

Oakcliffe Community Organization
Meeting Minutes– Wednesday, March 13, 2024

Opening

The regular meeting of the Oakcliffe Community Organization was called to order at 7:00 PM on March 13, 2024 by Dave Panasiuk. The meeting was in person and virtual conducted on Zoom.com. It was recorded.

Present

Michelle Panasiuk, Dave Panasiuk, Rosalie Panasiuk, Elena Zaitsoff, Millie Sass, Officer Cunningham (Pitt Police), April Houser, Christine Graziano, Joan Dickerson, Dennis Houser, Liz Gray, Kyle, Olivia, Lauren, Tori (Pitt Social Work Students), Commander Vinansky from Zone 4, Officer Kroll from Zone 4, Mavis Raney, Justin Dandoy , Greg Fisher, Howard Stevens, Lindsay Aquino-Robles from Mayor's office, Tyrell Best-Savage from Rep. Summer Lee's Office, Phil Garrow, Geoffrey Becker, Bob Charland

Minutes

Minutes of the February meeting were approved. Millie motioned. 2nd. by Elena. Unanimous approved.

Old Business

Lindy Paving - Christine Graziano – Permit in hands of Health Dept. No update. Smell reports and video footage sent in December. No follow up on reports. Options document has been produced. Changes, clarifications and expansion needed.

Oakcliffe Greenway – DOMI not ready to confirm start date for project. Few projects to complete first. Work was originally expected to start May 1st.

Lawn Street sidewalk project is on City Engage page
<https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/lawn-street-promenade>

Lawn Street Community Garden – Justin Dandoy – 3/22 walk through with Pitt students to see site. Plant to Plate Garden organization Pitt Group interested in running. Millie – Lid off water supply. Has been repaired. Water back in service.

New Business

Little Free Library – On Hold Temporarily due to misuse. Library is filled then emptied in day or two. Hope by halting for a short time problem may resolve itself.

Rezoning Meeting – March 19th – McKee Place area is the focus.

Reports

Mavis Rainey

Traffic Updates – April 5th – 7th Roberto Clement Dr closed.
University of Pittsburgh
Oakland Planning and Development Corporation

Zone 4 Police

Parking complaints – 82

Working on ideas to help with parking for food pantry. Options are possible relocation and limited time variances to help ease parking. Food Bank is 100% donations. Serve 200 – 250 people each day. Open two days a week. Working with Councilman's office to help with solutions. Elena requests that the OCO be included in future talks.

All of Oakland 25 theft reports, Mar 3rd – 2am – Pitt student raped. 200 block of Melwood. Forcible felony. Suspect was lying in wait.

2 thefts from vehicles.

March 7th 33 -35 Lawn St – Holding music events.

University Police Officer Cunningham – Adopt a highway event – looking for volunteers
4/2

University of Pittsburgh – Justin – Expanding Oakland Youth Dev.
Students spring break right now. Resume classes on Monday.
3/24 Clean up in Oakland.

St Patricks Day – Zone 4 will address the issues as they arise. Pitt Police will have officers out as well.

City Council

Office of the Mayor, Lindsay – Learn and Earn Program – Youth program 14 – 21 years old.

Public service grants – close April 12th for non-profits that work with vulnerable populations – Through office of management and budget.

Hiring lifeguards. Applications now open. No experience necessary.

Andrea Boykowycz officially the director of OPDC.

Councilman Charland – Calling for audit of enforcement practices. Which cases go before a judge. How are the enforcement strategies working?

Have done all neighborhoods in Listen First tour.

Tyrell Best-Savage (Summer Lee) – gave update.

VI. Round Robin Questions/Concerns

VII. Next OCO Meeting – Wednesday April 10, at 7pm. It will be in person at 3240 Craft Place and virtually via Zoom.