

# Park Place - Underhill Avenue Block Association

Approved Minutes

04/19/2023

## Attendees:

Phyllis Brody	Robin Ketchum	Rick Roth
Jill Frasier	Ethan Mulligan	Teddy Theoharis
Den Gordon	Diana Regan	Patti Veconi
Marc Gordon	Ed Regan	Stacey Weinstein

\* guest

The meeting was held in-person at the home of Patti Veconi and Gib Veconi and via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Patti Veconi, President, at 7:33 PM.

## Block Party & Plant Sale Planning

Stacey Weinstein provided updates regarding the state of planning for the May 6<sup>th</sup> block party.

- A neighbor on Underhill Avenue has volunteered use of their grill.
- Tables have been ordered.
- The face painter and magician have been confirmed. "The Social" will donate a 3-gallon tub of ice cream.
- Several volunteers have come forward, but more volunteers are needed. The current tentative table assignments, subject to change, are:
  - Baked Goods: tbd
  - Books: Jill Frasier and Dee Regan
  - Grill: Rick Roth, Ethan Mulligan
  - Ice Cream: tbd
  - Information: Patti Veconi
  - Kids' crafts & activities: Erik & Charmaine Koskinen, Ben Silver
  - Plants: Den Gordon, Mary Dale, Chloe Abercrombie, Marc Gordon

After discussion, the following were agreed regarding publicity & communication:

- Marc Gordon will print flyers in black and white on colored paper, and hang them.
- Patti Veconi will organize a phone tree and provide speaking points. Patti Veconi, Sharon Combs, Stacey Weinstein, Dee Regan and Robin Ketchum volunteered to make calls. Marc Gordon will provide a phone tree calling list extracted from the membership list.
- Stacey Weinstein and Den Gordon will provide content to Marc Gordon for an email to be sent specifically to Underhill Avenue residents, and a flyer distributed prior to April 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Marc Gordon will send an email to block association members several days prior to the block party with information to include:
  - Please move cars off Underhill Avenue.
  - Drop off baked goods and books at 11:30am. List ingredients in baked goods. No text books or magazines to be donated to book table.
  - Grilled food, ice cream, baked goods will be available.
  - Pre-orders of plants are welcome and requested by not later than Wed May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Den Gordon reported that she had dropped off a letter at the St. Johns Place fire house requesting a fire truck. They will come if their schedule allows on the day.

Den Gordon and Gerry Carroll will drive to pick up the plants on the day prior. Den thanked Nicole Gonzalez for creating a flyer listing some of the plants available to be pre-ordered.

## Other PPUABA Spring Events

Regarding the **April 29<sup>th</sup> Spring Clean Up**, Den Gordon reported that Teddy Theoharis has made up a flyer; four other block associations will be co-sponsoring; there will be a resource table at which neighbors can borrow tools, pick up trash bags, enjoy coffee & pastries and place a plant sale pre-order. Marc Gordon has

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requested that the water & sewer project contractor move the materials storage and dumpster on Underhill Avenue prior to April 29<sup>th</sup>, as well as move the chain link fencing blocking access to the tree beds.

Regarding the **May 13<sup>th</sup> Migratory Bird Watching event**, Ethan Mulligan suggested that participants meet at 8:00am at the corner of Park Place and Underhill Avenue, and walk to Mount Prospect Park. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars (and extras if available to loan to others).

We will have a **Stoop Sale and Plant Share on Sat, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Reminders and publicity will happen closer to the date. Teddy Theoharis has prepared a flyer for the stoop sales.

### **Water & Sewer Project Update**

Marc Gordon reported on discussions he has had with the contractor's foreman and project's resident engineer. Getting reliable information regarding the short-term and longer term schedule has been challenging. There is a possibility that Perfetto will bring a second crew on board to work on the relocation of Con Ed infrastructure in the Park Place / Vanderbilt Avenue intersection simultaneously with the sewer work on Underhill Avenue. Work to replace the sewer main on Vanderbilt Avenue, which will start in several months, will involve excavation of the east side of Vanderbilt Avenue between Sterling Place and Park Place, with both northbound and southbound traffic travelling on the west side of Vanderbilt Avenue.

### **New Business**

Den Gordon reported that last fall's donation of daffodil bulbs from the Daffodil Project was actually 1,700 bulbs (rather than 500 bulbs as reported in the April newsletter). Bulbs were planted in fall 2022 in the Vanderbilt Avenue median, but not in the playground (that planting happened in fall 2021).

Robin Ketchum complimented Patti Veconi on the Neighbor Profile of Kihshah Armstrong.

### **PPUABA Business**

The March minutes were approved unanimously without amendment.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.