

Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council
 Public Safety Committee Special Meeting Minutes
 11 November 2020 7:00 pm
 Location: Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Time: 7:08pm

Committee Member	Present	Not Present
Caroline Aguirre		x
Emily Aldrich		x
Mary Allison	x	
Boo Caban		x
Brendan Cronshaw	x	
Steve Crouch	x	
Gemma Marquez		x
Rick Marquez	x	
MaryLeigh Roohan	x	
Total:	5	

2. Discussion and motion to approve agenda

Public Comment: none.

Rick moves to approve the agenda. Steve 2nd

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						x
Emily Aldrich						x

Mary Allison	x					
Boo Caban						x
Brendan Cronshaw	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Gemma Marquez						x
Rick Marquez	x					
MaryLeigh Roohan	x					
Total:	5					

- Discussion and motion to approve minutes from Public Safety's Special Meeting on 10/28/2020 (2 min)

Public Comment: none.

Rick: you can find the minutes on highlandparknc.com

Rick moves to approve the minutes. Steve 2nd

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						x
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Boo Caban						x
Brendan Cronshaw	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Gemma Marquez						x

Rick Marquez	x					
MaryLeigh Roohan	x					
Total:	5					

4. General Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items—Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction (Limited to 10 min, max 2 min per speaker)

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Joey: Fireworks were still happening after the Dodger win - near Cafe De Leche and Town Pizza. Auto Shop on Meridian + 50th people are putting bomb fireworks in garbage cans

Rick proposes Joey’s map be shared in the future meetings.

5. Report: Northeast Division’s Neighborhood Prosecutor Gabrielle Taylor (5 min)

Words... not in attendance

6. Report: Senior Lead Officer Allen and Senior Lead Officer Cheng from LAPD Northeast (5 min)

Words... not in attendance

7. Discussion and possible motion to move forward on the Firework Buyback Initiative (5 min)

Steve: Fireworks Buy Back - it appears from the internet that nobody is doing this. Ask the police what they think - is this realistic? Is it better to have police officers handle it by confiscation?

Rick: Internet search - Menlo Park want to have the Fire Station run the fireworks buyback program. Will need neighborhood prosecutor involved - needs to come through the city attorney’s office.

MaryLeigh: potential obstacle - the way in which NCs can distribute funds. Potential work around is not a dollar for dollar buy back. LA Zoo tickets, etc.

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Scott: request to have public comment first. Difficult to enforce fireworks. City funds toward a firework buyback program doesn't seem like a good use of funds. Where is this money coming from? Doesn't seem like a solvable problem through buyback.

Stakeholder Joey: Hobbyist firework lighters won't be incentivized by something like this. Intentions vary. Brainstorm on different approaches

Stakeholder Joan: Wonderful brainstorming of a buyback - might be the most impossible thing to do. Cannot accept firework donations through the neighborhood council. Having it handled by the 501 in the neighborhood would be a way to make this work.

Rick: We will need to go through someone else to do this. It's a priority because it's an issue that continues to come up among stakeholders. Could use our funding money to try to move forward with this. It wouldn't serve everyone who is violating the firework law, but it would address the ones who have a surplus of fireworks who don't know what to do with them

Steve: We could try and see what happens. Uphill battle.

Rick moves to wait until we have more information from Gabrielle Taylor to move on this item Steve 2nd

Committee Member	Present	Not Present
Caroline Aguirre		x
Emily Aldrich		x
Mary Allison	x	
Boo Caban		x
Brendan Cronshaw	x	
Steve Crouch	x	
Gemma Marquez		x
Rick Marquez	x	
MaryLeigh Roohan	x	
Total:	5	

8. Discuss and possible motion to move forward on the Firework Educational Comic Book Initiative (5 min)

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Joan: E-Zine instead of a paper comic book? Avenue 50 Studio had a youth group creating E-Zines. Plenty of talent in this neighborhood to do this. Thinks it's a great idea. Fun to create something and a good outlet.

Stakeholder Scott: Wife helps with social media - target audience may not be the ones following you on social media. How do you reach the target audience? It's difficult. Something to consider. Efficacy of youth education translating to parent change of action - don't know how to show the impact of that. Is there a study on this? He can reach out with this information.

Steve: Let's see who else is doing something like this? Is it successful? Folks who are doing it locally may not be impacted by this. Why not give it a try? Committing to research.

Rick: MySafeLA Website - kid programs: school visits to educate kids. We could reach out to them about coming to schools in Highland Park. This is a long-term approach. Anti-Firework lawn signs to purchase. 1-877-275-5273 - will call to see who this is and how they help for fireworks. Maybe we can purchase some of these signs as a NC. Shotspotter - website police uses it to find gunshots and fireworks. Rick will Contact MySafeLA about school visit, etc.

Rick moves to continue the conversation at the next meeting Steve 2nd

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						x
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Boo Caban						x
Brendan Cronshaw	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Gemma Marquez						x

Rick Marquez	x					
MaryLeigh Roohan	x					
Total:	5					

9. Discuss and brainstorm other Public Safety topics that the committee would like to focus on - Bringing more aid and resources to our community, COVID-19 resources, our unhoused neighbors, outreach and education, Etc. (10 min)

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Scott: Uptick in graffiti. 311 app. Engage with the Outreach Committee to promote awareness about graffiti. COVID related - mask drive for the unhoused to distribute to local shelters or directly, etc. More than happy to help with the mask drive.

Mary: Do we have any designated safe parking zones for our unhoused neighbors? Can we set something like this up? Can we distribute information to our unhoused neighbors about grab-and-go meals. Eagle Rock NC was able to get port-o potties and sinks for their unhoused neighbors - could we do the same?

Steve: Housing, renters and homeless committee - would be a great ad-hoc committee.

Rick: Glassel Park has safe parking. Highland Park should have one. Unhoused neighbors is our responsibility as Public Safety. Maybe we can partner with Eagle Rock. Chief Moore has a new plan because of budget cuts that rearranges policing - questions for SLOs in light of these cuts at the next meeting. Does the committee have a limit on stakeholders who attend these meetings? More stakeholders on the committee would be positive. The more the merrier.

10. New Business

Public Comment:

Stakeholder Joan: Glassel Park they have safe parking for unhoused neighbors and arranged for the minimum sanitary stations. Would schools be an option since students aren't coming in? (**Steve:** dump station for RVs too?)

Rick: Safe place for unhoused parking - maybe Senior Center? Continue talking with Gabrielle Taylor and SLOs to discuss fireworks and crimes. Caroline still wants to be on the committee!

11. Adjournment

Rick moves to adjourn the Public Safety meeting Steve 2nd at 8:25

	For	Against	Abstain	Recused	Ineligible	Absent
Caroline Aguirre						x
Emily Aldrich						x
Mary Allison	x					
Boo Caban						
Brendan Cronshaw	x					
Steve Crouch	x					
Gemma Marquez						x
Rick Marquez	x					
MaryLeigh Roohan	x					
Total:	5					