



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 26, 2022 | 7:00 p.m. | St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

Board Members Present: Jason Money, Phyllis Mangels, Jeffrey Fagan, Jan Armstrong, Grace Iannuzzi, Doris Dieter, Claire Brennan, Kim Isaly, Rev. Ed Cimbala, Rev. Jacob Smith, Todd Drake, Susan Schnelwar

Board Members Absent: Adam Boornazian, Toni Boornazian, Julie Block, Richard Moses, Rabbi Joshua Stanton, David Turk

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President, Jason Money. The meeting was not accessible on Zoom due to technical difficulties but per the president, was recorded and will be posted on SPNA's website.

2021 Review

The President recapped 2021 issues and events — virtual Black History Month jazz event, Summer in the Square with meditation, yoga and concerts, October Gala, Dog Park Halloween parade, December holiday trees and events, tree pruning and rodent control.

The President gave the Treasurer's financial report as Adam Boornazian was unable to attend due to the technical problems with Zoom. Income for 2021 was \$52,358 and expenses were \$48,796. A handout of income and expenses was available. SPNA is now using donor management software by Network for Good to help consolidate financial data.

Board Members and Officers for 2022

The President introduced the Officers for 2022: President, Jason Money; Co-Vice-Presidents, Grace Iannuzzi and Phyllis Mangels; Treasurer, Adam Boornazian, Secretary, Jan Armstrong. Returning Board Members were also highlighted: Doris Dieter, Claire Brennan, Toni Boornazian, Jeffrey Fagan, Julie Block, Richard Moses and Kim Isaly.

Jeffrey Fagan, Chair of the Nominating Committee, introduced the new Board Members: Rev. Ed Cimbala of St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, Rev. Jacob Smith

of St. George's Episcopal Church, Todd Drake of Penington Friends House, and Susan Schnelwar, community member. Rabbi Joshua Stanton of East End Temple and David Turk, community member, were also highlighted but were unable to attend. The new Board Members show a desire by the Board to embrace institutions on Stuyvesant Square and continue building a larger community for SPNA.

Committees for 2022

The President highlighted the Committees currently part of SPNA — gardening, gala, events, Dog Park Run collaborations and fundraising. He encouraged those present to consider joining committees they are interested in, welcoming new voices and ideas.

Plans for 2022

Gardener Christy Dailey joined the meeting virtually to speak about the master plan she will present to the Board at the February 9th meeting. Her plan will focus on both fountain areas and the surrounding quadrants. She spoke of “ecologically designed gardens,” planning to use native plants and those not requiring excess water. May is currently the target date for the installation.

Jason Money asked for suggestions for Summer in the Square events to be e-mailed to him or SPNA.

Grace Iannuzzi reported that the Gala would be held in October 2022, and she welcomed silent auction ideas.

SPNA has hired the JP McHale company to help with rodent control in the park. The firm has worked in several city parks.

The possibility of hiring a Groundskeeper was mentioned. The person would be a community member, would receive pay and would be another set of eyes-on-the-ground to help with issues as they arise.

Phyllis Mangels discussed the Pressure Campaign to apply community pressure to the city departments and/or city leaders to help with on-going issues of trash collection, rodent control, public safety and other issues as they come up. Members will be sent an e-mail and they can sign up to be part of the campaign.

Jason Money mentioned a new idea of Donor Guardians, asking Guardians to commit to X amount of money for 3 years so SPNA will have a stream of income to use in planning future expenditures.

Question and answer session followed, encompassing how funds for SPNA are raised, request for descriptions of Committees, amount of money in the reserve fund, concerns

over drug use in the park, gala profit (net), update on bringing milkweed to parks, concerns about marginalizing current volunteers in the new master plan and privatizing the park, and assurances that a Japanese maple tree planted in the east park in memory of a SPNA member would be protected in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. Approximately 30 people attended, and Phyllis Mangels checked the vaccination record of each person who attended, all of whom wore a mask throughout the meeting per SPNA's request. Due to technical problems with Zoom, the following Board Members were also unable to attend the meeting— Julie Block, Richard Moses, and David Turk.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Armstrong
Secretary