

# Community Meeting AGENDA

Point Breeze North Development Corp.

July 13th, 2020

7:00pm – 8:30pm

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1	<p><b>Call to Order - 7:03pm</b></p> <p><b>This meeting is a virtual meeting conducted over Zoom at the following link. (Note: Community Meetings are recorded)</b></p> <p><a href="https://zoom.us/j/96735393202?pwd=RGdyb0dZR2NOaW11ZkN2dXVyM0w0dz09">https://zoom.us/j/96735393202?pwd=RGdyb0dZR2NOaW11ZkN2dXVyM0w0dz09</a></p> <p>Meeting ID: 967 3539 3202</p> <p>Password: 468261</p> <p>Meeting notes in <b>RED</b></p>	7:00pm Meeting Chair
2	<p><b>Attendee introductions</b></p>	7:00pm All
3	<p><b>Mayor's office update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Liaison for the office of Community Affairs</li><li>• Eric Williams and/or Gisele Betances are our liaisons</li><li>• Gisele gave an update from the Mayor's office</li><li>• Offering rental assistance through the URA, county etc</li><li>• Homeless and substance abuse update</li><li>• 24 local homeowners to receive new roofs<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Wells Fargo / City, residents applied for up to \$30K</li></ul></li><li>• Community health and safety</li><li>• LGBT commission established</li><li>• COVID updates from the City</li><li>• OCA newsletter</li><li>• Food distribution throughout the City. Over 7,000 meals served</li><li>• DOMI provides assistance to business owners that are suffering due to COVID</li><li>• Links to be shared in followup email from Gisele that can be distributed</li><li>• <b>Q: is there a program to help residents with assistance to maintain their yard and exterior of their house?</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>A: Yes, a program called City Cuts will help with lawncare from May through October</b></li><li>○ <b>A: you can call 311 to sign up for this service. Best to sign up by February.</b></li><li>○ <b>If you are Military Vet, Age 62+ and own property in order to qualify</b></li></ul></li></ul>	7:05pm Viv

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- **Q: Are there other programs available to help the elderly during covid to do tasks such as grocery shopping, etc**
  - **A: There are three things the City is doing to help. So the Allegheny County Area on Agency is providing Grab and Go meals for the Elderly. More information on this will be provided on the list of links/. The next is the Allegheny Senior Resource Guide there is an online version that you can see**  
<https://www.seniorsresourceguide.com/directoriest/Pittsburgh/ACAAA/>. In this guide you can find all of the programs that help the elderly. And lastly for any more resources specifically for the elderly call 211.
- **Q: Street cleaning. Do residents need to move cars while covid since many people are working from home. It is understood that the City is not ticketing cars that aren't moved during this time. Is this accurate?**
  - **A: The City is currently not ticketing**

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**Quantum Theatre**

7:20pm

Blyden

- 2021 – The Current War / Westinghouse Park
- Karla Boos- Artistic Director of Quantum Theatre attending to talk about the program / performance
- Jalina McClarin – Quantum Theatre
- Stewart Urist – Quantum Theatre
- Quantum Theatre - 30 year old company what makes productions of plays all over the City in unique places and they have currently added outdoor venues for their performances
- Would like to perform 'The Current War' in Westinghouse Park due to the significance of George Westinghouse and his discover to power right here in our neighborhood
- RK Mellon Foundation – Quantum Theatre approved for a grant to give gift cards to residents of Point Breeze North to patronize local businesses
  - Will be selecting business within the neighborhood that will be patronized
  - Quantum will also guarantee so much \$ spent to local area businesses
  - This will start well before the performance
- Tentative Schedule for the play would be May 14 through June 6<sup>th</sup>
- The play would be under a tent. The cast would practice for a month at the location and then the show will be performed for 1 month
- The show will run 6 days a week.
- The City will install a service pole with electricity. This will stay after the show but everything else will return to as it was prior to the event

- There will be a Community Night free of charge to Point Breeze North residents. This is tentatively May 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a first come – first serve basis
  - Quantum will work with us to help determine who would be best to receive these tickets
  - May also be reserved digitally
- There will be a Pay-What-You-Can Night - May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Audience is expected to be 150 but may be reduced due to COVID
- Westinghouse 175. Next Oct 2021 will be George Westinghouse's 175<sup>th</sup> birthday. David Bear / Westinghouse Park 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Coalition is organizing a celebration to coincide with the play.
- PBNDC will also try to coordinate Open Streets to coincide with this play as well
- Jason Lardo noted that Martin of Luxe Creative is interested in helping with the Park lighting during the event
- Jason noted that they'd also like to help out in any other ways that they can. (These could be some projects that need some financing, etc)

**5                      7619 Penn Ave – Proposed New Checkers Restaurant                      7:40pm**

- Ryan England – CitySTUDIO
- Jeff presented preliminary site plan and design concept for the group to view and comment on.
- Comments were as follows:
- Fast food not very appealing
  - Amenity that does not serve our community. It serves commuters down Penn Ave.
  - Peppi's didn't serve to volume that Checkers will. There is a concern that a safety study/ traffic study is done to make sure egress / entrance is safe
  - Not ideal but would rather have something here rather than a vacant lot. It's also a small lot so what else could go there.
  - Would prefer a business with character rather than a chain restaurant (Example – The Evergreen)
  - Traffic leaving should not be able to turn left onto Penn Ave. (Only right)
- Jeff will take these comments back to the CitySTUDIO to start further discussions.

**6                      Westinghouse Park Master Plan                      7:50pm**

- Viv made a presentation on the current status of the master plan and reviewed the goals and focus areas of the project.
  - The project is a partnership between PBNDC and WP2CC. Funding is provided by the Neighborhood Initiatives Fund and a generous donation by Jason Lardo of Icon Development
- Viv Shaffer

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- The City of Pittsburgh has tagged additional future funds for a full master plan for the park after our study is complete. We will continue to work with the City through the master planning process.
  - Next Steps will include updating the tree survey that was last done in 2013 and also exploring the eligibility for national register of historic places
  - The Steering Committee will meet next Aug 3 @ 7pm via a Zoom meeting. Meeting details will be sent out shortly. The agenda will include:
    - Tree survey
    - National register of historic places
    - George Westinghouse Birthday
    - Suggestion from the community
    - Homewood Field
    - New ideas
  - Ideas that were brought up by residents:
    - Kerry was curious if a skate park could be considered for the park. (More like a skate path)
    - Rachael asked if a basketball court would be considered
    - David asked about a dog park
    - Consider Westinghouse park a part of the park that's on the other side of the pedestrian bridge. So not all amenities will need to be located in Westinghouse Park as they could also be located in Stargell Field.
    - Also consider Mellon Park and Frick Park are in close proximity. Consider spreading these amenities in the park area most appropriate
  - Blyden noted that the steering committee should reach out to the adjacent property owners to inform them of this process

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### Open Discussion

8:15pm

- Brian noted that Westinghouse Park has been gathering more garbage with recent use. Requested the City to replace the garbage cans. It would be helpful if they were put back at the entrances and along the paths.
  - There are some garbage cans but they are all currently located at the shelter.
  - It was recommended that signs be placed up to remind
  - Shilo Farms noted that they are open every Thursday 2:30pm – 6:30pm. They are located at the corner of Thomas Blvd & Homewood Ave.
    - They have kale, greens, peppers, etc. Everything that Grow Pittsburgh grows.
    - All local fresh organic produce
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- Recommended for Shilo Farm to send out and email to let us know what they will be having fresh each week.

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**Adjourn – 8:48pm**

8:30pm

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**Next Community Meeting**

Zoom Meeting

- **September 14<sup>th</sup>** - 7pm – 8:30pm (COMMUNITY MEETING)  
Note: Meeting moved from Sept 7<sup>th</sup> as it falls on Labor Day  
Location: Plan for Virtual Meeting / Zoom meeting to follow
  - If you have topics that you would like to discuss at a community meeting, please email them 1 week prior to date of the community meeting to – [info@pointbreezenorth.com](mailto:info@pointbreezenorth.com) so that they can be added to the agenda
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