

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes
June 16, 2020

Meeting called together at 7:00 PM over Zoom by President Ann Forrest, 13 people watching.

Supporting the Black Lives Movement seemed more relevant than discussing recycling this month, so that was put off for another meeting. A group of folks participated in shows of support of Black Lives by standing on corners on Northgate Way holding signs last Friday evening. They received a lot of support from passing cars. The plan is to continue on Friday nights. There was much debate about the community council issuing official support for the issue rather than just being individual members, although we haven't tended to be political up until now. However, "Staying silent isn't an option," was mentioned.

As far as requests for help, Ann hasn't heard anything directly. If people need something they are turning to Facebook or other social media outlets.

The Public Health Clinic on Meridian Avenue continues to need donations of cloth masks they can hand out to visitors. There was some talk of organizing an assembly party if we can gather enough supplies.

We still have Welcome Packets available for new neighbors. If you see someone move in, let us know and we'll get Sheila on it.

The Lake City Farmer's Market has been canceled this year. Lake Forest Park is still doing one on Sundays.

If folks are interested in garden tours for their particular block, we would like to help organize (and publicize) them. Ann is doing one for her block across from the park.

We're going to attempt to put on our annual potluck social on July 21st. But instead of having people bringing and sharing food this year, we'll just provide free ice cream (Ann's treat) and give it out. We think we can do this while maintaining social distancing. Ideally we will print up some stickers to put on the treats to help plug the community council.

Ann continues to test her GMRS radios which have greater range than walkie-talkies but without the cumbersome licensing that ham radios require. The radios are \$50 each and a license is \$70 which is good for 10 years. At some point she'll put on a workshop to let people know more about these.

Do you have kids? Do they like to be read to? Would they mind a dog sitting in? Ann has a trainee service dog and one of its tasks is to behave and become use to reading time with kids.

Last Sunday, Ann and Ryan shot five short emergency preparedness videos on topics like twin bucket toilets and useful apps to have on your phone. Eventually these will get posted on a website.

Ann will be hosting a virtual earthquake preparedness class on July 25th.

Someone asked if the playground equipment in the park was still closed? Apparently the yellow caution tape has disappeared but theoretically they are still off limits.

The park's guard rail replacement project is still a work-in-progress. City funding has dried up this year due to the virus, so we're on our own.

There was a discussion about outdoor cats and if the community council wants to make a stand on them. Views ranged from "cats will be cats" to "get off my lawn yah darn cats!" In the past the blog has pointed out various coyote and raccoon sightings in the neighborhood and warned of letting your cats outside ("[Coyotes In Victory Heights](#)", September 13, 2015; "[What's big and furry and likes to climb trees?](#)", January 28, 2013; "[Coyotes In The Neighborhood](#)", November 29, 2012). Someone also mentioned we have a pretty good sized raptor population now and they are perfectly happy to snatch up a cat if they find one. Everyone's heart drops when see a lost cat sign or posting, so try your best to protect your animals, they are your responsibility. (On a related note, it is in fact illegal to let your dog run without a leash in the park. Please respect the rules for everyone's safety.)

Minutes submitted by Ryan Johnson
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council