

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes
July 28, 2020

Meeting called to order via Zoom by President Ann Forrest, 12 people attending virtually.

Brooke Stoosma from Recology, our local garbage company, gave a presentation about recycling and garbage sorting. "Envision a world without waste," she asked us. We can place the following in our recycling bins: paper, cardboard, glass, plastic, and metal, although plastic comes with a caveat. Something that is rigid (e.g. a water bottle) is okay, but anything considering "2-D" or shapeless like plastic wrap or bags cannot, they go in the trash. So does anything smaller than 3" ("the size of your fist"). Bottle tops are okay if they are the same material as their container and are screwed on. Everything needs to be empty, clean and relatively dry (e.g. Fill a catsup bottle with ½" water, screw on the lid, shake vigorously, pour out water, tap 3 times on the rim of the sink. Done!). For the compost bins you can place food waste, yard waste, and food-soiled paper. Compostable utensils are okay if they are marked as "100% compostable". No Kleenex or wipes, but "clean" paper towels (without any cleaning products) are okay. In the garbage go Amazon plastic mailers, chip bags, plastic bags, straws, plastic utensils and Styrofoam. Plastic bags can be taken to locations you can find by searching <http://plasticfilmrecycling.org>. And Styrofoam pickups can be pre-arranged by contacting SPU (maximum of 32 gallons).

Ann wants to set up a Racial Equality Council, separate from the community council. The weekly rallies along Northgate Way are still going on Fridays starting at 5PM if you want to come show your support.

We're also trying to organize an Emergency Preparedness Council.

If you've been past Victory Heights Park recently you might be wondering, "What's up with the field?" It needs mowing. We're waiting a call back from the city about dealing with it, but meanwhile we might organize a guerilla group to just go in and mow it ourselves if we can figure what to do with the yard waste. It was pointed out too that some of the birch trees might be succumbing to a beetle infestation. Hopefully the Parks Department or city arborists can be notified so they can look into it. Nobody wants to lose any trees.

Ben Cober is organizing an effort to hire artists to paint the dozen or so gray utility boxes that dot the neighborhood (and are frequent targets of graffiti). He thinks it's a good way to promote local art and the neighborhood and has passed out 75 flyers hoping to find support. We are going to apply for a Neighborhood Matching Fund grant, although the deadline is September 15th. We can trade volunteer hours, direct cash donations, or in-kind support and get the city to match those dollars (we did this successfully a few years ago to pay for the traffic island plantings). You can write Ben at vhartbox@gmail.com if you would like to get involved.

King County distributed thousands of face masks to both Victory Heights and Pinehurst and asked we give them out. We have 2000 cotton and 1200 disposable ones, plus hand sanitizer. The Idriss Mosque is about to have a large event, so we will be donating a bunch to them, as well as other organizations

and maybe some of the businesses down on Lake City Way that we'd like to get into our orbit. We'll also try Buy Nothing and the Little Free Libraries to help give them away.

With no end in sight for Covid social-distancing restrictions here in King County, the ice cream social is cancelled for 2020. We'll try again in 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Minutes submitted by Ryan Johnson
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council