

**Morningside Area Community Council Monthly Meeting
December 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Conducted via Zoom Video Conferencing due to COVID-19**

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:07pm. Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Public Safety Report.
 - A. Sgt. Maddox from Zone 5 joined over the phone. He reported that there have been no crimes of note in Morningside, but that car and package thefts have been trending up in other areas surrounding the neighborhood. He advised that all residents keep their car doors locked (including when warming up their vehicles) and to keep valuables out of sight.
- III. Elected and Other Officials
 - A. Eric Williams from Mayor Peduto's office joined the meeting and had several announcements:
 1. Campaign sign recycling is currently happening at three locations around the city. More information:
<https://pittsburghpa.gov/dpw/yard-sign-recycling>
 2. The Snow Angels program is once again taking sign-ups for both participants and volunteers to shovel. You can call 311 to register. More information: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/snowangels>
 3. Mayor Peduto has turned over his proposed capital and operating budgets for 2021 over the city council for approval. There is a projected shortfall unless the city receives aid from the federal government. Eric also provided the following budget resources in the chat:
 - a) A copy of the mayor's speech can be found here:
https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/12071_2021_Budget_Speech.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3Td3D02JwzVFezKujOlwuhEOLQt7gbq8oqUlnWynicAbSbCc-FAdg-VMs
 - b) A copy of the operating budget can be found here:
https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/12065_2021_Mayor_s_Operating_Budget.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2xBJXFyzjP8sUZ-RwPWVD Aas4UUwjypocNK77y3WezSNY0SRRFi3wJAK4
 - c) A copy of the capital budget can be found here:
https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/12066_Mayor_s_2021_Capital_Budget_11-09-20.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2t36wRYbaM5NX4Q XvdeDoHAX81pqA9eZfOaDkdilsSbGv78Bz8ridLR20
 4. The city has \$3 million dollars in new COVID aid available through various community organizations. More information:
<https://covidrentrelief.alleghenycounty.us>
<https://www.ura.org/pages/housing-opportunity-fund-programs>
<https://www.phfa.org/pacares/>
 5. Mayor Peduto has proposed a pandemic sick leave bill that is now before city council.

6. Five projects around the city went forward with their Love Your Block improvements. Should funds be available next year, we are encouraged to apply.
 7. The city has started a “Clean and Lien” team to care for blighted properties. To report a blighted property, please call 311. More information: <https://pittsburghpa.gov/press-releases/press-releases/4409>
 8. The city has a portal for those seeking housing assistance at <https://pittsburghpa.gov/harp/>
 9. Eric also provided the following additional resources in the chat:
 - a) A workshop for those looking to do business with the City of Pittsburgh: <http://entrepreneur.pitt.edu/events/bids-for-pgh>
 - b) URA Covid-19 Business Resources: <https://www.ura.org/pages/covid-19-business-resources>
- B. Cian from Rep. Innamorato’s office joined the meeting and had several announcements:
1. Gave some clarity around a question that was asked regarding state use of CARES funding to cover past budgeting errors and not to provide COVID relief.
 2. On December 7th at 6p, Rep. Innamorato will be holding an event to talk about redistricting. Presented in cooperation with Fair Districts PA. Here is the Zoom link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAofuirpzltG9Lw0rAsolY437mhajjl78WQ>
 3. A webinar about services provided by the state of PA for veterans is now available on Rep. Innamorato’s Facebook page.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1617336551778918>
 4. The office is now working remotely except for notary appointments. Please call 412-781-2750 with any questions.
- IV. Secretary’s Report
- A. Matt was unable to make it to tonight’s meeting. Approval of draft minutes was tabled until the next meeting in February.
- V. Treasurer’s Report
- A. Jared gave his report. MACC is up around \$1,000 year over year. There is currently a balance of \$17,913.59 in the MACC savings account.
- VI. Membership Report
- A. Allison was not present. No membership update was available.
- VII. New MACC Business
- A. Merry Morningside
 1. Ryan reported that a decision had been made to cancel the Merry Morningside event due to rising COVID-19 rates. He gave an update on the work to put a tree in the courtyard of the Morningside Senior Center.
 2. Dana gave an update on the annual lighting contest. This year, everything will move online including distribution of maps and voting. Registration is

open. Voting will kick off on December 15th and winners will be announced on December 23rd.

3. Alana talked about partnering with local coffee shop KaFair to offer a free treat to MACC members who stop by in lieu of a formal Merry Morningside gathering. Alana will coordinate with the owner to arrange.

B. Bulldog Zoning Issue

1. The Bulldog Pub has their zoning hearing on January 15th. MACC will provide a letter of support for their plans for a tent over their outdoor seating area.

C. Vice President and Treasurer Elections

1. The terms of the Vice President and Treasurer were scheduled to end in 2020. Elections for those positions should have been held this year, but due to the extenuating circumstances of the pandemic and a lack of a formal nomination process, the executive board agreed to postpone until the February 2021 meeting to give the board time to discuss how to proceed at the annual planning retreat.

D. Annual Executive Board Planning Retreat

1. A date and time was decided on for the annual planning meeting for the executive board. The meeting will be held over Zoom on Saturday, December 5th at 10am.

- VIII. Jared presented a motion to adjourn with Alana seconding. Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.