

**The Neighborhood Club of Bala Cynwyd  
Board Meeting June 12, 2018  
The Academy**

**Board Attendees**

Vanessa Coke Cohen, Michal Frankel, Eric Godfrey, Maxine Goldberg, Anne M. Greenhalgh, Jeremy Harrison, Roger Moog, Randy Myer, David Rosenbaum, Dan Russoniello, Jerry Skillings, Shifra Vega, and Merle Zucker

**Excused**

Courtenay Harris Bond, Ricky Guerra, David Haas, Linda Sagman, and David Yavil.

**Call to order**

President David Rosenbaum called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

**Police Report**

Officer Chris Kubik reported on sporadic thefts from motor vehicles (on Union, Upland, and Maple). He recommended hiding loose change and taking valuables out of cars. The Officer also reported thefts of lawn equipment in open sheds. Officer Kubik recommended the use of motion lights. He also reported on apprehension of suspects responsible for over a dozen burglaries in Lower Merion. Links to the recovered property can be found on the LM Police website.

**Executive Reports**

**President's Report**

President David Rosenbaum reported that

- The May meeting at The Mesivta School was very successful, with more than 75 participants attending. President Rosenbaum asked for suggestions about how to continue to encourage civic engagement across residents in our diverse community.
- The annual dinner was held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at Aldar. The attendance was smaller than normal but the discussion was productive and even more intimate.
- The NCBC website was down for a few days and email has been down for the last six weeks. Jeremy Harrison transferred the website to his own hosting site. He and President Rosenbaum are looking to make the new website more modern and efficient. Jeremy Harrison will work on a new site map; President Rosenbaum and Courtenay Harris Bond are working on content. The initial cost of the new website will be about \$1,000, which President Rosenbaum said he would authorize absent and objection. Ultimately, goal is for the new website to be revenue neutral.
- Directors are contributing to the Independence Day Celebration. He asked that all Directors do so.

**Secretary's Report**

Secretary Anne M. Greenhalgh moved to approve the May minutes. Randy Myer moved to approve the minutes; Roger Moog seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Eric Godfrey gave the following reports:

- 2018 YTD Statement of Financial Activity (January 1, 2018 – June 4, 2018) indicating YTD Net Revenue of **\$4,525.40**
- 2018 YTD Financial Position (through June 4, 2018) indicating current Total Assets of **\$29,060.31** of which \$13,109.45 are temporarily restricted funds.
- Form 990-N (e-postcard) for FY 2018 was filed with the IRS

- The 2017 financials and July 4<sup>th</sup> reporting will need to be updated because an additional \$5000 was found in a compartment of a money box. New financial controls will be implemented on July 4<sup>th</sup> to avoid similar issues.

Anne M Greenhalgh moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Merle Zucker moved to approve the report. Maxine Goldberg seconded the minutes. The board unanimously approved.

### **Presentation**

**Amy Norr** presented on start times for Lower Merion High School students. Medical science recommends that high school students start school around 8:30 a.m. so that they can get enough sleep, approximately eight hours. The School Board is supportive, the challenge is implementation. Transportation and after school activities are two concerns. Lower Merion School Board member Lori Actman voiced her support for the shift in start times for High School students although she recognized that solving the logistics will be difficult...

### **Elected Officials Report**

**Lori Actman, Lower Merion School Board** gave an update on land use for expansion. She cautioned that on June 13, at 6:00 p.m., the Township Building and Planning Committee could vote to recommend preparation of an ordinance to reclassify the mansion and carriage house at the Islamic Foundation Center as Class 1 buildings. She argued that the reclassification of the site would make demolishing the buildings very difficult and would mean the site would become impractical and cost-prohibitive for a new middle school.

Lori Actman reported that the President of the Board of School Directors, Dr. Melissa R. Gilbert, had agreed that the District would not file a demolition permit for the site in the time between the last Building and Planning Committee meeting to the meeting tomorrow. Residents who would like to see a school built on that site are urged to contact their Commissioners before tomorrow night to ask them to vote against the historic reclassification.

Dan Russoniello recommended thinking creatively about how to use the historic site. One question is whether it is worth paying for to keep an historic resource?

Roger Moog asked about impact of the Wolk law suit on the school expansion. Lori Actman responded that the law suit is in limbo but acknowledged that it could make it more difficult to maintain the quality of the LM public schools.

Randy Myer asked about use of fields at Harriton. Lori Actman replied that the fields are more limited than they appear because of storm water management systems

**Commissioner Brian McGuire** commented that the commissioners are interested in maintaining the façade of the Islamic Center. He explained that a Class 1 classification enables a discussion about historic preservation. He reminded the civic that the Islamic Center has been on the list of recommended structures for some time.

**Commissioner George Manos** reported on a meeting with the School Board and members of the Township. Chris Leswing suggested some other options for the School Board to consider for use as possible sites for schools or fields. Commissioner Manos reported that a third party suit is possible whether or not the site is categorized as Class 1 or Class 2.

He also reported on traffic calming improvements on Presidential Avenue.

George Manos reported on the revision of the site plan for 9 Presidential Boulevard. The plans for the sidewalk and the bike path now conform to code.

**Commissioner Mike McKeon** reported that he has responsibility for three civics. Commissioner McKeon expressed understanding of the need and called for an accurate representation of events by the school board..

### **Standing Committee Report**

**Zoning – David Rosenbaum** reported on upcoming public meetings.

**Independence Day – Anne M. Greenhalgh** reported that Frances Blasé is the most recent nominee for the honor of Inspirational Speaker. She also asked for recommendations for young people. Li Halpern reported on new fundraising opportunities, including local restaurants such as Saffron.

**Federation – Maxine Goldberg** reported the Federation announced that the Lower Merion School District has an agreement to purchase the Islamic Foundation Center. She also reported that the French School is looking to move to the Knox School.

### **New Business**

#### **House Number Signs**

Maxine Goldberg reported on fast signs. President Rosenbaum added that The Club's logo would be on the sign so that the sign could be used as a fundraiser. The Cub agreed to discuss at a later time.

Jerry Skillings moved to adjourn. Randy Myer seconded the motion. The Board gave the motion unanimous approval.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anne M. Greenhalgh, Secretary