



Board Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2021

The Friendship Community Group held a regularly scheduled 2021 board meeting on May 12, 2021 through the online video meeting service Zoom.

I) Call to Order

- a) Sara DeLucia called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. with the following Board of Directors (“BOD”) members (“Members”) in attendance: Sara DeLucia (FCG President), Jayne Bower (FCG Vice President), Tom Hritz (Secretary), Tom Youngs (Treasurer), Diana Ames, Logan Burdwood, Rod Cunningham, Carla Lukehart, Joe Mattis and Danielle Novick. Regrets from Dinora Putman, RJ Huebert, Vince Manetti and Evan Stein.
- b) A quorum was noted to be present.

II) Consent Agenda Items for Information

- a) April 2021 FCG BOD Meeting minutes
- b) Treasurer Report
- c) Housing & Business Borders Committee Report
- d) Outreach Committee Report
- e) Baum Grove Safety / Asphalt Art Report
- f) F4

Sara asked if there were any objections to the items on the meeting minutes and Consent Agenda. As there were no objections to the agenda items, these items were adopted.

III) Items for Discussion and, as Appropriate, Approval

- a) Code Violation – Garbage at Baum Grove
 - i) Danielle stated that any trash left in Baum Grove is FCG’s responsibility to dispose of and discussed having the city garbage cans removed from around Baum Grove in an effort to discourage community members from dropping off their household garbage in the park. Others agreed that it might be a good idea. However, if we have them removed, it might be difficult to get them back if we change our minds. It was then suggested to have the city garbage cans moved away from the park and closer to Baum Blvd along the same sidewalks. Danielle will make signs to post at our garbage cans in the park to let those using the park know that the it is maintained by the community and ask them to respect our wishes to not leave their household garbage in the cans.
- b) Social Events – Outreach committee
 - i) Happy Hour gathering in Baum Grove – May (TBD) - invitations to be shared via social media
 - ii) Friendship Porch Concerts – Sunday, 6/27 (tentative) - with performers scheduled to also play in Baum Grove
 - iii) Annual Community Summer Picnic – July (2nd or 3rd Friday). We will determine in June to what extent we’ll be able to share food and appropriately gather based on state and county guidelines. The possibility of bringing in food trucks was discussed as was having each family/group bring their own food to eat.
 - iv) Neighborhood Yard Sale – July (on a Saturday [TBD], with Sunday as rain date). Carla is looking for a volunteer to run and may have someone who is interested.
 - v) National Night Out – Tuesday, 8/3
 - vi) Asphalt Art Project Painting Event – August (TBD)



- vii) Friendship Garden Tour (tentative) – September
- c) Howard Hanna Variance Request
 - i) Tom Youngs shared drawings of what Howard Hanna is hoping to do – tearing down their existing building on S. Graham and Baum Blvd. and replacing it with a modern building. The zoning variance they are requesting is to extend their setback from 15 feet from Olga Way to 0 feet. Members of the HBB Committee are following Howard Hanna’s planning and zoning variances closely and will respond appropriately. FCG’s concerns are that changes were made to Howard Hanna’s original plans since their first presentation to us and those changes were not shared with any of the area community groups/RCOs. The other concern is that Howard Hanna is not following the established city process and reporting to the city zoning commission as if they are. Sara feels FCG should continue to push back on Howard Hanna’s plans to avoid business creep into the residential part of our neighborhood. If we need to involve an attorney, FCG will need to approve using funds to pay him/her.
- d) Bloomberg Philanthropies Asphalt Art Grant – Baum Grove Safety Improvements update
 - i) The artists will present their design to the city Art Commission for approval at their hearing on 6/23. If approved, City Council will also need to approve it so we can accept the donation from Bloomberg. The goal is to start painting the street in August. There will be a community meeting with the artists on 5/20. They will present their designs and the community will provide feedback to them. They will then modify their design, if necessary, and make a final presentation to the community on 5/27. Once presented to the Art Commission on 6/23, we will be relatively locked in to the approved design. We are waiting for DOMI to give us a date on when the city street changes will happen. Notification will be given by the city 30 days prior to doing their work to the street (I.e. putting up the posts, moving stop signs, painting crosswalks). Letters will also be mailed to the nearby neighbors. These street changes need to happen prior to the asphalt art being painted.
- e) Bloomfield Community Plan
 - i) No update

V) Updates Needed

- a) Baum Grove Committee
 - i) EECM Landscaping Contract – the landscaper is asking to change the contract so that it automatically renews annually with a 5% increase. FCG is not in agreement with that and signed the contract as it was originally written and expects EECM to submit a new contract annually.
- a) Conflict of Interest forms:
 - i) received from Logan, Sara, RJ, Carla, Joe, Dinora, Tom Y, and Danielle.

VI) New Items

- a) Recruiting new Board members
 - i) Please start to ask neighbors to join. The terms of all FCG board members who are on the Baum Grove Committee, except Carla Lukehart, are up this year.
- b) Need F4 Chair for 2022 (Jayne Board term is up this year)
 - i) Dinora Putman is possibly going to take over as chair

VII) Standing Open Items

- a) Baum Grove volunteers
 - i) The committee is asking all board members to commit to 2 hours of work in Baum Grove on preplanned volunteer days.
- b) Friendship Montessori School
 - i) No update
- c) Neighborway Update
 - i) Joe and Tom Y. shared the information presented to the HBB Committee by the Zone 5 Commander regarding parking too close to the traffic circles. Joe updated the board on other progress, including that flex posts are on back order; he’s waiting to hear back on planting in the circles; and political signs cannot be removed until after the election.

Adjournment and Future Meetings



Danielle (Diana) moved to adjourn the meeting. Sara adjourned the meeting at 8:41 pm.

All meetings are open to the public. Note – all meetings are subject to cancellation, date changes or to be held through teleconference or a form of online video.

- FCG board meetings will be held over Zoom until further notice.
- Housing and Business Borders Committee on the first Tuesday of each month over Zoom until further notice unless otherwise noted.
- Outreach Committee on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm unless otherwise noted.
- Baum Grove Committee on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at a member's home (next meeting TBD) unless otherwise noted.

Tom Hritz, Secretary

Friendship Community Group

These minutes were approved at the June 9th, 2021 Board of Directors meeting.