

Minutes of the NEWTON UPPER FALLS AREA COUNCIL

Pursuant to *An Act Relative to Extending Certain State of Emergency Accommodations*, Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, signed into law by Governor Baker on July 16, 2022, this will be an Online/Telephone Meeting

Participation Details: Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/714158912>

Meeting ID: 714 158 912

One tap mobile +16468769923,714158912# US (New York) +16699006833,714158912# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 714 158 912

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ani0ErE3g>

October 19, 2023 7:00 p.m.

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Councilors in Attendance

Julie Irish

Jay Werb

Marie Jackson

Jack Neville

Patricia Connolly

Kathaleen Brearley

Matt Lai

Jeff Riklin

1) Approval of Minutes from September Mtg (5 mins)

Meeting commenced at 7:20pm Patty Connolly motioned to Approve the minutes as submitted. Members voted unanimously to approve the minutes as submitted.

2) Treasurer's Report (5 mins)

Jay reported that there was approximately 7K in the account. The account for NUFAC continues to be solvent for planned events in 2024.

Northland and Village Bank each sponsored 1K for Village Day.

3) Public Comment/Questions?

Betsy Hewitt asked about Spur down at Nexus (Stop n Shop) and who was responsible for trash cleanup

Aerbelly (?) is doing some drainage prep for the Greenway upgrades Pettee Square renovation

Kimberly Ritcey, Kimberly is the point person to ask questions about this project

Matt Lai asked on behalf of Marcia Cooper of Green Tree Newton about having a discussion about Green Tree/regarding the proposed tree ordinance. Members thought that since Green Newton had recently presented material on the proposed tree ordinance it was not necessary for them to return.

Betsy also mentioned that the Friends of Hemlock Gorge is hosting a clean-up October 28th

4) Village Day (Oct 1) Reporting, costs and acknowledgements

Jeff Riklin suggested that in hindsight we could have a listed all the events with a schedule at either end of the street

Julie Irish put all of this feedback in a Google doc for next year's Village Day.

A date for next year's Village Day was proposed for September 15, 2024 from 11-2pm.

5) Support Request for letter re: Transparency in Council Debates and campaign donations

Councilor Humphrey stated that there were legitimate concerns with councilor debates hosted by the The League of Women Voters

Marie made a motion for NUFAC to support a working group of debates for the City Council

Salée Lipschutz discussed how this volunteer job is a lot of work.

NUFAC voted to be involved in the working group

Marie Jackson proposed to give financial support the work of the working group and authorize Jay to spend up to \$250 in support, particularly in support of all four area councils. Councilors voted in favor of this financial support.

6) Google Doc of uses for Northland Transportation Fund

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OchGo8Mfcx4ukK79a_i051GcmXzHGEiiv8LsHPSV_LfU/edit?usp=sharing

Jay proposed to table this discussion for a later dedicated meeting about either for November or later (depending on the urgency for deliverables in terms of feedback to Northland.

7) Holiday Social: Cocoa and Carols in Pettee Square

Proposed date of Friday December 15th. Jay Werb and Jack Neville proposed that the cost could be cut three ways between CDC, NUFAC and Little Luke's

8) Village Zoning and MBTA communities law: Councilor Crossley joined the meeting at 9pm to discuss Version 3 of the proposed Zoning changes at length. She made special note that Upper Falls would not be affected by these changes since there are only 6

other villages that are under the jurisdiction of the MBTA Communities law. She also made the distinction between those who are on board with the MBTA communities law only and those who are in favor of zoning as it broadly effects the whole city. She addressed several points that were in the NUFAC letter, including parking, the MBTA communities' law and questions about the MRT districts.

8) Upper Falls News, Public Comments, questions

9) Adjourn 9:45PM

The location of this meeting is wheelchair accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA/Sec. 504 Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253