

Newton Upper Falls Area Council – Minutes

DATE: June 18, 2020

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Zoom meeting

Meeting called to order: 7:04 pm

Members in Attendance:

Anil Adyanthaya (President)

Kathaleen Brearley

Jeff Riklin (Vice President)

Patty Connolly (Secretary)

Susan Huffman (Treasurer)

Jay Werb

Carol Stapleton

Jack Neville

Marie Jackson

Public attendees:

Judy Neville

Betsy Hewitt

Approval of Minutes May 21, 2020

Marie Jackson motion to approve the meeting minutes, Kathaleen Brearley second the motion.

Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Current balance: \$3788.74

\$28.95 – Donation from Anil

Northland Project Update

Letter composed by Area Councilor Jay Werb on behalf of both Newton Upper Falls and Newton Highlands Area Councils was submitted to Mayor Fuller. The letter voiced concern the liaison committee did not cover the demolition phase.

Peter Standish and Ken Gonzales from Northland Development Corporation had a call with Anil and Jay in response to the letter submitted

Northland Development would most likely not start construction until 2021. This phase is initiated with excavation. The community liaison committee would not meet until excavation.

Most of the buildings will most likely be demolished at the site prior to end of the year.

Request for Industrial liaison committee request was declined by Northland.

Northland Development Liaison committee status

Barney Heath, Director Planning and Development Department contacted Susan S. Albright, Chair, Zoning & Planning Committee.

Susan S. Albright responded, "After the budget is put to bed by the 21st I will get back to creating the Liaison Committee". Jay will reach out to Susan Albright to for status of Liaison Committee.

City Councilor Andreae Downs is accepting nominations for the Northland Liaison Committee. Motion to install Area Councilor Jay Werb and Judy Neville, Newton Upper Falls Historic commission as representatives from Newton Upper Falls to Northland Liaison Committee as community representatives. Patty Connolly 2nd motion. Unanimously approved.

Jay Werb will reach out to see if there is progress with the Northland Liaison Committee within the next 2 months. If there is not, motion to create a process for communication outside of Liaison Committee.

COVID-19 Issues for Upper Falls

Newton Food Pantry swamped with requests

Dunn Gherin's is doing very well with outdoor dining accommodations.

Concert at the Marshall's Plaza was a success.

Band – **Couch** performed to a sold out drive-in crowd

Better Life Foods provided pre-ordered snack boxes

Sign board was placed in 2 locations to promote the COVID-19 Emergency Housing Relief Program

Upper Falls Village Day - September 13th

Motion to cancel Village Day made by Area Councilor Marie Jackson, 2nd by Area Councilor Susan Huffman. Unanimously approved

Upcoming election

- Discussion of communicating deadlines for absentee ballots.
- Proposal to facilitate process of tentative plans.
- Jeff Riklin will contact the city clerk, election commission.
- Betsy Hewitt stated as a poll worker, no information has been communicated other than schedule availability.
- Jay Werb will reach out to City Councilor Bill Humphrey.

Brian Yates Memorial Update

Area Councilors Jack Neville and Anil Adyanthaya will connect to determine best image to use for memorial. The memorial will be located within the Depot.

Ken Newcomb Upper Falls Book Award Update

No nominees for 2020. Put on hold until 2021.

Discussion of Newtonville/Waban Development Letter

General consensus message of timing of altering zoning is undesirable.

Meeting Schedule for July and August

Motion to omit the July Newton Upper Falls meeting.

Next meeting August 20th.

Greenway Steps

The project has been pushed back due to the review of the project by ADA (America with Disability Act)

Possible delay of 6 weeks. Expectation is that this is an administrative process.

Safety and accessibility improvements of Quinobequin

DCR has scheduled a Zoom call scheduled for June, 26, 2020.

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/quinobequin-road-and-trail-improvements-presentation/download>

Feast of the Falls – Remote Edition

- Jerry Reilly - Tickets will be available Sunday, 6:00 pm
- Flyers will be distributed to Newton Upper Falls residents on Saturday and Sunday
- Meal boxes will be picked up Dunn Gaherin's
- 6:00 pm Dinner Bell will ring
- Donations welcome
- Music on Upper Falls radio station and Zoom call to make a toast to Upper Falls.

Adjourn

Jeff motion to adjourn, Jeff Riklin. 2nd by Susan Huffman

All in favor unanimously

Meeting Adjourned 8:21 pm

Next meeting - Zoom

August 20, 2020

7:00 pm