoc, but it would be good for the committee to be more proactive in developments within the neighborhood. Act as a clearing house for information before taking it to the full board/neighborhood. The committee can develop a response and recommend special meetings of the neighborhood for time-sensitive issues.

New Business for discussion

Possible block party on 30th block of Campbell. The neighbors on the block are selecting a date.

Lenita would like to discuss an item for her organization at the next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, July 12 to avoid the July 4th holiday.