

**Foggy Bottom Association
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
November 2, 2021 at 7 PM via Zoom**

President John George called the online meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Attendance:

Present Board Members: John George, Christina Farnsworth, Julia Gustafson, Peter Maye, Mary Ellen Signorille, Jennifer Schaus, Denise Vogt, Sadie Cornelius,

Absent Board Members: NONE

Minutes:

Julia Gustafson moved to accept the minutes; Christina Farnsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Report –

- Welcome new Board Member – Sadie Cornelius

John and the Board welcomed Sadie to the Board.

- Website Refresh – JPG/Sadie

Sadie has a marketing and communication background. She will help with refreshing the website. It will be maintained on WIX. It needs to be updated more regularly. The history section may require special software. Sadie suggested updating pictures and content. WIX is somewhat restrictive in potential design changes, but incremental changes will be helpful. John wants the refresh done by the end of April and Sadie will suggest a timeline.

Denise asked if the “old” website will be archived because it has various information that we might need going forward. Denise thought a new template would be helpful. Sadie commented that accessibility is a big issue in designing websites.

The Board indicated its support for this plan. Sadie will move forward to put together a plan and Jennifer will provide consultation

- Bill 24-233 Rebecca Coder Park Designation – Approval and Vote of written testimony

Mary Ellen moved to approve the written testimony and its submission; Christina Farnsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Secure Paper Shredding Event (Shred-it) – Saturday Nov 13, 2021, 9 am – 1:00 pm

The location will on I & 23rd Streets near the triangle park. The cost is \$1,375.

Mary Ellen moved to approve the shred it event and the cost of \$1,375; Christina Farnsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- GW Internship (spring semester) –

GWU offers a class on Service Community Organizations for credit. Students need to perform an internship as part of the class. The intern will begin the course on January 10 and will work 5 hours per week. The end date of the course will be April 29. We will need to generate a position description for an internship. The intern will work on revising the membership system. GW Communications Intern may begin in January.

- FBA email activation – ACTION

The Board members will activate their emails.

- 26th Street Water Source/Green Wall Update

Boston Properties has agreed to provide \$100,000 for a Green Wall. The Green Wall is to act as a sound barrier and visual decoration. The money will be managed separately from FBA monies. A construction permit and plan would be needed which would include maintenance. A watering truck might also be possible. Alternatively, a person may be able to get certified to use fire hydrants to water trees. Denise suggested that Arts in Foggy Bottom might play a role.

- November 4, 2021 Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) Meeting

2513 I Street residence which has requested a permit to add another level to its house. It can be viewed from alleyway but not the street. ANC approved the request at its last meeting. The Board had a robust discussion.

- November 30, 2021 FBA Community Meeting – Historic Preservation Panel Discussion

This is meant to be informational about how the process works and what the community involvement can be.

- GW/FBA “Getting to know the Neighbors” was canceled due to rain
President George is still working with the University on this.

-26th and I Street Landscaping update (includes The Boathouse Cooling Tower)
The **Boathouse Cooling Tower** will go dormant shortly. Boston Company is planted some smaller trees to attempt to help with the noise.

- Breakfast with President LeBlanc – Oct 30, 2021 - Update

Thurston Hall will be reopening at the end of summer 2022. FBA asked that the GWU should keep notes and information about historic buildings on the campus. The Campus Plan and student enrollment should be discussed with Kevin Days due to the ramifications for the community.

GW Book Drive for disadvantaged children. President George will reach out to this professor.

- Preferred Merchant Program – Jennifer (with help from J. Ford)

Jennifer should work with Board members and other community members. Sadie will need to establish a short-term plan to update the list on the website.

- Nominating Committee for December Elections – 2 open Board Positions

The nominating committee can be lead by a community member. Jennifer agreed to lead this; Julia agreed to assist.

- December Service Awards – Nominees

Olga Corey award – The Board discussed potential nominees for the Olga Corey award.

- December Meeting –

The Board agreed that the meeting should be virtual. The Board discussed a gift bag from one of the local merchants or gift cards and provide to members. The Board also discussed a raffle.

Board Items

- Denise – Ellie Becker Fund left \$20,000 for a spring soiree. Two were held. About \$12,500 is remaining. Denise asked about improving ANC relations.

Julia discussed the bike lane on L Street between 21st & 20th Streets and traffic issues.

Treasurer’s Report – JPG

- Paypal Account Update
- Tax filing deadline November 15, 2021

Membership Report – Mary Ellen

- Membership Status (number of current members) – 247
3 contributions to FBA and/or Garden Committee.

Communications – All – JPG Facilitator

- Re-establish FoggyBottomAssociation.org emails for those not yet set up

- Upcoming FBA Newsletter Issues

Because of Thanksgiving and Christmas, the newsletter will miss a week.

- o November 12, 2021 (none on November 26)
- o December 10, 2021 (none on December 24)
- o January 7, 2022

- FBA Community Meeting – November 30, 2021 – Virtual

- o Historic Preservation Panel Discussion
- o Future Topic – December/January / February? Kennedy Center?? – Julia
- Distribution of printed copies of newsletter (Ms. Armbrewster and Janet Farbstein)

FBA Monthly Community Meetings – JPG

- November 30, 2021 - Virtual
- December – TBD – Elections / Service Awards
- o Candidates to fill vacant seats – Christina / Mary Ellen
- Potential Candidate: Zach Cohen

Other Announcements / Upcoming Events – All

- ANC2A Meeting Wednesday November 17, 2021 7 pm
- FBA Community Meeting – November 30, 2021 7 pm
- FBA December BOD Meeting – Tuesday December 7, 2021 7 pm
- FBA January BOD Meeting – Tuesday January 4, 2022 7 pm

Adjournment: The Board agreed to hold its next meeting on December 7 at 7pm via ZOOM.

Action Items

- President George will call Pam Bree and Carlos at Shred it.
- President George will draft a position description for the intern position.
- Board members need to set up FBA email.
- President George will reach out to this professor on book drive.
- Mary Ellen will send updated membership list to President George

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Submitted by Mary Ellen Signorille, FBA Secretary

Chat

From Sadie Cornelius to Everyone: 07:33 PM

https://cdn4.sportngin.com/attachments/document/6480-2297109/RNR21_DC_Half_CourseMap__1_.pdf#_ga=2.80053151.98637714.1635895995-1503088242.1635895992

From iPad to Everyone: 08:23 PM

<https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/publication/attachments/Foggy%20Bottom%20HD%202513%20I%20Street%20NW%20HPA%2021%20560.pdf>

I think I just sent the Staff Report from Historic Preservation for the house on 2513 I St. A two-story row house. In case helpful Denise V

From petermayer to Everyone: 08:25 PM

Thanks

From iPad to Everyone: 08:50 PM

The FBWE village delivered a small gift bag to all members. Not only to those who attended a meeting.

From Sadie Cornelius to Everyone: 08:54 PM

E-gift cards are easy logistically to purchase and distribute

From petermayer to Everyone: 08:54 PM

Agreed can we afford a card for more than a drink?

From Sadie Cornelius to Everyone: 08:56 PM

Let's support the preferred merchants, marketing for them since they're supportive of FBA

From iPad to Everyone: 08:57 PM

Yes, our merchants

Suggest Ron Cocomo and Susan Lampton

For Olga Corey ... Ron C because of his contribution of time to bring Trader Joe's to FBWE. And its the 15 year anniversary. And the creation of the Trust. Susan Lampton because in my knowledge, she has been giving so much for many years.

From iPad to Everyone: 09:19 PM

I found the Ellie Becker \$\$ by reading old FBA minutes, Goodness. Knows what else may be in former newsletters, but we can't check because they aren't available on line. I was reading to look for past winners of Olga Corey awardee Minutes, not newsletters

For the history project, I'm researching past FBA presidents and Olga Corey Award winners.