

Volunteers for Springfield Park, Inc.
General Meeting held on July 9, 2019
Time: 7:20 p.m.
At Springfield Park House at Springfield Gardens, Queens, NY

Minutes

Attendance:

Veronica Bellan
Fay D Hill
Gregory Hudson
Curlene Nelson
Marlene Mathurin
Yveline Kavanagh

Absent: Gennie Vann
Jderle Toussaint – Out of tow

Meeting called to order at approximately 7:20 p.m. Minutes of last meeting was read by our secretary. Motion to accept the minutes by Gregory Hudson second by Curlene Nelson.

Discussions from the Minutes

Gregory Hudson reported that he had done some research on our “Welcome to Springfield” signs for the community. He investigated the price and various signages. Various signs were shown to the members present. They range from \$7,000 to \$12,000. Veronica suggested we could investigate Kaufman Funds and see whether we would be able to sponsor a sign for us. They had given us a sign several years ago at one of our entrances at the park.

Curlene suggested we must write a letter to DOT (Department of Traffic) requesting a walk through on where we can place the sign(s). Fay also mentioned that we were already being approved and was supported by our Community Board 13 and that would be one of the protocols we have to take in order to get our sign(s) placed around the community.

Other Discussions:

Gregory suggested a Gala to raise funds for the sign(s). He will head that Committee. We suggested tickets at \$85 per person. Members are committed to sell five (5) tickets for this event.

Curlene suggested we create a quarterly newsletter. We can start with articles of our accomplishments and the newsletter will be emailed out to the community and suggested bulk mailing to those seniors who do not have computers/emails. She also suggested that items and articles could come from our members.

Gregory pointed out that there are less trucks on 147th Avenue, but we are still working on the "Park & Fly" company with the cars on the local side streets. Suggest we contact local media TV stations, e.g. NY1 to cover our issue.

It was suggested that we meet with our councilman Donovan Richards to address the issue of the property owner on 147th Avenue and Guy Brewer Blvd. in reference to the condition of the garbage, fish fried and loud music.

Curlene will be reaching out to the Shelter that operates by the Salvation Army on Guy R. Brewer Blvd., to arrange a meeting with the administrative staff. She also made us aware of an application is being presented to our community board to grant a liquor license. This liquor store will be in proximity from our local school public and the homeless shelter.

Curlene also mentioned that she has received her MBWE Certification.

Congratulations to Curlene Nelson

We were made aware of JFK Development meetings that community residents can attend and give them ideas on how they can assist the community with restoring and developing the community. We urge members to attend these meetings whenever possible.

Suggestion to get a logo for our letterhead as well as getting T-Shirts. The concept would be a fundraising effort both as a PR initiative to let residents know

that we exist, etc. Gregory brought two samples of a logo, but it must be approved by the entire board.

Fay mentioned that we had received seven (7) planters for our park from our PEI grant given to us by Councilman Donovan Richards, and we will be placing them around the park. Suggested date is Saturday, July 27, 2019. We also will be doing painting of the rails at the overpass and light poles.

Veronica suggested the planters be placed two at 183rd Street, one at the bench near the overpass, one near the Christmas Tree at 146th Avenue. The smaller planters could be placed in cluster.

There was a suggestion to write a letter to the Explorer Group at 105 Precinct in advance when we have projects coming up.

Suggested we have cameras installed in Springfield Park.

Fay reported that the Summer Stage concerts in the Park on July 6-7, 2019 were successful. Suggestions to request other form of music for next year, e.g. Jazz, Symphony and R&B. Most of the members thought that some of the music would not befitting to the community. Fay will be meeting later this year with the organizer of Summer Stage.

No Treasurer's Report was given at this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:20 pm.

Our next meeting is scheduled in September 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Fay D. Hill
Secretary