

## **UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

### **March Meeting**

**3/22/16 6:30 PM**

**Present:** Mickey Vertino, Linda Garwol, Annmarie Ranger, Mary Ouimette-Kinney, Larry Kinney, Matt Kopalek, Andrew Sauer, Tucker Curtain, Sister Jeremy Midura, Garry Codick, Paul Neubecker, Jonathan Welch, Darren Cotton

### **Old Business**

- DPW looking into grant that can cover garbage can replacement
- UB Community Day - April 2<sup>nd</sup>

### **Business Association Membership Drive**

- 10 currently paid members at least 5 others who are interested
- Aim for 15 members to have elections
- Bank balance is \$11, 540.76
- Will try to put bylaws up online and publicly accessible
- Talk to banks about becoming members
- 7-11 would join, maybe Walgreens

### **UHAA Festival**

- Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> Noon until 6PM – doubled in size last year
- Looking for more business involvement – participation is key
- Had 35 vendors last year
- Cluster of activities around St. Andrew's Church near Lisbon and Main
- Partnering with Independent Living
- Think of out of the box ideas: Food decorating, sculpture garden

### **Better Buffalo Fund**

- University District Community Development Association (UDCDA) is applying for Better Buffalo Funds on behalf of Bailey Avenue and Main Street
- Up to \$300,000 for each corridor to fund building renovations/facade improvements
- Applications due on March 28th
- Currently have three interested property owners along Main Street
- UDCDA will find out if they've been awarded funding in Summer 2016
- Property owners will then apply to the UDCDA for funding
- Grant covers 75% of project costs but is reimbursement based (owner needs to fund project 100% upfront)

### **ReTree the District**

- Planting another 200 trees in University District
- Meet at Kapoor Hall on UB South Campus at 9AM
- Saturday, April 16th

- Donate by visiting:  
<https://www.givegab.com/nonprofits/university-heights-tool-library/campaigns/retree-the-district>

### **Main Street Cleanup**

- May 7<sup>th</sup> 9:30-1:00PM: mulching tree pits and general cleanup
- From Hertel Avenue to Kenmore Avenue
- Mulch alternatives that might last longer than wood mulch? – Tucker will look into it

### **Impact Team**

- Linda's clean-up/watering activities will be taken over by the impact team
- City doesn't have the resources to deal with all the quality of life issues that come in through 311
- Designated team that could address projects in the community
- Watering and maintaining flower pots, mulching, cleanups, removing graffiti
- Community-driven impact team
- Hope to get it up and running the next few months
- Looking at data and analysis, how can we do this work more efficiently?
- Incorporate lawn care and snow removal – private funds to help support community initiatives
- Partner with NFTA on cleanups around station
- Meeting with CAO group that is already doing this
- Stepniak is looking at this project as a pilot – potentially giving equipment to organizations who can get the work done
- Council Member on Hertel bought snow plow for community but there were issues with insurance

### **Main Street Design Standards**

- Partner with the UB School of Architecture and Planning to draft some design standards
- When grants like the Better Buffalo Fund become available, guidelines will help direct investment
- Once we get more members we should set up a committee

### **Buffalo Green Code**

- Last phase of adoption = last chance for us to get any requests in for our community
- Rezone certain parcels along Main Street and Kenmore into something more walkable
- Draft a support letter by the next meeting

### **Council Member Press Release**

- Removal of the medians – city is in support of it, majority of the community would like to see bike lanes
- How can we make Main Street safer, more walkable

### **New Business**

- Banners along Main Street – last time banners were up were in 1998
- Medians – who is going to repair the medians while we wait for them to be removed
- Signage needs to be reinstalled with striping
- Artcovs - UHAA debuting freestanding art stalls that bring art and creativity to different public places
- UB on the Green - [Wednesdays on July 20, 27 and August 3 at 6-8pm Hayes Hall Lawn.](#)

Next meeting will be **April 26, 2016 at 6:30PM** at the CoLab located at 9 W. Northrup Place.

Please visit [www.ourheights.org/mainstreetbiz](http://www.ourheights.org/mainstreetbiz) for meeting minutes and to learn more about the Business Association