

**Salem Common Neighborhood Association (SCNA)  
Meeting of Tuesday, January 15, 2019**

Present: Gabe Ciociola, Milo Martinez, Dennis Maroney, Lynn Murray, Gary Santo, Jenn Santo, Barb Schwartz, Jerry Smith

President's Report

- Arch restoration project expanded to include a review of status of improvements to the Common that had been previously discussed or committed to by the City.

These include:

Plan for ongoing restoration of the Common Fence with a focus on interim & long-term schedules.

New replacement or additional benches plan. As an example, there is a new one on the former Knights side of the Common that appears to have been privately funded.

The Gazebo/bandstand plan. Originally targeted by the City for full scale 2019 restoration, it now appears scaled back to only landscaping & lighting upgrades.

Water Bubblers - one new one installed by Hawthorne - will there be another?

Explanatory signage for The Arch. City has delayed action on this so should SCNA just fund this and move forward?

Brick pad and walkway connecting The Arch to National Guard monument. Committed to by The City years ago. Should SCNA pursue private funding?

Playground requires repair to the floor of the equipment area. Waiting for City action.

The Board has not yet met as a group with Ward 2 Councilor Christine Madore. We wish to approach the City as a unified front with her on these issues & major upcoming ones such as locating this year's Carnival on the Common during Halloween season.

Treasurer's Report

Funds as of January 15, 2019

Checking: \$12,179

Arch Fund: \$7,067 (Note: includes Eastern sponsorship of \$5K)

Savings: \$3,004

Total: \$22,250

Donations/Incoming to SCNA

- Membership 2019 renewal process has begun – thanks Barb!

- \$443 in renewals via Square

- 4 renewing members at \$25 via check = \$100

- Holiday Concert: \$480 in donations

New Donations By SCNA

- \$235 to Bridge @211

#### Incurred Expenditures

- Various Event Expenditures: Jenn paid \$117 (#1541) for supplies
- Holiday Concert:
  - NS Concert Band paid \$750 (#1542)
  - Creation of programs: Milo paid \$110 (check #1544)
- Post Office box renewal: \$166

#### Anticipated Expenditures

- Membership 2019 Renewals:
  - Renewal process via email has begun: 20% return so far
  - Will follow with physical mailing if needed: Cost TBD
- Pats Pre-Super Bowl Potluck on 2/2 – Costs estimated @ \$100
- Annual Meeting @ Hawthorne – Costs if any TBD

#### Arch Project Cost/Status

- Arch Images
  - Total project cost estimated at \$40K to \$50K
  - \$5,000 Eastern grant deposited - work on hold for carvings
  - Possible sponsorship with National Guard being explored
- Arch Explanatory Sign:
  - \$1,085 quote; 10-year warranty
  - Put on hold until spring for re-bid involving City or SCNA alone

#### Committee Reports

##### Commons Issues Committee

- Gary observed the removal of the swags and bows from the lampposts on the Common and was able to save the bows for future use. Kudos to Gary!
- Jenn and other Board members have removed and stored tree decorations and lights.
- Jenn announced that Kevin of the Department of Public Works would now be in charge of the Common.

##### Events Committee/Technical Support

##### Events

- The Community Pot Luck is scheduled for Saturday, February 2 from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Tabernacle Congregational Church in their community room. Adele has designed a very nice flyer to promote the event. The Church will be paid \$100 for use of the room.
- Movie Night at the Museum will occur with a March date to be selected. The selected movie for an adult audience will be “Serial Mom” a John Waters’ movie. Lynn will work to get a donation of popcorn for the event.

- Annual Meeting will be held at the Hawthorne Hotel on Thursday, March 28th at 7 pm.
- The featured speaker will be the couple that created Goodnight Fatty & are opening a storefront in the Common neighborhood.
- Gabe has volunteered to head the Nominating Committee for Board members. This Committee will develop a slate for the election that will be held at the annual meeting.
  
- A membership meeting (date TBD) will be scheduled with the Mayor and Ward 2 Councilor Christine Madore to discuss issues of interest to the Common neighborhood. The timing of the meeting will depend upon their availability.

#### Technical Support

- Thanks to Milo's efforts, the new website is now up. A big thanks to Milo for taking on this task and improving our web presence while reducing costs.
- Milo looking into our current Square versus PayPal as our membership engine.
- Milo will also begin to post board minutes online beginning with January 2019 in order to encourage transparency and membership participation.
- Milo has also set up a Google Drive for the board's use only to use to as a repository to create, share, and store documents.

#### Membership Committee

- On February 26th, Barb posted the notice of membership renewal and the annual meeting on the SCNA Facebook and website. She has already had a 20% return rate.
- Our current 2018 membership stands at 176 heading into the 2019 renewal season.
- Please note that one must be a SCNA member 30 days prior to the annual meeting in order to be eligible to vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm. The next monthly SCNA Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11th at 7:30 pm at the home of Jenn and Gary Santo.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Murray  
Recording Secretary