

BSVA MINUTES — 11-27-18

ATTENDANCE: Josh Bedell, Alex Ghiselin, Peter McLean, Sue Norton, Norm Spencer, Maddy Subocz, Stephen Taranto

MEETINGS: Oct. meeting with Ward 5 City Counselor David Murphy went well. A half-dozen new people attended. Next invites will be Jo Comerford and Lindsey Sabadosa. Josh will contact them for a meeting next spring. Will need to publicize. Next BSVA meeting: Jan.22. Maddy will plan a teen-oriented event — maybe a spring cleanup? No date yet for the Bash. Alex wants the next picnic to be in Sept. instead of August.

TRAFFIC CALMING: Peter spoke with eloquence (and frustration) about BSVA's request to the city for speed bumps on Riverside, a request that is now ten years old. Speed limit there is 30 mph, with some areas 20 mph. A traffic study done at the time of the request showed average speed >40mph, and sometimes >50mph. At the time, the city said it had no money for road improvements, altho it has done 30 projects since our request, including the bumps on Nonotuck. Peter recently invited Jim Nash, head of the Transportation and Parking Commission, to walk down Riverside on a Sunday morning. They found the average speed still exceeds the posted limit — even on a Sunday AM. Jim said he'd been under the impression there was a negative community reaction to the temporary speed bumps several years ago. Actually, negative feedback was limited to very few households located right next to the temporary bumps. Peter will attend the next meeting of the Traffic Commission, Tuesday, Dec.18, to plead our cause. He'd like as much show of support as possible. He'll also write an article for the Gazette, urged us to write letters to editor.

FINANCES: Norm passed out a finance report: We are in the black, with assets as of 9/25/18 of \$21,151, no liabilities. Our chief expenses are food and equipment for events, printing the biannual newsletters, and annual scholarships for a graduating senior from both NHS and Smith Voke. Scholarship awards are based on a percentage of invested assets. We considered doing away with dues (\$10 per household) (free, if over age 65), and relying on donations, but we decided to keep the dues as a way of connecting people to the organization. Most dues come in the stamped envelopes enclosed with the newsletters. Norm needs another signer on the checking account. He will ask Julie or Ben.

Submitted, Sue Norton, substitute secretary