**Guilford Association Board – January 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Second Presbyterian Church

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Hobbs, Curtis Campbell, Sarah Crowe, Margaret Alton, Anthony Gill, Clark Griffin, Kathy Boyne, Lee Miller, Jeremy Hoffman, Chris Lyon, Doug Borg, Steve Murphy

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Josh Angulo-Bartlett, Carl Cosia, Kelly Maher, Brandon McCullough, Tim Chriss, Elizabeth Comer, Bill Rienhoff, Lynda Riley

The minutes from October 8, 2019 were unanimously approved.

**MEETING DATES CHANGED FOR 2020**

Second Presbyterian has asked the board to move meetings to Wednesdays. The new meeting schedule for 2020 is as follows: **March 4, June 3, October 7**. All meetings to still start at 7pm.

**Board Officer Election for 2020 – Tom Hobbs**

* Tom Hobbs to step down as President of the Board after serving for 10 years
* Curtis Campbell will take over as President June 1, 2020 after a transition period lead by Tom Hobbs. Curtis will temporarily be named as co-VP alongside Margaret Alton
* Margaret Alton to remain VP of the Board and Tom Hobbs will become co-VP as of June 1, 2020
* Lynda Riley has moved from Maryland and has resigned from the Board and as Secretary
* Sarah Crowe has stepped in to be the Board Secretary effective immediately
* Lee Miller remains as Treasurer
* These changes were approved unanimously

**Lawn Sign Policy – Tom Hobbs**

* Because of complaints from some community members about the presence of contractor and political signs being displayed on lawns The Board adopted the following new Rule
* Board standing policy is to follow the law held by Baltimore City and Maryland State:
  + Political signs can be placed on the law no sooner than 30 days prior to the election and must be removed 7 days after the election
  + Vendor/contractor signs can be displayed while work is being done and must be removed as soon as the work is completed
* Emailed letter outlining the board policy on lawn signs to be sent out via the listserv
* Any violations to this policy will result in a letter being sent to the homeowner(s)
* This initiative was approved unanimously

**Financials – Tom Hobbs and Lee Miller**

* Review of the 2019 year-end financials - $62,000 2019 net income will be carried over to 2020
* An additional $10,000 was donated to Stratford Green
* Security schedule was decreased to 10 hour coverage Sun-Thurs and 12 hour coverage Fri-Sat
* PNC CDs not appearing on the PNC statement, to be discussed/ resolved with PNC

**Traffic – Doug Borg**

* Only issue addressed from the discussion with DOT over the summer was the repainting of the crosswalks on Cold Spring Lane
* 39th St traffic calming project updates
  + DOT adamant that a bike lane on either side of 39th stays in the plans to satisfy the “Complete Streets” initiative
  + Current proposal for 39th street is a two-lane road with strategic left turn lanes and a bike lane on either side of the street. All street parking on 39th will be eliminated
  + Board has decided to agree to the bike lanes in an effort to get the calming project underway
  + Doug raised concerns to DOT that the bike lanes will be used as passing lanes so plastic posts/barriers have been added in to the plans to prevent this
  + DOT maintains that this will require only restriping and not resurfacing of 39th st, however it remains in the normal repaving “cycle”
  + Doug to propose to DOT that the speed be reduced to 25MPH and the timing of the light at 39th and Greenway be extended as a short-term solution to calming the traffic
* Request has been submitted to the city regarding restoring the 2-hour parking restrictions on St Paul near Union Memorial. This initiative is also supported by Union Memorial board members. Tim Chriss to draft additional letter to the city for the parking restrictions and the ask the city to begin maintaining the green space in this area as well.
* Highfield House apartment building construction
  + Construction on the garage needed to repair the moisture barrier
  + This will require heavy equipment, which will be housed on and block off a section of Charles St
  + The garage will be unusable for the residents, so Highfield House is asking for support to remove the current rush hour parking restrictions so that residents may park on Charles St at all times
    - Board votes “NO” on this proposal. Concerns about the restricted parking being restored, rush hour congestion, and commuters using neighborhood roads (specifically Highfield Rd and Stratford Rd) as cut through access between Charles and St Paul

**Parks – Margaret Alton**

* Our contract with Beechfield Landscaping has been renewed for 3 yrs.. Beechfield will replace Bob Jackson for Stratford Green as well.
* 11 new trees to be planted in the gardens in 2020, costing ~$7,000
* 2020 will be a trial year for pesticide-free treatment of Sherwood Gardens’ lawns
* Jeremy and Margaret to coordinate removal of tree stumps
* Margaret and Sarah to look in to the city program that delivers trees for free and a possible plan for tree locations around the neighborhood

**Security – Tom Hobbs and Curtis Campbell**

* Tom to setup meeting with Luke Clippenger of the Juvenile Justice Committee about juvenile justice reform and how to best find communication on juveniles involved in car jackings or other crimes committed in the neighborhood
* Betsy Hobelman has sent a request for a Guilford Board representative at a newly formed City County Safety Group meeting
  + The CCSG is a volunteer group with members from several of the surrounding communities
  + Curtis to attend the first meeting
* Video system installation
  + Contract with H&S Security for the cameras and Comcast for wifi service
  + Due to pushback from one of the volunteer homeowners about installing and mounting the camera directly to their house, a pole structure will need to be installed on the property in order to mount the camera. The other volunteer property owner has been away for the holidays, so installation of the second camera will occur in early 2020
  + Homeland has a private community member that setup a network of cameras on their own in a particular alleyway. Anyone with contacts on the Homeland board is encouraged to reach out about the effectiveness of this system

**Architecture – Tom Hobbs**

* ~100 architectural applications in 2019 (8-10/month)
* 8 properties were purchased by investors who were only interested in addressing cosmetic changes despite many covenant violations
* 7 on-going litigations regarding covenant violations

**Miscellaneous business**

* Winter newsletter – help is needed on content and Kelli our Asst Office Manager has agreed to write 1-2 articles
* Reservoir project – Kathy met with Bill Henry and Mary Pat Clarke who will try to go through contacts at DPW to address the issues. Projected project completion is now Sept 2020.

**There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 9:pm.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Sarah Crowe**