

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes  
April 18, 2022

Meeting called to order by President Ann Forrest at 7:02 PM via Zoom. Thirteen attendees plus three guests.

Elsa Batres-Boni, Seattle's Civic Engagement Strategic Advisor, told us about the redistricting project currently underway in the city that will affect city council seats. In January 2023 the seven districts will have new borders to reflect changes in population after the 2020 census. In November 2023 we will be voting in each new district including the two at-large. The 5<sup>th</sup> District, where Victory Heights is, had less growth than other parts of the city, so it will be expanding slightly, but Victory Heights will still be part of it. A five-person commission is currently studying various possible maps, and there will be public meetings held in each district in May and June for input. Visit their website to learn more, see proposed maps, and how to participate: <http://www.seattle.gov/redistricting/how-to-participate>

The Disaster Prep Committee will be holding an Emergency HUB drill on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 1 PM in Victory Heights Park. Please come volunteer to help us better know what to do in an actual emergency.

The Social Committee says Food Truck Friday begins this season on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 PM on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE next to the park with two trucks per week. Chairs and tables will be set up, but we recommend BYOB, utensils, and prepare to take home your own trash. We hope folks will stick around and be sociable. Different trucks every Friday through August. Volunteers are needed to help set up and break down.

Safety Committee: Amber reported about the two abandoned houses on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE just south of the Mosque. There was a garage fire in one a few weeks ago, and multiple violations have been cited by the city on these properties going back to March 2017. Apparently the owners get fined every three months and just pay the fines. Abandoned houses aren't technically "nuisance properties" per the City Attorney, that's a specific legal category that requires three major infractions in a 60 day period. Just being an eyesore or not cutting back growth isn't enough. A neighbor said the owner told her that they are going to sell both properties this summer but also, "She doesn't always do as she promises." We'll continue to monitor the situation.

Matthew Ervin submitted his resignation from the Board of Trustees, citing personal issues.

TeenFeed next month will be Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> (and every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month). Help provide food from our set menu by volunteering at [VH.TeenFeed@gmail.com](mailto:VH.TeenFeed@gmail.com).

There was some interest in hosting "Movie in the Park" this summer but costs for insurance, renting the park, and renting the movie are prohibitive. Not to mention Seattle in the summer doesn't get dark until after 9 PM, rather late to start a movie for family audiences.

The Board of Trustees is still working on rewriting the By-Laws. Eventually we'll have elections for officers.

The hand-washing stations were assembled by a volunteer, they will be deployed starting at Food Truck Fridays.

The next meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> will feature a speaker from the Thornton Creek Alliance about volunteer opportunities.

On May 21<sup>st</sup> is Seattle's Day of Service. We will be working on improvement the walkways along Northgate Way. That same day the North Seattle Tool Library is having their annual Tool Sale.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson  
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council