

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes  
March 16, 2021

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by President Ben Cober via Zoom. Fifteen people on call.

On March 27<sup>th</sup> will be the first Neighbor Labor event where volunteers will help home owners with chores they aren't physically able to perform. Only one household has signed up for this offer so far, volunteers are standing by.

Friday April 2<sup>nd</sup> kicks off Food Truck Fridays in Victory Heights, which will bring two different food trucks to our neighborhood every Friday afternoon (11 AM to 1 PM) for the next few months. Specific participants will be announced the night before, you are encouraged to order ahead of time and just come and pick up your order. The trucks will be parked in the lot next to the co-op preschool in Victory Heights Park each week (thanks, preschool!).

Currently there are 12 declared candidates to succeed Mayor Durkan in Seattle this fall, and we've arranged for eight of them (so far) to participate in individual Zoom "Mayor Mondays" at 6 PM throughout May and June (and maybe longer if more participate). It will be your chance to meet the candidates and let them know what we think here in Victory Heights.

Amber gave us an update on the Teen Feed, which Victory Heights volunteers to provide meals for once a month. It's "going well," with the same menus and volunteers each month, and so we'll "keep on, keepin' on." Maybe we'll adjust the menu to reflect the seasons more. Future dates are April 12<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>. Sign up here if you'd like to contribute to one of the meals: <http://signup.com/go/ThezwzW>

The Lake City Neighborhood Alliance heard from Don Moody about the future of the numerous Bill Pierre properties that line Lake City Way, including the LA Fitness building, and the post office building on NE 127<sup>th</sup> St whose lease runs out next year (no word if the post office will move or not). The family is slowly assessing its options for development of each of these properties, probably starting with the LA Fitness. Sadly, no supermarkets are interested in taking over the property.

Nancy said after a successful Neighborhood Craft Fair last fall, another is scheduled for April 17<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4 PM and will include Victory Heights along with Pinehurst. Maps will be provided that will lead people from place to place as craftspeople tout their wares from the driveways and garages. Right now nobody south of Northgate Way has signed up. C'mon, Victory Heights! The deadline to get on the map is April 10<sup>th</sup>.

Sheila Warsinske helped co-ordinate (with many others) a successful program to help neighborhood seniors sign up for Covid-19 vaccinations. All the responses were a result of the 80 flyers that were posted around the neighborhood, including on mail box supports. Twelve seniors (ages ranged from 65 to 90) were set up for appointments, and a further eight people were helped via referrals.

The Utility Box Art Project is barreling ahead. All eight pieces of artwork have been completed and best of all, the artists have all been paid. Comcast approved (in less than a week) the artwork to be placed on their four boxes, while the bureaucracy of SDOT may take six weeks to approve their four boxes. Then,

the artwork will be printed, volunteers will clean and prep the boxes, the art will be applied, and somehow we'll do some sort of grand dedication, although may be done virtually owing to pandemic restrictions.

Ann Forrest reported on the task force of seven volunteers who have taken up the issue of the Victory Heights Park Message Board and transitioning it from a Black Lives Matter shrine to something more community-oriented that will be constantly refreshed, while still coming up with an alternative permanent way of honoring the BLM movement. The discussion to date included: The summer's Black Lives Matter movement galvanized many; Spurred consideration of systemic inequities; Honor the BLM movement for what it is; Catalyst for creating a more inclusive, welcoming community; We believe our general message should be "Victory Heights welcomes all"; Painfully, actively pursue community input to ensure that our actions represent the majority of community members; Our efforts should make a difference – no token gestures. In order to fulfill the last two requirements, they recommend we try to contact as many households as possible for their input, as well as the Department of Neighborhoods, and the Early Community Outreach. The task force hopes to have more feedback by next month's meeting.

Nancy, Sheila and Ann are working on a neighborhood scavenger hunt to be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> (ironically the day before National Scavenger Hunt Day!). They currently need photos of "interesting things" that will still exist in two months (and probably the location where you took it). Submissions can be sent to the Victory Heights email ([victoryheights.seattle@gmail.com](mailto:victoryheights.seattle@gmail.com)) or to Nancy at [nancy@pinehurstseattle.org](mailto:nancy@pinehurstseattle.org). There will be no prizes, just the fun you (and your kids) have while walking around searching for objects.

Plans are in the works for a neighborhood wide Yard Sale with folks participating in their individual yards/driveways/garages. A date in the future is to be determined.

Our next meeting is Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> when the guest speaker will be Tara Beck of Seattle's HOPE Team, talking about how the city deals with homelessness.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson  
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council