

Olde Forge / Surrey Square Civic Association

Annual Meeting

Thursday, August 13, 2020 7:00 PM Via Zoom

MINUTES

Officers:

President: Joan Bishop (present)
First Vice President: John Firsching (present)
Second Vice President: Dave Cote (present)
Treasurer: Jae Park (present)
Secretary: Kelly Dillon (absent)

Joan Bishop convened the annual meeting of the Olde Forge / Surrey Square Civic Association via Zoom and explained that the meeting had been delayed significantly due to the coronavirus pandemic and the difficulty in meeting in person due to social distancing restrictions. Notice for the meeting had been given via e-mail and Facebook. Phone dial-in as well as video connections over the Internet using Zoom were available.

She called the meeting to order at approximately 7:05 pm. She followed the agenda that had been distributed in advance.

In Memoriam. Joan provided a tribute to George Klein, long time member of the community and officer of the Civic Association. The Association had a bright star named for him and provided a certificate with the location of the star to his wife, Linda Klein. His funeral mass has been delayed due to the pandemic.

Treasurer's Report. Jae Park reported that the membership drive had yielded about \$2000 and that approximately \$1000 had been spent on miscellaneous expenses. He is looking forward to the next phase of the membership drive to provide additional members joining at \$10 annually per family. The Association added payment via PayPal to the website, which yielded approximately \$240. (<https://www.forgesquare.com>)

Membership Report. Dave Cote reported that the Association had changed from \$20 each 2 years to \$10 each year because many members found it difficult to recall whether or not they had paid for the year. During the first phase, door hangs were distributed. We then solicited memberships via e-mail and PayPal. We did not solicit memberships door-to-door due to the pandemic. The final phase will involve sending letters to those who have not joined. Approximately 50% (180/351) households have joined. Unfortunately, we will not conduct the fall clean-up and pick-up of large trash items due to the pandemic, so that is not an incentive for members joining the Association as in normal years.

A question was asked about new people moving in. New people who move in after July are able to join at the reduced rate of \$5 for their first year.

A question was asked about the bylaws of the Association. Action: Joan Bishop will provide the current bylaws for posting on the website.

Subcommittee Reports:

Landscaping Report. Barb Price reported on the repair of the brick sign and the and mulching around the brickwork at the Surrey Square entrance. It was not known how the oil lights could be made to work. Solar lights have been effective.

Newsletter Report. Joan Bishop reported that the newsletter is continuing with 3 to 4 issues per year. Joan has had recent issues printed commercially in black and white to minimize impact on Paula McKinley, who had donated printing for many years. This was an unplanned expense.

Hospitality Report. Marilyn Sitts was unable to attend the meeting, but continues to do a great job welcoming new families and encouraging them to join the Association.

Holiday Decorations. Colleen Agan has decorated the poles in the neighborhood, providing cheer during the pandemic. The Price family has assisted.

Neighborhood Watch. John Firsching reported that there had been a limited number of patrols during the pandemic but that a new schedule was forthcoming. He provided a crime report. EC Buckminster added that the primary crime appears to be thefts from unlocked vehicles. He also reported that the Association now has 8 block captains. Mimi Krauss replaced Rhonda Shoemaker. A block captain will be recruited to replace George Klein.

Parks Liaison. Gary Krauss reported that planned construction on the trail on the other side of Olley Lane was placed on hold to obtain additional community input, at the request of Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley Park. Brian Campbell, president of Friends of Long Branch Stream Valley Park has asked us to collect any concerns with regard to stormwater management / flooding issues. Gary will collect that information. He will send out an email on the issue. Mimi Krauss explained the history and issues associated with the memorial bench dedicated to Tiffany Collins, that has been moved by persons unknown and is now chained to a tree. We may conduct a separate meeting with Brian Campbell.

Notary. Kelly Dillon was unable to attend the meeting. She provides notary services, but her certification expired due to the pandemic. She will be able to resume soon.

Social Events. Many events unfortunately had to be canceled due to the pandemic. Joan Bishop and others have been creative in inventing new events, for example celebrating high school graduating seniors via a parade, a chalk art contest, etc. Although National Night Out, traditionally held in August, has been rescheduled to Tuesday, October 6, 2020, it is doubtful that it will be able to be held in traditional fashion. Joan suggested that a pumpkin carving contest might work, and possibly another front-yard socially distanced event.

Board Elections. Joan Bishop had not received any nominations prior to the meeting. She again asked for nominations from the floor. Dorothy Firsching moved, and EC Buckminster seconded, that the officers currently holding the positions of President and 1st Vice President be re-nominated to continue in their positions. Elections were conducted for each position and the officers were unanimously re-elected.

Joan thanked the current officers for their service, particularly with regard to replacement of George Klein and Kathy Augustine.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorothy Firsching
Filling in for Kelly Dillon, Secretary

Members present:

- Joan Bishop
- Bob Bonner
- Lynn Bonner
- EC Buckminster
- Fred Burgess
- Taffy Burgess
- Dave Cote
- Louise Donargo
- Dorothy Firsching
- John Firsching
- Krissie Harrington
- Patti Keppler
- Gary Krauss
- Mimi Krauss
- Mary McKeough
- Craig Myers
- Barbara Price
- Randy Price