

Haw Creek Community Association Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:30pm
St John's Episcopal Church -290 Old Haw Creek Rd



Attending Board Members

- Nancy Baker
- Amanda Danner
- Eliza Gura
- Elizabeth Matthews
- Barber Melton
- Jason Monstrola
- Caroline Noor
- Kevin Wilson

Guests

- Colby Fox – Asheville Police Dept
- Jennifer Strules – BearWise
- Lora Sepion – City of Asheville
- Barb Mee – City of Asheville
- Patrick Gilbert – Haw Creek resident
- Brenda Mills -City of Asheville
- Community Members

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- The meeting was called to order by Caroline at 7:05pm
 - HCCA Association and Financial Updates:
 - Caroline presented a YTD financial update.
 - There were a few questions around the budget but no concerns.
 - East Asheville Library Update
 - Demo scheduled to begin in October with an eighteen-month timeline
 - Farewell to the Library party being held on September 28 at 3pm.
 - Looking to have donations for 8 rocking chairs.
 - Will still have playground space but it will be a smaller playspace than is there now.
 - Fire station will be unaffected.
 - This will be a LEAD silver building. Friends of the Library will still be involved during this time to try and help with opening.
 - Asheville Police Department
 - Community Resource Officer Colby Fox – Property crime and vehicle theft are on the rise in Asheville and nationwide.
 - Spruce Hill Apartments is working with APD so APD can see live video feed of Spruce Hill video cameras.

- Community Watch – looking to start a bunch of mini community watches within Haw Creek. Looking for street captains you would be the head of your street and they would report that to the head of the community watch who will relate with APD.
- If APD doesn't know crime is happening they can't apply any resources to those areas. Let APD know about issues or crime you might see. Call the non-emergency line at 828-252-1110.
- To help reduce mail theft, sign up for Informed Delivery through USPS.gov to help you know what will be coming in your mail each day.
- BearWise Program Update:
 - Looking to make Haw Creek a pilot program that will be run through the NC Wildlife Resource Commission.
 - Buncombe County has highest bear/people interactions in NC.
 - Want to understand how the bears respond when these new principles go into effect.
 - Twelve HOAs in Haw Creek have been approached with program. Two have agreed, two maybes, one doesn't feel the need this program because they already are BearWise, four other HOAs have gotten no responses, four HOAs were definite NO's.
 - Garbage surveys - # of cans tipped over to give estimate on the number of human/bear interactions. Haw creek had the highest number of trash spills from Haw Creek, Beverly Hills, Beaver Dam and Town Mountain communities.
- Update on Bell-Beverly Sidewalk
 - The design has change to minimize the number of street crossing. There is only one crossing which will have a rapid repeat walking beacon proposed at that crossing.
 - Environmental study done in the area.
 - Consultant has done drainage calculations. The project design is expected to completed by the end of the year.
 - The next phase is to secure Right of Way access. Once construction begins, expected to be a 15 month of construction project.
 - Sidewalk will be ADA compliant so power poles will be moved so they don't interfere with wheelchairs. City received 60% design plans from consultant, then opportunity for public input.
- Sidewalks 101
 - Sidewalks are important to the city as it shows when the city budgets for them.
 - To get from idea to project, the City starts with comprehensive plan priorities.
 - They look at the potential to build and funding sources.
 - There is a neighborhood sidewalk fund (\$400K per year) plus state partnerships and projects.
 - Will begin update of greenway, ADA plan, pedestrian plan, which should take 18-24 months to finish by a team by traffic, planning, and design staff.
 - Sidewalks are prioritized for proximity to destinations including parks, libraries, bus stops, schools, rec centers, grocery stores, etc. Some streets as needed linkages.
- City of Asheville Updates
 - The city is a having meeting Sept 23 3-5pm at A-B Tech to discuss the noise ordinance draft.

- Cool Green Asheville is a tree protection task force working on urban forest position and an urban forest masterplan.
- Asheville has lost 10% of its trees in the last 8 years, roughly 1600 acres in the last eight years, mostly by developers.
- Residents can sign up on the AshevilleNC.gov website to get notifications about development.
- Federal government hiring 14,000 people for the 2020 Census with pay at \$14/hour.