

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM (after technical difficulties on Zoom) by President Ann Forrest, fourteen people attending.

Ben Cober delivered the big news about the city accepting our grant proposal to hire and decorate utility boxes around the neighborhood. The \$9,418.00 amount was awarded on November 2nd, enough for 8 artists and 8 boxes. Now comes the paperwork, the city sent along a 30 page draft contract, with parts due fairly soon. Ben seems on top of it (and kudos for making this happen!). If you want to get updates, sign up for the email list: VHArtBox@gmail.com. We'll need to have folks clean the boxes before applying the vinyl art pieces, we might be able to use high schoolers who need volunteer credit.

Gingerbread House Fundraiser: This is our 4th year doing this, although with Covid, we'll have to modify how we distribute them and skip the group decorating party this year. We might pre-assemble the houses for people because of the steep learning curve (like assembling IKEA furniture without the instructions) and then give them the decorating supplies.

December Teen Feed is into its 4th month of our participation that donates one meal a month that supports 80 homeless teens so they get at least one hot meal a day. Our next meal will be on Wednesday, December 23rd. We're still planning the menu and we'll need volunteers to pick a dish and then deliver to Amber who will drive it out for us (thanks!). We received a \$20 cash donation which we'll use to buy some trail mix to be donated as treats (a healthy suggestion from the organizers).

Ann has been president for five years now and would like to move on. We need to recruit a new one and some board members.

Emergency Preparedness Efforts: A committee is looking at small laminated signs to be posted around.

Racial Equality Focus: A committee that is supporting BIPOC families, particularly at Northgate Elementary, one of most diverse in the city.

23rd Avenue Drainage project: We're helping the neighbors who are concerned about pedestrian access and putting them in charge with groups that might help them out.

If you heat your house with heating oil, next September the price will be going up 24 cents a gallon as the city would like to phase out its use eventually. A rebate program exists for conversions to heat pumps instead. <https://energysolutions.seattle.gov/your-home/heating-cooling/>

CenturyLink is undergoing a lot of changes, if you use them for your internet or TV. First their name change to Lumen (as seen on the football stadium this week) and they are getting out of the Prism TV business in mid-December. Television users will have to find an alternative provider.

Ben and Sheila will collaborate on distributing more Welcome Wagon packets to new neighbors (while safely social distancing).

Green City Partnerships is sponsoring Covid-safe Saturday Plantings continuing through December down in the Kingfisher Green Belt of Thornton Creek. Sign-up for a date: <https://www.greenseattle.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

Halloween wrap-up: A few folks reported having 40 kids show up, mainly under eight-years-old. Candy was usually distributed from a table or other area. There were a lot of walkers around too. Ben had a "Ghostbusters" screening. The consensus was, despite Covid, "It was a great Halloween."

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 15th.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council