

KPCA Annual Meeting Minutes, July 25, 2021, 3-4pm

Virtual meeting via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:05pm by President Foroud Arsanjani. He welcomed the 22 participants at the meeting. Updates on various KPCA activities and initiatives followed.

Quiet Skies Coalition

Jo-Ann Harrison provided an overview of this effort which is focused on reducing airplane noise in our community as well as others that are near the Potomac River. The FAA convened a working group to address concerns about airplane noise and Montgomery County was represented on the group by Ken Hartmann who in turn worked with various neighborhood groups including KPCA. Recently, a variety of airspace changes to mitigate noise in communities north of Reagan Washington Airport were agreed to by interested parties. The proposed changes pertain to aircraft approaching the airport from the north. This is a huge accomplishment that has been over five years in the making. Jo-Ann shared a written update on the initiative via the KPCA list serve on July 21.

Vote on Directors at Large

KPCA At Large Directors- Jo-Ann Harrison, Ed Elson, Sinaly Roy and Lindsey Dickerson were re-elected to new one-year terms. Kenneth Nankin, currently serving as Chair of the Security Committee, was nominated and elected as an At-Large Director.

Treasurer's report

KPCA treasurer Hannah Elson provided the report noting that membership is the same as last year with 184 security members and 39 resident members. 35 percent of the homes in our neighborhood are KPCA members. Revenues for the past year were \$56,500 and expenses were \$53,400 resulting in a surplus of slightly over \$3,000. KPCA has \$12,000 in the bank. Foroud noted that a budgeting process is in place as are changes in the planning and follow-up on planning neighborhood events such as the July 4th celebration, etc. He also noted plans to accelerate communications with the neighborhood as well as to investigate why more people are not engaged with KPCA.

Security Update

Security chair Ken Nankin noted that KPCA is investigating a possible alternative to our current security patrol service. Our current service is expensive and there have been concerns expressed about performance. The benefits of the security service have been discussed with our current service and Ken noted that incidents in our neighborhood (District 2) are down this year compared to last year. He has also been in touch with the MCPD communications officer for our area and has established a good relationship. The officer would be willing to meet or speak with our group as would a representative from our security patrol service.

Activities Update

Jo-Ann Harrison provided an update on the recent July 4th celebration noting that younger people took the lead on planning the event. A need to facilitate opportunities for younger, newer families in the neighborhood was identified. The need to reach out in different ways was suggested by Arash.

Traffic and Safety Update

Foroud provided an update as Traffic and Safety chair Rebecca Kahlenberg was unable to attend the meeting. He noted there is continuing concern about speeding on neighborhood streets, especially Whittier Blvd. The idea of adding speed bumps to Whittier as well as other streets was raised. KPCA Board experience with speed bumps and their pros and cons were discussed.

Neighborhood Beautification

Sinaly provided an update on recent activities. She noted that a landscaping company has been engaged and they have cleaned up the Goldsboro/Millwood entrance to the neighborhood and its appearance is greatly improved. Additional planting will be done in the fall and the brick walls will be repointed at that time. Similar clean-up efforts are planned for the fall for the Lenox Circle and the Durbin Triangle locations. Sinaly shared that there is a general back log of landscaping work in our entire area due to the pandemic.

KPCA Survey results

Sinaly provided an overview of the results of the recently conducted KPCA residents survey. 115 out of over 600 households chose to respond and about 86% of these respondents are already members. Long term, older residents were over represented among the respondents. About 20% of respondents were younger people with young children. Security was the highest level of concern (50% of respondents indicated they were “very concerned”) and Traffic was the second highest level of concern (40% indicated they were “very concerned.”) Sense of community and aging in place were also important areas of concern. Additional details and analysis will be forthcoming. Foroud noted that KPCA will share additional information with members about how to become involved in the civic life of our neighborhood.

Q&A session

Arash raised the issue of getting additional speed bumps to deal with the speeding problems. He also raised the issue of the Radnor school and its state of disrepair and neglect. Discussion of this topic revolved around the need for a sustained grass roots effort designed to raise awareness and concern about the Radnor school and possible ways to improve the situation such as converting it into a park. Since the meeting, several KPCA residents have posted messages on the list serve with ideas for how to improve or repurpose the school site as well as ways to engage appropriate parties.

Other ideas raised during this session were the need to continue print communications for those without access to email and increased efforts to provide aging in place. Jo-Ann reminded the group that meetings have been held on this topic in the past and that KPCA residents can participate in the Bethesda Metro Area Village initiative headed by Elizabeth Haile.

The meeting was adjourned at about 4:05pm

Notes prepared by Patty McAllister, 7-26-2021