



**CASGED Community Meeting  
MINUTES  
November 10, 2020 at 6:30PM  
St. Michael's Church**

1308 Spring Garden Avenue, Pittsburgh PA 15212

**Board Attendance:** Isaac Falvey (President); John Kubilus (VP); Jenny Stalnaker (Secretary); Tye Silverthone (At-Large); Jackie Bezek; Ruth Dailey; Bob Herbert

**Board Absences:** Paul Cerny (Treasurer); Philip Nollen

**Membership Attendance:** D. Basel; J. Basel; P. Cerny Sr.; V. Burkhart; C. Eddy; M. Guthridge; M. Harpold; A. Kopko, J. Luckey; A. Miller; D. Pierce; J. Platak; A. Reamer; C. Rosselot; J. Rosselot; M.A. Sestric; D. Shores; S. Sterritt; M. Taylor; F. Valorie; J. Valorie Jr; S. Wilderman; B. Woodrick; C. Woodrick; J. Wuerthele; M. Sheckler; G. Rosselot; B. Grady; M. Gebauer; D. Gebauer; E. Ostic; K. Gregorich; C. Hancock; L. Elbrycht; R. Frew

**Guest Attendance:** Councilman Bobby Wilson

*Meeting was called to order at 6:30. Isaac Falvey serving as Chair.*

**1. Guests— Councilman Wilson's Office— Bobby Wilson.** Mr. Wilson presented a proclamation establishing July 28th at Sarah Jean Herbert day in the city of Pittsburgh in recognition of Jean's commitment to the Food Bank and her Northside neighbors. Bob Herbert thanked Mr. Wilson and took the opportunity to introduce the group to the new Food Bank Coordinator, Melissa Taylor. Mr. Herbert also acknowledged the passing of Chuck Klinger Sr. who was a founding member of the first Spring Garden neighborhood association.

The Councilman took several questions related to individual issues and stayed for the remainder of the meeting to address questions related to city operations. The Councilman's Office can help with a variety of issues and suggested using the city's 311 system first, then following up with his office with the 311 claim number if issues are not resolved timely. Calls to his office are tracked by neighborhood, so clusters and common issues can be identified and prioritized. Mr. Wilson acknowledged the possibility of budgetary shortfalls due to COVID-19 and the likelihood that it would impact the city's response to non-emergency issues if grants are not secured. However, the Councilman remains optimistic that the deficit will not be as bad as first thought and reminded everyone to do their part to lessen the virus's impact by wearing a mask and avoiding large crowds.

A community member brought up Michael Flynn Field and the adjacent tennis courts and the still unresolved issue of how to address years of neglect by the city. Mr. Wilson suggested that neighbors form a committee to explore options for the space and develop a proposal. Melissa Taylor graciously offered to head this committee.

CASGED will work with community members by compiling a list of properties with persistent trash and other code violations to submit to the Councilman's office.

Residents should continue to report disruptions by illegal dirt bikes and quads to Zone 1.

**2. Thanksgiving Adopt-A-Family Program— Mindy Lou Shores-Sheckler.** Ms. Shores-Sheckler presented information on a program she started to help ensure all of our Northside neighbors have a Thanksgiving meal for themselves and their families. Neighbors can offer or request help by signing up online. Links to both forms are available in the East Deutschtown and Spring Garden neighborhood Facebook page.

**3. Board Executive Committee Introductions—** The newly-elected Board introduced themselves, stating their board positions, and acknowledged the work over the last 6 years of former Board member, Joe Valorie.

**4. Community Volunteer Acknowledgment—** The Board formally acknowledged Paul Stalter for his commitment to improving the appearance of our neighborhoods through his organization Angels in the Garden.

**5. Hotel Updates—** Construction is nearing an end for the Comfort Inn project on East Ohio Street. Owners have invited folks living in the neighborhoods for a special pre-opening tour on Monday, November 23 from 4-7PM. Those interested must RSVP to reserve their spot by calling 412-224-6305.

**6. Traffic Calming—** The issue of speeding traffic in both neighborhoods was discussed. Mr. Wilson addressed several questions regarding speeding cars on Spring Garden Avenue. The Councilman believes the Avenue between Basin and Baun would be a good stretch for a traffic study because it will likely have the minimum amount of traffic for the city to consider traffic calming measures. Neighbors will organize to obtain the requisite signatures on the city's petition to kick off the process. Signatures of both renters and property owners along the stretch will be collected. Ideally, any traffic calming construction can be performed in concert with planned sewer replacement along Spring Garden Ave, when that happens.

**7. Parking Permits—** Parking concerns in East Deutschtown were discussed and several streets west of Chestnut were identified for possible permitted parking. In response to a neighbor's concern that permits would be an unnecessary encumbrance for some living on streets closer to East Ohio, Bobby Wilson pointed out that the process is petition-driven, so neighbors would need to organize and discuss the pros and cons. CASGED will facilitate the conversation.

**8. New Business—** Ms. Dailey introduced a community member to Mr. Wilson and enlisted his assistance in helping her acquire a parcel that is caught up in the city's t-sale process.

**9. Comments, Announcements, and Other Business:**

a) Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 6:30PM.

b) NSLC has space for vendors (artists/makers) to table at NS Holiday Market on E.Ohio. Email [jesse@PittsburghNorthside.com](mailto:jesse@PittsburghNorthside.com) or check Facebook for the form.

c) The city's Snow Angels program is seeking volunteers and accepting requests for help. Individuals can sign up to offer or receive help on online.

**10. Adjournment**

*Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM*