

Corbett Heights Neighbors
Board of Directors Meeting, Wednesday March 10, 2021
Minutes

A regularly scheduled (virtual) meeting of the Board of Directors of Corbett Heights Neighbors was called to order by President Bill Holtzman at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday March 10, 2021. The following directors were present: Paul Allen, Josh Baskin, Maryann Dresner, Bill Holtzman, Maria Chambers Hutchins, Leslie Koelsch, Casey Rando, and Mark Ryser. Scott Pluta was absent. Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, as well as Jacob Bintliff and Erin Mundy (the Supervisor's Legislative Aides), attended the first part of the meeting until 7:45pm.

1. Supervisor Rafael Mandelman. The Supervisor and the Board discussed several issues. First, the Supervisor reviewed his recent zoning proposals, all of which had previously been discussed by the Board; specifically, proposed Sec. 319 regulating "large" houses; and two related proposals that would permit, city wide, the construction of 4 unit buildings on corner lots and/or (a separate proposal) within one half mile of a transit station. The Supervisor advocated these changes in order to increase housing availability and in light of state legislation that could force the City to permit greater densities. Second, the Supervisor reviewed his proposed "A Place for All Ordinance" that sets forth a process to expand "safe sleeping sites" city wide, a program designed to move sidewalk tents onto organized, serviced facilities on public or private land. Third, the Supervisor entertained questions from Board members on other topics as well. On behalf of CHN, the Board thanks the Supervisor for his time and the informative discussion.

2. Minutes. The Minutes from the February 10, 2021 meeting were approved as distributed.

3. Treasurer's Report. Leslie offered the Treasurer's Report. The balance in the General Fund is \$14,850; in the Slope Fund \$1,370. Sixteen members have renewed since the beginning of the year; paid membership is 94.

4. A Place for All Ordinance. As described briefly in item number 1, above, Supervisor Mandelman has proposed this Ordinance that "...would require the City to create a network of Safe Sleeping Sites with sufficient capacity to ensure that on any given night any unhoused person for whom the City cannot provide a supportive housing unit, shelter bed, or hotel room can be offered a placement at a Safe Sleeping Site."¹ (Note: The Fact Sheet, the Ordinance, and a related article from the Examiner were referenced and linked in a February 25 email to all CHN members, in which CHN solicited the views of its members regarding the ordinance including, specifically, whether they supported or opposed the Supervisor's proposal.) The Supervisor had sought CHN's position on the matter; accordingly, the Board had a spirited discussion on it. The Board noted that 60% of those responding to the member survey supported the proposal, 40% opposed. The Board acknowledges that homelessness has vexed

¹ See Mandelman Fact Sheet describing the proposal.

the City for decades; that solutions have been elusive; and that opinions of the best way forward are diverse yet passionately held. The vote below reflects a view of the Board majority so voting that, on balance, doing nothing is unwise and that the proposal could help to remove tents from sidewalks and streets. Upon motion duly made, seconded, and carried by a vote of five affirmative, two negative, and one abstention, it was:

RESOLVED, that the CHN Board supports Supervisor Mandelman's "A Place for All Ordinance," new Chapter 118 of The Administrative Code, as proposed; provided however that we encourage consideration of an amendment that would require Unsheltered persons who are offered a Safe Sleeping Site (both terms as defined in Sec. 118.4) to accept such an offer, consistent of course with prevailing law.

5. CHN Neighborhood Park Signage. Maria reported on the status of a proposal to add CHN signage to three of the neighborhood street parks, i.e. Corbett Slope, Merritt, and the Ord Triangle. The cost, wording, design, and location of the signs were previously emailed to the Board. The Board unanimously supported the proposal; Maria will proceed to obtain a mock up.

6. Al's Park. Leslie reported on the status of this significant endeavor. Some utilities have been marked, others will be shortly; a significant clean up commences Saturday, the financial shortage for which will be made up by one or more Board members; and the March 20 event with Al will commence at 2:30, with the tree planting tentatively set for 3:00 p.m. Through Maryann's work, Supervisor Mandelman will attend a portion of the event and has arranged a City proclamation.

7. Other Business. Maria will follow up with the announcement that the City is undertaking a review of its General Plan. Leslie reviewed the Corbett Road history material previously emailed to the Board, some of which may be posted on the CHN website. The Board also briefly discussed the virtual membership meeting, held two days earlier.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.