

Park Place - Underhill Avenue Block Association

Approved Minutes
01/19/2022

Attendees:

Al Bass	Marc Gordon	Diana Regan
Sharon Combs	Allie Gumas *	Ed Regan
Mary Dale	Olexa Hewryk	Camilla Rothenberg
Christiana Dittmann	Robin Ketchum	Benjamin Silver
Jill Frasier	Meghan McGinty *	Teddy Theoharis
Adrian Gately	Bruce McInnes	Stacey Weinstein
Den Gordon	Ethan Mulligan	

* guest

The meeting was held via Zoom and called to order by Marc Gordon, co-president at 7:35 PM.

Featured Speaker – Curbside and Drop-off Food Composting – Allie Gumas (DSNY)

Allie Gumas, DSNY manager of drop off composting, and previous manager of brown bin (collected at curbside) composting gave a presentation. It contained general information about composting and detailed the differences between the two methods. Collected curbside composting stopped with the Covid pandemic and has been restarted, but only for neighborhoods that had it previously. Our community board (Brooklyn CB8) did not have brown bin composting but we are urged to sign up for it. The link to do this can be found on the PPUABA website (www.ppuaba.org) under 'Growing our Community' in the section on composting. The alternative, drop off composting sites, can be found at nyc.gov/dropfoodscraps. Allie answered questions from the members. A question was raised about the brown bins attracting rats. She replied that the brown bins are built to resist rats and that all household waste goes in the trash one way or another. Jill Frasier spoke about how our rat population seems to have increased and caused her to abandon backyard recycling. Allie said the composters provided by the city are built to repel rats. In response to a question about what role PPUABA members who want composting can do she said that we should sign up for brown bin recycling, contact our elected officials and ask them to use discretionary funds to set up additional neighborhood drop off sites.

2022 Block Party

After discussion, a motion was made by Mary Dale to have the 2022 Block Party & Plant Sale on Park Place, between Underhill Avenue and Washington Avenue on May 7th. Seconded by Stacey Weinstein, it passed by a vote of 11-2. Suggested activities included having: a composting demonstration similar to the one given by Sigrun Saphire at our Meet Your Neighbors event in the fall of 2020, a knife sharpener, a shredding truck, and music. More discussion will take place at future meetings.

2022 PPUABA Charitable Grants – budget and timeline

Ed Regan, PPUABA treasurer, reviewed the grant allocations made for the past few years (2020 - \$2000, 2021 - \$1000) and recommended raising the charitable grant to \$1500 for 2022. Robin Ketchum made a motion to allocate \$1500 for this year; it was seconded by Jill Frasier and passed 15-0. Marc Gordon explained the grant policy, application forms and timeline are available on the PPUABA website in the PPUABA grants section.

Park Place - Underhill Avenue Block Association

PPUABA business items and announcements

The minutes for the December meeting were approved unanimously.

Marc Gordon announced the new Yellow Pages feature on the PPUABA website. Any neighbors who are business owners, sell goods or provide services are invite to create a listing to be added on the site under the Yellow Pages section. This enables website users to shop and find services hyper-locally.

Marc Gordon gave an update on the Water and Sewer project. The project is behind and replacement of the sewer main has not started. This work is now expected to start by March 2022 at Carlton Avenue and proceed east along Park Place toward Underhill Avenue. A Con Edison facility that the contractor was unaware of is causing a delay while a resolution is sought. The project may go through all of 2022 and into 2023 before completion.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06pm.