



FRIENDSHIP COMMUNITY GROUP

Housing and Business Borders Committee Summary

Meeting Date/Time: Tuesday, May 4, 2021
6:30 pm

Location: Zoom Video Conference
pitt.zoom.us/j/3048514804
Meeting ID: 304 851 4804
Audio only: (267) 831-0333

<p>Committee Members:</p> <p>Chair: Tom Youngs, Interim</p> <p>Board Member Representatives: Tom Hritz, Joe Mattis, Danielle Novick</p> <p>Community Representatives: Barbara Adams, John Axtell, Emily George, Jennifer Haven, Brian Sullivan</p> <p>Invited Guests:</p>	<p><u>IN ATTENDANCE</u></p> <p>Tom Youngs</p> <p>Tom Hritz, Joe Mattis</p> <p>Barbara Adams, John Axtell, Emily George, Jennifer Haven, Brian Sullivan</p> <p>Commander Stephen Vinansky, City of Pittsburgh Police Zone 5 Commander; Officer Michael Gay, Officer Jeffrey Crawford</p>
<p><u>AGENDA ITEM</u></p>	<p><u>SUMMARY</u></p>
<p>Guest, Commander Stephen Vinansky, Pittsburgh Police Zone 5</p>	<p>Commander Vinansky listened intently as the Committee members expressed their concerns specifically regarding illegal parking near the new traffic circles along the Neighborway. The Commander committed to increasing patrols and monitoring the area and stated that the two Zone 5 Community Relations Officers will particularly be enforcing correct parking along the Neighborway.</p> <p>A few other areas were also discussed –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighborhood speeding – the City will temporarily install a “blackbox” on a street to gather data and confirm speeding. After the confirmation of speeds above the limit, the City Police will arrange for VASCAR to time and ticket offenders.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion about graffiti and specifically graffiti with vulgarities. Officer Gay offered to address it immediately. • Chronic problems should be referred to 311. • Possibility of a community meeting to discuss and train to use Narcan in response to overdoses.
<p>2021 Goals Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrived at Mission Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “The XXXX Committee of the Friendship Community Group engages developers, landlords and public officials who affect the urban planning process to ensure equitable quality of life for all residents in Friendship, our home.” • Schedule another meeting? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members agreed to meet on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 to further discuss a new Committee name, goals and website update
<p>Neighborhood Development Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penn Plaza - Enright Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Zoom meeting with Andrea Ketzel from the City to discuss next steps for the park (John and Jennifer) ○ Property transfer? • Penn and Negley Intersection Issue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop plan (Brian) ○ Discuss with Bloomfield- Garfield Corporation and the Enright Park Neighborhood Association • 5226 Penn Ave • Penn Avenue Phase II (Jennifer) • 352 Stratford – Building permits, court date <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Postponed court date • 5241 Liberty Ave – Roots Kitchen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Zoning appeal (Jennifer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ John discussed a recent meeting held with Andrea Ketzel, Sr. Project Landscape Architect, from the City Department of Public Works. A landscape architect contractor is also participating. The City is slowly proceeding with planning for the park. There are concerns regarding the steep slopes and water runoff in the park. ○ Property transfer should occur in October • Brian will discuss further with Rick Swartz at Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation (BGC) • No issues • Scheduled meeting was not held. Will move to Not Actively Tracked Projects. • No new court date is scheduled. • Based upon input from the Committee, Bloomfield Development Corporation (BDC) and the Baum-Centre Initiative, the City Zoning Board of Adjustment approved of the zoning variance although only for the current tenants.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goodblend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interior construction concern – windows translucency ○ Status of coalition from April resolution (That the Committee form a coalition with Bloomfield Development Corporation, Baum Centre Initiative, and Shadyside Action Coalition to oppose any future zoning variance for Goodblend and to encourage the City zoning administrator to uphold the zoning requirements.) • 440 So. Aiken <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The appeal was heard at the ZBA on March 11, 2021 which FCG opposed ○ Final ruling should be announced prior to April 25, 2021 • Howard Hanna Shadyside Office, 5501 Baum Boulevard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Philip Wu mentioned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City has agreed with Goodblend to keep the windows on Baum Boulevard without any covering and to apply a slightly translucent film to the windows on S. Graham. There will not be immediate drywall and insulation behind the windows. • Ruling had not yet been provided • Jennifer to contact Philip Wu for information regarding Howard Hanna presentation to the Contextual Design Advisory Panel that had been planned for April 27, 2021
<p>Neighborhood Environment Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baum-Center Initiative (BCI) participation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regular update • Trash issues at various buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Response from Shawn Wigle ○ Baum Grove trash <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Committee ownership • Children’s Home HVAC noises <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City leadership response • Bloomfield Development Corporation neighborhood planning process involving Friendship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ FCG Board approval • Neighborway (Joe) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Info from Commander Vinansky ○ Photo of down sign 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barbara reported that the recent BCI meeting was light on substance and that there wasn’t anything substantial to report • - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brian reported that some action had occurred regarding problematic buildings ○ Committee members suggested that trash issues at Baum Grove are the responsibility of the Baum Grove Committee. Tom Y. will provide contact information for individuals at the City to Danielle Novick. • Tom to follow-up for latest information from Dan Gilman at the City • No further update • - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See summary above ○ Sign has been replaced ○ Also noted, flex posts are on backorder by the City for two months

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baumhaus Phase II (Tom and Jennifer) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developer Mike Gornick still plans to move ahead with the development although the pandemic, shortage of labor and increasing costs of materials have delayed plans
<p>New</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crazy Mocha parking lot configuration • Update on Asphalt Art • Signage at The Junction • Albright Church • 4/22/21 – Housing Court <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 414 S. Winebiddle ○ 416 S. Winebiddle ○ 304 S. Fairmount • HBBC Zoom link and website • Email re: butcher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building owner John O’Dell shared very preliminary drawings of an adjustment to parking at 5607 Baum Boulevard with the FCG President and a Board member. Many approvals would need to come from the City before proceeding. • Artists to be present at Baum Grove on 5/8/21 • It appears that not all signage at The Junction was approved by the City. Committee members may review further • Trek Development is proceeding with discussions with various neighborhood groups regarding development of the church • Barbara attended the magistrate’s hearing for 304 S. Fairmount. The owner was not present and was fined for the condition of the building. • To be discussed at a later meeting • Tom Y. to contact individual and suggest that he speak with BDC or BGC
<p>2021 Goals Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentations below are tentative – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighborhood planner, Philip Wu ○ Representative from Bloomfield Development Corporation ○ Representative from Bloomfield Livable Streets ○ Inspector from the City Department of Permits, Licenses and Inspections (specifically focused on violations) ○ Private developer ○ Graffiti (FCG Quarterly Community Meeting?) 	
<p>Long Term Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HBBC recommendation that FCG should consider applying for a grant to develop a new strategic plan / community plan • Incorporate consideration of expansion of RCO boundaries 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate possible development of “Penn Avenue overlay” • Include possibility of neighborhood zoning changes? 	
<p>Not Actively Tracked Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5222 Penn Ave renovations • North Negley Residences – B’nai Israel • Montana Building on Penn Avenue – renovations • Two Frays Brewing on Penn Avenue - development • Aldi renovations / scaffolding (Baum Blvd) (Bloomfield) • West Penn Hospital Institutional Master Plan • Residential Permit Parking • Continuation of discussion of “house flippers” in Friendship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ John and Jennifer developing a presentation regarding actions homeowners may consider when approached by house flippers. • New tax abatement programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jennifer – month? 	
<p>Next Meeting (first Tuesday of the month)</p> <p>June 1, 2021, Location -? (Even month, Committee members only)</p> <p>July 6, 2021, Location -? (Odd month, public meeting)</p>	<p>Tom to send poll to see if HBBC members would like to meet in person.</p>