

Community Club Newsletter for



Edited by Lisa Williams, editor@highlandparkpa.com

The President's Column

Bob Staresinic, 412-441-8972, bob.63@netzero.net

Hello Neighbors,

As I write this, there have been 3 concerts at the Reservoir of Jazz, and 2 more to come. So far the weather has been excellent, and the concerts were great. There have been hundreds of folks at each concert, relaxing and enjoying our Park. Thanks to Tania Grubbs, and the folks at CitiParks (Kevin, Amanda, Alex, and all the others) who have put together a great event. Thanks to all the sponsors, including Rep. Joe Preston Jr., who have made this all possible. And a big thanks to all the folks coming out and enjoying the day with good music and peaceful activities. It has been great to see the kids making instruments and then being able to play them with the bands. Good work by CitiParks Art Cart and the HPCC Children's committee (special thanks to Rachel Matos and her volunteers).

I feel like I have not been out and about much this summer. Part of that is due to all the heat, and part due to laziness. I hope everyone else has been taking the time to get out around the neighborhood and visit. I have made it down to the Union Project for the Thursday afternoon Summer Markets, and picked up some good produce. I learn something new about some fruit or vegetable each week I am there.

I think the Union Project is doing a great job on the building and getting the community involved. I have ridden past the intersection of Negley and Stanton a few evenings when the lights were on, and it does look good. The stained glass windows that have been restored just shine, and you have to see it for yourself.

The September meeting is the annual Members meeting, where elections are held for positions on the Board of the HPCC. This past year, we have held meetings to discuss the committee structure of the HPCC, and have come up with some revisions to the HPCC Bylaws. At the September meeting, we will be voting on the proposed changes to the bylaws (the proposed changes are published in this newsletter). I encourage all members to review the proposed changes, and come to the meeting to vote on them. I hope the changes will help to make the HPCC a better organization and a better representative of the community.

Please consider your neighbors as you think about nominations for the Board of the HPCC. We are looking for folks who would be good representatives of the Highland Park community, and are willing to help in enhancing and promoting the quality of life in the Highland Park area (the mission of the HPCC and not a proposed revision to the bylaws). If you have a neighbor in mind, please let me know.

I hope to see you in September, and around the neighborhood. If you have any questions or issues you would like to discuss, please let me know.

**Annual HPCC Member Meeting
September 15, 2005**

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 PM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2005, AT ST. ANDREWS

Around St. Andrews

Bruce Robison

The quieter summer season behind us, we resume our regular schedules at the beginning of September at St. Andrew's. "Round-Up" Sunday is September 11th, with the opening of the Church School year and with a festive Chuck Wagon Picnic in the churchyard at noon. Great food--and fun and games for kids of all ages!

Sunday morning services beginning in September are at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., with Church School/Confirmation and Youth Classes/Adult Discussion from 9:45 - 10:45, and our midweek service with Bible Study resumes on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. The Church Office hours are Tuesday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Three events of special interest in the wider community are scheduled this month.

On Sunday evening, September 18th, at 8 p.m., renowned English organist Joseph Nolan will present a recital. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

And the Annual St. Andrew's Lecture will be held on Friday evening, September 30, at 8 p.m. Our featured speaker this year is the Hon. Cynthia Baldwin, the first African-American woman elected to the Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas, trustee of the Pennsylvania State University, and one of the most highly respected community leaders in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Her lecture, entitled "Do the Right Thing," will address the imperative for ethical behavior in daily life. A festive reception will follow the lecture in Brooks Hall, where work by our featured St. Andrew's Lecture Artist, Chris Weiss, will be on display. All are welcome, and admission to the lecture is free.

Finally, at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 1st--the same day as our neighborhood House Tour--the families of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church and the Highland Park neighborhood and our friends from St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Oakland will gather on the lawn for a brief service remembering St. Francis of Assisi--and offering prayers and blessings for our family pets. All our pets--dogs-on-leashes, cats, birds-in-cages, iguanas, and goldfish (in bowls!), accompanied by their humans--are invited to be a part of the celebration!

St. Andrew's Church has been an important part of our Highland Park neighborhood for nearly a century, and we consider all the residents of the neighborhood to be members of our "extended family." If you have a pastoral need we can help with--a child to be baptized, a marriage to celebrate, an ill or shut-in family member or neighbor to be visited, care and support at the time of the death of a loved one--please feel free to give us a call. (Or if you simply need to borrow a few folding chairs, or to find a "rainy day" alternative location for an outdoor family gathering--we'll do what we can!) Just give us a call at 412 - 661-1245.

H. P. C. C.

Officers, Directors & Committees

Officers

President: Bob Staresinic (441-8972)
 Vice President: Dell Ziegler (363-0742)
 Comm. Dev. V.P.: ---
 Treasurer: Kelly Vitti (361-7669)
 Secretary:-----
 Past President: Lisa Williams (665-3933)

Directors

David Delong 303-0747 (05)
 Lisa Solomon 661-0126 (05)
 Peter Hughes 363-4603 (05)
 Ollie Riele 661-1205 (05)
 Bruce Robison 361-4892 (05)
 Brian Byers 661-2614 (06)
 John Cirol 665-0513 (06)
 Marie Jackson 441-2450 (06)
 Amy Maceyko 441-9130 (06)
 Andrea Mudd 361-4574 (06)
 Mike Nadler 363-6869 (07)
 Kate Carrigan 441-0722 (07)
 Bob Arnold 362-8746(07)
 Jennifer Thoma 661-9935 (07)

Committees

Beautification: ---
 Block Watch: Jan Stayianos 363-8208
 Children: Rachel Matos 361-3802
 Commercial District: ---
 Day Camp: Janice Burgett 361-2195
 Education: ---
 Hospitality: ---
 House Tour: Amy Maceyko 441-9130; Brigitte Nadler 363-6869; Peter Hughes 363-4603
 Membership: Kelly Meade 362-0331
 Newsletter: Lisa Williams 665-3933
 Program: ---
 Public Safety: ---
 Recreation: ---
 Reservoir Covers: ---
 Restoration: David Hance 361-4935
 Super Playground: ---
 Yard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830
 Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972
 Zoning: Dell Ziegler 363-0742

C. O. P. 665-3644 - Zone 5 665-3605
 HPCC/HPCDC Web: www.highlandparkpa.com
 Phone Numbers Area Code 412 unless Noted

HPCC Meeting Highlights

August 18, 2005

Kate Carrigan

Bob Staresinic, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Treasurer's Report--Kelly Vitti reported that the HPCC currently has a balance of \$15,861.00. Bob Staresinic reports that the funding from the DCED has not been approved yet, but the PA budget was passed late so the funding status has been delayed.

House Tour--Amy Maceyko reports that they doing "pretty well" at getting volunteers for the House Tour Day -- they have half of what they need and are still looking for volunteer tour guides. Tickets will be sold starting September 1st. Dilworth PTA will have a refreshment kiosk in the neighborhood during the event, and the same offer is open to the Fulton PTA. The Union Project will be open during the tour and they plan on having their coffee shop open as well. The HPCDC should have one of the current construction projects open for the tour. Posters need to be hung around the city. If you can put some at your place of employment or while visiting friends, please contact Amy Maceyko, Peter Hughes or Brigitte Nadler.

Newsletter--Lisa Williams reminded everyone that any ads and articles are due by the date of the monthly meeting (third Thursday of the month).

Children's Committee--Rachel Matos reports that there are activities for the kids at all 5 Reservoir of Jazz concerts this year. The kids are painting and making instruments. The bands have invited the kids to stand in front of the stage and play with them using the instruments they have made. Rachel is looking for assistance with the Fall Harvest Party, taking place on November 5th (tentative date). If you can assist with setup, cleanup or with the activities for an hour or two, please contact Rachel.

Block Watch/ Public Safety-- Jan Stayianos left copies of the crime statistics for the East End of the neighborhood. There have been reports of a scam artist, calling himself "Tony", who is asking for money in the neighborhood. He is a well-groomed, polite, African American male, who approaches folks at their homes or on the street. Tony's story is detailed further in this newsletter. If you see this man, don't give him money and call 911. It is a crime to ask for money under false pretenses.

A neighbor reported that the neighborhood kids, including the Fulton students (when school was in session) have been vandalizing her yard and leaving trash. They also have been verbally abusive to her. Although she has reported this to the proper authorities, it has continued. Bob Staresinic will see if anything can be done about this with Fulton school.

Community Festival - Bob Staresinic reports that the festival will not be held this year, and that a Spring Festival is being considered.

Joanne Luchsinger from the Pittsburgh Festival Orchestra introduced herself. The orchestra performs free concerts, and uses St Andrews Church for many events. If you are interested in more information, contact them at 602 Whitney Ave, Suite #1, Pgh, PA 15221.

The September meeting is the Annual Members meeting and will include elections of new Board members and Officers for the HPCC. If you know of anyone who would be a good addition to the HPCC Board, please nominate them at the September meeting.

A resident asked the question about the status of the trees around the reservoir. There was a report that they would be removed from the perimeter of the upper reservoir, but they are still there. Bob Staresinic will try to invite someone to update us on the status for the September meeting.

The next meeting of the HPCC is Thursday, 9/15/05 at 7:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

St. Andrew's Church

5801 Hampton Street * Highland Park

Sunday Morning Services – September

9 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel

11 a.m. Choral Morning Worship

Nursery available during both services

9:45 am Church School / Classes

MidWeek Bible Study – Wed 10:30 am

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THE WAY WE WERE...

OUR SCHOOLS

Pat Miller

Now that school has started again let's look back at the history of schools in East Liberty/Highland Park. We got our first school in 1809 when Jacob Negley built a one-room frame schoolhouse at Penn and Highland where the East Liberty Presbyterian Church now stands.

In 1840 free public schools began. Within 20 years we had: "Village School" at Center and Highland, "Liberty Township School" between Negley and St. Clair, and "Old Highland School" on Collins Ave. between Rodman and Hoeveler. Each had only one or two rooms.

By 1869 there were three new schools, all bigger than just one or two rooms. One was the Hiland Grade School in the Hiland Bldg. at Hiland and Margaretta. Torn down in 1901, it was three stories high and had 500 students. The other two were the Lincoln Bldg. on Frankstown Ave. (still there in 1928 but after that who knows); and the Liberty Bldg. on Ellsworth Ave. Not only was it still there in 1928 but it is still there today as Liberty Elementary School.

By the 1890s East Liberty had a new school at St. Clair and Hampton. It was named after Robert Fulton who had been the first principal of the Hiland Grade School. Another was the Margaretta Elementary School, which opened in 1902 on the site of the former Hiland Grade School. Another new school was Peabody, then a grade school, on Black Street. Morningside School was built in 1905 giving us four schools.

But that was just the beginning. What became Peabody High School was built in 1911 at North Highland and Margaretta on the site of the 1902

Margaretta Elementary School. Before 1911 there were only three high schools in all of Pittsburgh: Central, Fifth Ave., and South Side. In 1912, when Peabody High School opened, 600 students were enrolled. The school was named after Dr. Benjamin Peabody, a surgeon in the Union Army, who moved to Pittsburgh in 1870, served on the school board, and lived in the 800 block of North Highland Ave. What is particularly interesting about Peabody High School as it stands today (there was a major remodeling in 1976) is that the Margaretta Elementary School's columns (built in 1901) are still visible today as Peabody High School's four columns facing on East Liberty Blvd.

When the Margaretta Elementary School was converted to a high school, new grade schools had to be created to deal with the displaced children. That's when, in 1915, we got Rogers School and Dilworth School both of which are with us today.

By the mid-1930s our area had nine grade schools: Osceola, Friendship, Shakespeare, Lemington, Larimer, Fulton, Rogers, Dilworth, and Sunnyside. In addition to Peabody High School we had Liberty Junior High School.

Junior high schools have now gone the way of buggy whips and hoop skirts. Peabody survives, as do all those 1930s grade schools in one form or another except Osceola and Shakespeare. The Pittsburgh School Board is now dealing with the need for more school closings. Where will that leave us? Back to the four schools of 1905? Stay tuned.

Do we all hope those 1902 Peabody High School/Margaretta Grade School columns survive any school closing? Yes, because that's history!



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The House Tour is Approaching Quickly!

Amy Maceyko

Highland Park House Tour:
Saturday, October 1, 2005
11am to 7pm
Tickets: \$18 Pre-sale/\$20 Day of tour
Tour begins at St. Andrews Episcopal Church

The recently finished, restored first floor of the King Estate is on the tour along with 10 other private homes.

This is the last newsletter that will be published before the house tour, so if you are interested in volunteering or attending the house tour, now is the time to pay attention!

The theme of the house tour is "Welcome Back to Highland Park" - after a year of welcoming visitors to the neighborhood for the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy Hat Luncheon, the Junior League Show House, the celebrations at The Union Project and to see the new fountain at the park entrance - this is our last big event this year. We have found an excellent group of houses to showcase our neighborhood. Several homes have been recently renovated, the homes are spread out throughout the neighborhood and they represent a variety of architectural styles.

We are still in need of volunteers to work the day of the tour. A few volunteers are still needed at the King Estate and people are needed for both the first and second shift. The first shift will be from 10:45am to 3pm and the second shift will be from 2:45pm to 7pm. We will also need a few people to help set-up and clean-up before and after the tour. If you have a shift preference, please mention it when you volunteer - which you can do by emailing Amy Maceyko at housetour@highlandparkpa.com or by calling Brigitte Nadler at 412-363-6869. All volunteers will receive a free ticket to the tour, which they can use during the shift that they aren't working. In addition, volunteers will be invited to a party in late October as an additional thank-you.

Tickets are now on sale. You can reserve tickets by calling 412-665-3646 or tickets can be purchased in person at Enrico's Tazza D'oro and Food Glorious Food in Highland Park. Also, tickets will be sold at Richard Lawrence Interiors in Shadyside and Ramsey Antiques in Blawnox. Please invite your coworkers, friends and family to attend the tour! If anyone has a location where they would like to put

up a poster (or several), you can request one by e-mailing housetour@highlandparkpa.com.

Lastly, please remember that this will be a great day for our neighborhood to shine - we will be hosting visitors from all over the region during the course of the day. We would greatly appreciate it if neighbors all over Highland Park would use as much off-street parking as possible - this will leave on-street space so that our elderly and disabled visitors to be able to park near the featured homes. And, of course, please continue to be the friendly and helpful neighbors that we have all come to expect!

Thank you - and we hope to see you all on October 1st!

Amy Maceyko and Brigitte Nadler
Co-chairs, Highland Park House Tour



Time to Revive the Beautification Committee!

Dana Thomas

Until recently, Dell Ziegler has diligently lead our Beautification Committee by creating various lush garden plots throughout our neighborhood as well as monitoring eyesores that can be easily brightened and refreshed. As Dell now is devoting his time to the critical Zoning Committee, I have volunteered to take over Beautification. I have many ideas for the direction of this committee along with big and small ideas on what we can accomplish.

As I begin the process of determining the goals and objectives of this committee, I am looking for community input on how the committee can best fit our needs and make a big impact with realistic projects.

To get your thoughts started, here are some ideas I have come up with thus far:

- * Developing a plan to plant "non-destructive" trees along barren streets, such as within the southwest quadrant (including finding professional horticultural / planning input on how to successfully achieve this goal). This idea could also become a service to residents who would like to plant a tree in front of their home

- * Decorative Lighting along Bryant Street to attract attention to it from Highland Avenue

- * Having a plan in place to tackle graffiti when it happens

- * Continue to maintain the addition of garden plots throughout the neighborhood

- * Finding ways of collecting perennials, grasses, and shrubbery to compliment areas of our neighborhood. As Bob Staresinic mentioned, a plant swap has been held before or mentioned as a way to collect plants and materials inexpensively and easily. A fund drive could also be held as part of this to cover what our committee budget cannot or to prepare to tackle a large project such as tree planting or lighting.

- * Providing a service to community members who need assistance with completing curb-appeal projects

- * Developing a regular web-site feature that points out homes that are beautifully maintained or recently improved by new owners AS WELL AS landlord eyesores with the absentee landlord information printed. The committee members can also keep track of new landlord information on property acquisitions so that we can stay informed on who owns problem property in our neighborhood

These are only initial thoughts I have come up with and are nowhere near being implemented or finalized. Please mail or email your thoughts to me by using the below addresses. Also, if you or someone you know may be able to provide related services to us through donated materials or consultation, I would love to speak with you. And, as always, if you are interested in becoming or still being a part of the Beautification Committee, please mail or email your contact information to me. It is exciting to think about all of the ways we can enhance our already-beautiful neighborhood.

Thank-you!!

Dana Thomas
838 North Saint Clair Street
danathomas838@hotmail.com

Tai Chi in the Fall

Susy Robison

Weekly, fall, Tai Chi classes begin at St. Andrew's in Highland Park on Monday, September 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Tai Chi, practiced by men and women of all ages, is an ancient Chinese system of exercise with slow and gentle motion that raises and balances the energy of the body leading to improved health and vitality. In addition Tai Chi can be a Martial Art or system of self-defense and a meditation in motion.

Our instructor will be Judy Crow who trained in the Yang style Long Form by Y.K. Chou and has taught Tai Chi for twenty years in the Pittsburgh area.

This 10 week Basic Level Tai Chi course will be held Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. starting September 12th. The fee for the 10 week course is \$55.00 per person or bring a friend for \$100. Classes will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street in Highland Park.

If there is enough interest, a Second Level Tai Chi Class will be held from 8:00 – 9:15 p.m. To register or for more information please call Judy at 412-363-2748.

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Block Watch

Jan Stayianos

Summer is always a tough time when it comes to crime. Young kids roam the streets and get into trouble because they have nothing constructive to do. The police have their hands full with shootings all over the city.

Our crime statistics in Highland Park are up a little. Reported as follows:

June: Aggravated Assault (2-5800 Wellesley, 900 Mellon); Burglary (4 – 3 residence*, 1 business); Theft (10 – 1 from person, 7 from vehicle, 2 from residence); Vehicle Theft (4 -2 – 900 Elgin, 5500 Jackson***, 5600 Wellesley); Drugs (5500 Wellesley, Mellon Terrace**, 900 Costar Way, 900 Roxanna Way, Stanton/Lake Dr*)

July: Robbery (1 – Hampton / Heths); Burglary (10 – 7 residence**, 2 business*); Theft (11 – 7 from person, 4 from vehicle); Guns (900 Mellon*)

* indicates arrests were made

Two Highland Park residents were arrested on drug charges – Alex Smith (Stanton/Lake Dr) and Dwayne Rainey (900 Mellon). Other drug arrests were as follows: William Scot and Kenneth George of Apollo (Mellon Terrace), Albert Siriano of West End and Kareem Alexander of Homewood (900 Costar Way).

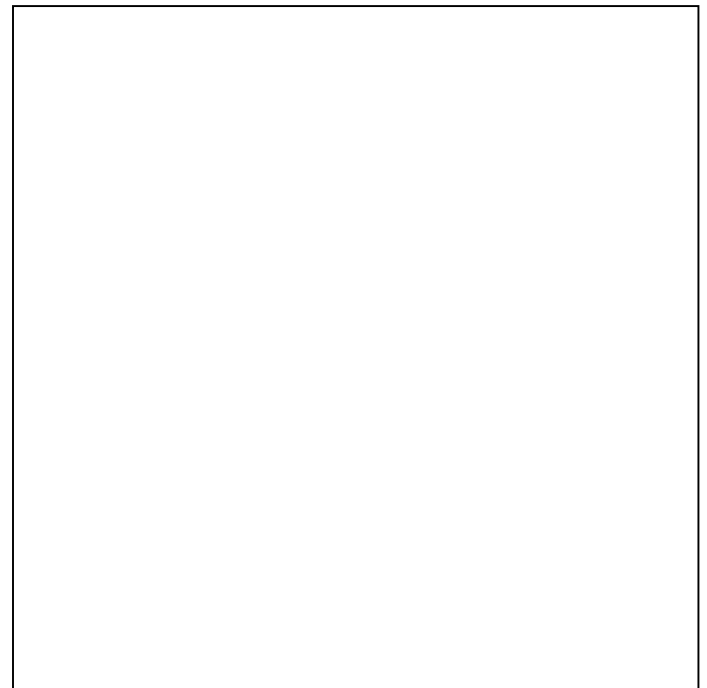
In May I mentioned a scam artist working Friendship and East Liberty. That information came from Commander Brackney at the April Public Safety meeting. Well, folks, he has come to Highland Park in a big way! People all over Highland Park have given him money. I never had one phone call, so I had no idea he was working our neighborhood until he appeared at my door one morning. After Bob put a message on the e-mail list for me and printed some responses for me, I realized he had been around Highland Park for months. I want to emphasize that I had not receive one phone call and I don't know how many people even called 911. For anyone who doesn't know about this guy, please read below.

Everyone is calling him "Tony" because that is what he has told people his name is, but it may not be. He is about 6 feet tall, nice looking, medium skinned African American, well groomed, well spoken, mustache, short hair, wears a New York Yankees cap and a towel around his neck at times and usually carries papers in his hand. Some people have seen him on a bike. His story is that his car broke down and he needs a small amount of money for the tow truck. The story changes in slight ways. He usually says he lives a few doors from the person

he is approaching. He must look through mail because he has used correct names. He has done a few scary things like come out of the bushes in the middle of the night and he has gone into one family's yard and was talking to young children. The last few people approached said he said "Don't worry; I'm not a rapist or mugger." As of last week he seems to have shaved his head and mustache. I need someone else to confirm that fact, please.

The most important thing is - DO NOT give him money and call 911 immediately if he comes to your door. Mention to 911 that this is the scam artist we are trying to catch and to please send someone as quickly as possible. It is never appropriate for an officer to say there is nothing they can do. It is important that any time you call 911 for any reason, to get the car number, which is on the car door. If you ever need to report that you are dissatisfied with a 911 response, you will need the car number, date, time, address, etc. Call Commander Brackney at Zone 5, 412-665-3607. I have asked on the HPCC e-mail list that people call me after they call 911 regarding "Tony" so that I can keep a record and see if there is a pattern. Zone 5 does not have the manpower to do that.

If you have any questions, please call me at 412-363-8208. Continue to be diligent regarding your homes, vehicles, and neighborhood. Report crimes, drug activity or suspicious behavior to 911. Don't forget to use silent complaint forms. I have them or they can be picked up at Zone 5. Let's all work to keep our neighborhood safe.



The Tuesday Musical Club

The Tuesday Musical Club, a non profit organization whose mission is to promote the enjoyment and performance of classical and traditional music throughout the Pittsburgh area, will be having their annual fund raiser "A Festival for All Ages", at St. Andrew's Church on Hampton Avenue in Highland Park on Saturday, October 15th from 11:00 to 3:00 p.m. There will be food, music, and activities for children as well as adults.

Tuesday Musical Club provides scholarships for young musicians, community outreach through choral and instrumental performances at nursing homes, venues for local composers who are club members to have their compositions performed, master classes, and also the opportunity for members to exhibit their talent in performances in and around the city. We hope you will join us on Saturday, October 15th for an afternoon of fun, and perhaps be inspired to join TMC and let that bud of a musician which you always knew was there blossom.

Reaching Up

to God with many voices and various styles

Worship Schedule, Sept 11 to mid-June

SUNDAYS

8 am Good Samaritan Worship
A service of music, prayer and personal witness.

9 am Morning Glory Worship
An uplifting, informal service with music of praise.

9:45 am Christian Education
Classes for all ages. Childcare available.

11 am Sanctuary Worship
Our largest worship service offering thought-provoking sermons, the Chancel Choir and organ in our beautiful and historic Sanctuary. Music begins at 10:45 am.

MONDAYS

10 am-3 pm Labyrinth Prayer Walk
An ancient tool for individual walking meditation.

WEDNESDAYS

10 am-9 pm Labyrinth Prayer Walk
An ancient tool for individual walking meditation.

7 pm Taizé Sung Prayer
A candlelight service with silent meditation and



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By-Law Changes

Dell Ziegler

In January, 2005, President Bob Staresinic initiated a series of meetings with present and former Board members to examine club functions and ongoing action for improvement and streamlining.

One suggestion was to look at our by-laws. A committee of five (Kate Corrigan, John Cirolì, Andrea Mudd, Mike Nadler, and Dell Ziegler) met numerous times over several months and presented proposed revisions to the entire committee. The proposals were then presented to the entire Board for discussion and changes.

They now must be voted on by the membership at our annual meeting in September. Below is an explanation of the changes and the actual proposed NEW by-lays.

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO HPCC BY-LAWS

We have cleaned up some of the out-dated, formalistic language and reduced the length from 6 to 4 pages. The substantive changes are as follows:

Art. I. Name.

Change "Club" to "Council" so that our name is the Highland Park Community Council.

This change keeps the same initials but uses a more accurate name for our organization. "Club" may have fit back in 1945 but today conveys the wrong impression of exclusivity and that we are primarily a social organization. This affects our recruiting of new members and our dealings with government and other organizations. No other community organizations in Pittsburgh are called "clubs".

Art. III. Membership

Section 1.2. We have retained the present structure of two types of members-Full members (all adults over 18 in a member household) and Associate members (anyone else, including corporations, associations, etc). Every present member in the HPCC is a Full member, with voting privileges. We decided to retain the power (even though not presently used) to have associate members, who have no voting power, in case we wished to offer it to businesses, organizations or individuals who have an effect on the neighborhood.

Section 3. For a number of years, we have offered a dues reduction to people of lesser financial means and as a way to attract new members. This section has been clarified to explicitly recognize the power of the Board to vary the amount of dues for different members.

Art. V. Board of Directors

Section 2. We reduced the size of the Board from 21 to 13 persons because 21 is too unwieldy and unnecessary, and has resulted in the lack of a quorum to conduct business at numerous meetings in recent years. We will go from 15 to 9 Directors, still with staggered 3-year terms (so that 3 of 9 directors leave and 3 new directors are elected each year). We will also go from 6 to 4 officers, eliminating the Vice-President for Community Development (which has been inactive for several years) and the Immediate Past President from the Board.

Section 5, 6, 8. At present, the quorum required to transact business at a meeting is 8 of the 21 members of the Board. Since the size of the Board is being reduced, the size of the quorum is also being reduced, to 6 of 13.

Section 8. The current by-laws provide that, to transact business (pass a motion), there must first be a quorum present, with motions carried by a majority of those voting. It has been the practice for years to take telephone polls of Directors when a quorum was not present at a meeting. We are adding a provision to explicitly allow business to be transacted by a poll of the entire Board by the Presiding Officer (usually the President). The poll may be by telephone, in person, or other communication. Decisions are still determined by a majority of those voting.

Special meetings of the Board (so rare that no one can remember one) presently require a quorum of 11 of the 21 Board members. Since we reduced the size of the Board, we are reducing the size of this quorum to 8.

Art. VI. Meetings of Members

Section 3. Special meetings of members (very rarely used) may be called by the President, by 8 members of the Board or by 25 members. We have reduced the required number to call such a meeting to 6 Board members or 20 members.

Section 5. Full members include all adults (18 or older) in a household. This provision has been greatly simplified to state what has been the practice for voting, namely that each adult gets one vote.

Section 6. The number of Full Members for a quorum has been reduced from 25 to 20 for any annual or special meeting.

Art. VII. Officers

Section 1,3,4 The Officers are the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary. The Vice-President is no longer called the "Executive" Vice-President and no longer automatically becomes the President at the end of his term. The position of Community Development Vice-President is eliminated since it has been inactive for several years and its intended functions are being handled by others.

Section 7. There was no by-law governing the term of office for officers. The existing practice has been terms of one year, with officers frequently being reelected for additional terms.

This provision now explicitly states that the term of office is one year and that officers may be elected to serve consecutive terms.

Art. VIII. Committees

Section 1, 2. We retain the current arrangement of a few standing (permanent) committees plus any other committees (the vast majority) appointed by the President or Board. Community Development and Recreation will no longer be standing committees (but may always be appointed as needed.). The intent is to be as flexible as possible and to limit the standing committees to as few as possible, to avoid having to revise the bylaws if they become unnecessary.

Section 5. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President and at least two other members. We have added the President to this Committee since he/she probably is the most familiar with issues affecting the neighborhood and gets to know and meet many of the members.

Art. IX. Rules

Section 2. To be consistent with the practice of the last 25 years, we have eliminated the requirement that resolutions by members at annual or special meetings be in writing and filed with the Secretary.

Section 3. Also to be consistent with practice, we have eliminated the requirement that all reports of officers and committees be in writing. (The President and the Board still have the option to require written reports as needed).

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HIGHLAND PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL, INC.. BY-LAWS**ARTICLE I, NAME**

The organization shall be called the Highland Park Community Council, Inc.

ARTICLE II, MISSION

The mission shall be to take a leading role in the community activities that promote and enhance the quality of life in the Highland Park area.

ARTICLE III, MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. There shall be two classes of membership: Full Membership with full voting privileges and Associate Membership with no voting privileges.

SECTION 2. The qualifications for membership are:

a. Eligible for Full Membership are adults (18 years old or older) of a household having a concern for and interest in the mission of the organization.

b. Eligible for Associate Membership are any persons who are not eligible for or admitted as Full Members and partnerships, corporations, and other organizations and entities.

SECTION 3. All candidates for Full Membership shall submit an application for membership and full payment of the dues then determined by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4. Any member who fails to pay dues within sixty days after they are due will be suspended from exercising all rights and privileges of membership and, if applicable, of office, by majority vote of the Board of Directors. Such suspension shall cease upon payment of all overdue dues.

ARTICLE IV, DUES

SECTION 1. The dues payment year for Full and Associate Memberships will be a twelve month period ending on August 31 of each year. No proration of dues for a partial year shall be permitted.

SECTION 2. Dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and shall remain in effect until changed.

SECTION 3. The Membership Chair shall accept dues payments, keep membership records, and promptly forward collections to the Treasurer for recording and deposit. The same person shall not hold the separate offices of Treasurer and Membership Chair. No other individuals, officers or directors are authorized to receive and record dues payments on behalf of the HPCC.

SECTION 4. The HPCC Newsletter will be the initial notice for the amount and due date of annual dues. Written notices will be sent to non-paying members. Suspensions described in Article III, Section 4 do not require written notice by the Membership Chair.

ARTICLE V, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. The Board of Directors shall have general charge, management, and control of funds, property, and activities of the organization and shall authorize and control all expenditures.

SECTION 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of thirteen (13) persons: nine (9) Directors and four (4) Officers, being the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

SECTION 3. The term of office of the Directors shall be three years, with three members to be elected each year. No Director shall serve consecutive terms. However, Directors in office shall continue until their successors are elected.

SECTION 4. Any Director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President. Resignations shall be effective at the time stated and need not be accepted to be effective. Any Director elected as an Officer automatically resigns as an elected Director. Any Director not attending three consecutive meetings without being excused shall be removed from the Board.

SECTION 5. Any vacancy among the Board of Directors may be filled for the unexpired term by a quorum vote of six Members of the Board of Directors, with the recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

SECTION 6. The Board of Directors shall meet monthly on the third Thursday of each month, unless otherwise agreed to by a quorum of six of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 7. Notices of each annual or special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given by the Secretary or the President to each member of the Board either by mail, personally, or by telephone at least five days before the meeting is to be held.

SECTION 8. a) To transact business at any regular scheduled meeting, a quorum shall consist of six Directors or Officers. Business may also be transacted by a majority vote of a poll of the entire Board conducted by the President or presiding officer. Such poll may be in person, by telephone, or by other means.

b) At any special meeting of the Board, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be open to any Full or Associate member.

SECTION 10. All motions at any regularly scheduled monthly meeting are to be voted on by the Board of Directors only.

ARTICLE VI, MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

SECTION 1. The annual meeting of members shall be held on the third Thursday of September of each year or as set by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. The order of business at the annual meeting shall be: 1) Annual committee reports, 2) Election of Officers and Directors, and 3) New business.

SECTION 3. Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called by the President when so ordered by six members of the Board of Directors, or upon written request of twenty or more members.

SECTION 4. Written notice of the time and place of the annual or any special meeting shall be mailed to each member at least five days before the date of such meeting.

SECTION 5. At all annual or special meetings, each Full Member shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

SECTION 6. Twenty or more Full members present at any annual or special meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VII, OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The Officers shall be the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary.

SECTION 2. The President shall be the chief executive officer and shall have the general supervision of all business and affairs of the organization, subject to the control of the Board of Directors. The President may sign and execute, in the name of the organization, such contracts and other instruments as may be authorized by the Board of Directors, and in general shall perform all duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. The Vice-President shall assist the President in the discharge of his duties, and in the absence of the President, shall perform the duties of the President, and when so acting shall have and may exercise the power of the President.

SECTION 4. The Treasurer shall receive, collect, disburse, have custody of, and be responsible for, all funds and securities of the organization. The Treasurer shall deposit all funds in the name of the organization in such banks, trust companies, and other depositories as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall submit a written financial report at the annual meeting of the membership; shall, when requested, report at all regularly scheduled meetings of the Board of Directors; and shall, when requested, exhibit the books of account and records to any member of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chair of the Finance Committee or a member of the Finance Committee designated by its Chair, shall perform the duties of Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Finance Committee and recommended by the Nominating Committee.

SECTION 5. The Secretary shall keep a list of the members, shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the President or the Board.

SECTION 6. In the event of the death or resignation of any Officer, the Board of Directors, upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee, shall fill such vacancy for the unexpired term.

SECTION 7. The term of office for Officers shall be one year. Officers may serve consecutive terms.

ARTICLE VIII, COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. The following standing committees shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the Board of Directors: (1) Finance, (2) Nominating, and (3) Membership.

SECTION 2. The President and the Board may appoint such other committees as deemed appropriate.

SECTION 3. A majority of the members of any committee or sub-committee present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Committee action may be taken by correspondence, telephone or other communication and the vote of the majority shall constitute the action of the committee.

SECTION 4. The Finance Committee shall establish a budget for each year and shall submit the budget for approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at the October Board meeting along with recommendations for the amount of dues. The Finance Committee shall make recommendations on all individual expenditures not budgeted for and greater than \$250. The fiscal year shall end on August 31.

SECTION 5. The Nominating Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, and at least two other members and shall prepare an annual slate of proposed Officers and Directors.

SECTION 6. The Membership Committee shall solicit membership in the organization and shall report to the Board regarding new members accepted and members considered to be not in good standing.

ARTICLE IX, RULES

SECTION 1. All meetings of the organization shall be governed by parliamentary law in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, except as otherwise provided in these by-laws.

SECTION 2. No member shall represent him or herself as an agent of or for the organization unless specifically designated by a quorum vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. The order of business at all meetings shall be determined by the President or presiding Officer.

ARTICLE X, INDEMNIFICATION

The organization shall indemnify each person who is or has been a Director or Officer or who served at the request of the HPCC, or other affiliated corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, or other enterprise, against expenses, attorneys fees, judgments, fines, and amounts paid in settlement, actually or reasonably incurred by each such person engaged in the normal business of the HPCC to the fullest extent to which Directors, Officers, agents and employees may be indemnified under Pennsylvania law. A copy of the insurance policy providing such indemnification shall be maintained by the President or Treasurer.

ARTICLE XI, AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any annual or special meeting, provided that ten days advance written notice of the proposed amendment, setting forth the text thereof in full, shall have been given to all members.

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Union Project Update

Justin Rothshank

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The first portion of restoration work is nearing completion at the Union Project. Lots of volunteers are needed during the following dates to assist with the Magic Penny Garden, cable installation, painting, staining, and cleaning. If you are able to help please email Justin@unionproject.org or call 412-478-3105. There is lots of work to be done.

Every Weekday, 10 am to 4 pm

Saturday, August 13, 9 am to 3 pm

Saturday, August 20, 9 am to 3 pm

Saturday, Sept 10, 9 am to 3 pm

Glass Restoration and Team Building @ Union Project

Do you want to build relationships with your co-workers, staff, or employees? Union Project is expanding its revolutionary stained glass restoration classes to the broader Pittsburgh business community. We would like to work with your business or organization to provide a valuable service in relationship and team building, while at the same time promoting volunteerism and service

to the community. Union Project will host your group of between 4 and 12 individuals for half-day, full-day, or weekend long workshops concentrating on team building and the importance of good working relationships. Your group will assist in and/or complete the full restoration of a historic stained glass window that will be permanently reinstalled into the Union Project.

Union Project staff skilled in leadership initiatives will lead the team building portion of the classes. Catherine Berard of Prism Stained Glass is the primary instructor for stained glass portion of the classes. Cost for each workshop is determined by the number of participants in each workshop. Union Project will work with your group to determine the workshop cost.

Create Mosaic Furniture at Union Project!

Students enrolled in this class will learn how to create their own glass mosaic furniture. Students will have the choice of working on tabletops that will remain at Union Project for use in Union Station café or students can provide their own furniture to mosaic. All other class materials and tools will be provided. Tools will remain the property of Union Project but will be available for use during class sessions. Cost for this class will be \$125 per student. Classes will take place on Saturday mornings from 9 am to 12 pm beginning September 17 thru October 22. Pittsburgh mosaic artist Lauren Blair will be the class instructor. Deadline to register is September 10. Please contact Justin@unionproject.org or call 412-478-3104 with questions.

School Board Update

Patrick Dowd

A year ago, I wrote in this space about the Pittsburgh Board of Education's hope of building an Accountability Contract. The Board has realized that goal. In fact, this week the new Accountability Contract goes into effect between the Board of Education and Mark Roosevelt. This is the beginning of a new day for the Pittsburgh Public Schools and, as we said last year, this is the foundation for improving the quality of education and the fiscal responsibility of our public schools.

In the past, contracts between the Board of Education and Superintendents were not at all clear about roles and responsibility and they lacked significant accountability mechanisms. They tended to generate distrust, micromanagement and blame shifting. The real losers were the students and taxpayers. The new contract offers

the possibility of moving beyond those traditional problems.

The new Accountability Contract calls for the Board and Superintendent to operate as a leadership team divided by different roles and responsibilities but working collaboratively for all children in Pittsburgh. On the side of the executive, it states that the Superintendent is responsible for providing "the leadership and the management for the total operation of the district." At the same time, the contract obligates the Superintendent to maintain full and open communication with all members of the Board and to work collaboratively with them. On the side of the legislative body, the new contract states very clearly that the Board is responsible for policy making, planning, advocating, and monitoring of performance. The Board, in other words, does not manage. For example, in a abrupt break with the past, the contract states that "the Board will not be involved in personnel supervision or evaluation or other personnel matters."

The contract lays out clear performance priorities by which the Superintendent will be evaluated. In Year One the Board expects the Superintendent to craft a comprehensive education reform agenda for improving student achievement and closing the racial achievement gap. Furthermore, he is to improve relations with the community, balance the budget, improve evaluation systems and reorganize the facilities. There will be no confusion. The contract also lays out a very clear process for establishing performance priorities in the succeeding years. Finally, the contract states that if the Superintendent fulfills these priorities he will receive a significant salary increase.

Through this contract, the Board has very explicitly legislated job descriptions, standards and performance priorities where once there were none. Using the contract's standards, voters can measure the actions and inactions of their individual representatives. Additionally, the public must hold accountable the Board as a whole. In the past, citizens have called for the creation of an appointed Board. Then, as now, that call was premature. As the Board moves forward into this new era it has an improved opportunity to become a policy making body seeking the good of all students. If it rises to that occasion, the Board can prevent the possibility of radical restructuring.

Responsibility for the success of the new contract rests in large part with the citizens of Pittsburgh. In this new era, the citizens will be called upon to participate in such projects as building an education reform agenda and closing schools. They will be asked to work with students and assist parents. They will have to elect responsible Board members and hold the whole Board accountable. All of this will be challenging and will require new ways of engaging our public schools. The Accountability Contract presents Pittsburgh with an opportunity for real change. On this new day, let us break from the unproductive traditions of the past, harness our resources and build a bright future for our students and our City.

Daniel J. Landis

Sales Associate

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SEPTEMBER 2005 CALENDAR

Sept 9	ELPC Choir presents "A Cabaret Evening of Fun and Song", 7:30 pm, East Liberty Presbyterian Church
Sept 11	St. Andrew's "Round Up"
Sept 15	HPCC Annual Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm, St. Andrews
Sept 15	HPCC Newsletter Articles Due! Send to editor@highlandparkpa.com
Oct 1	Highland Park House Tour, 11 - 7
Oct 15	Tuesday Musical Club annual "A Festival for All Ages", 11 – 3, St. Andrews