

Aurora Highlands Civic Association

Monthly Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2017

DRAFT

Attendees: 26 people signed in.

Proceedings:

President Natasha Atkins called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Aurora Hills Community Center.

Minutes for the January and June 2017 meetings were approved.

Delina Child Care Center

Martha Alemu, owner of the center, which is up for County approval, discussed her plans and requested community support. The center at 820 18th Street South has 2,600 square feet to accommodate 35 kids. The full-service child care facility for ages 2-5 will be open Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be six staff members in addition to Ms. Alemu.

Neighbors voiced concerns about parking, increases in traffic, and the safety of pick-up and drop-off locations.

A motion was passed to send a letter of general support for the day care center that includes our concerns.

Tenth Annual Boo-Ha-Ha

Jenny Sullivan, chair of the Boo committee, and committee members discussed planning and funding. Goals are that the event be inclusive, accessible, free, have high-quality activities and food, and be a local event supported by the Civic Association and local businesses.

Last year's turnout of 600 people caused safety concerns and congestion. This year there will be more attendants, more moon bounces, and a new haunted house, which will cost \$500. The activities are where the costs lie. The vendors are high-quality and insured but volunteers do most of the work. The committee is looking for more support and sponsors, but many local businesses are tapped dry already.

The total cost of the event is expected to be \$7,200 and they are requesting \$3,500 of that from the Association. They need \$4,200 in commitments from other donors by August 15. If they don't reach this level, they will ask for community donations.

A motion was passed for the Association to fund \$3,500—and up to \$5,000 if needed—and to revisit the future of the Boo-Ha-Ha early in 2018. The committee will provide monthly updates.

Ready for 100 Initiative

The Initiative is pushing for 100-percent renewable electricity in Arlington by 2035. This national initiative was based originally on a Sierra Club proposal, but commitment is on a city-by-city basis. Thirty cities, including Alexandria, San Francisco, and San Diego, have already committed. Some cities, such as Aspen, CO, Burlington, VT, and Georgetown, TX, have already reached their goals.

A motion was passed to support the Initiative's resolution as a sense of community support for the goal of achieving 100-percent renewable electricity in Arlington County.

Greater Arlington Solar Co-op

VASUN, a local nonprofit, works to expand access to residential solar by helping homeowners organize solar co-ops. Bulk buying of solar saves homeowners money. It takes 20-30 homes to form a co-op, which is free to join. There are now 80 in the greater Arlington area that includes Fairfax County and Alexandria, but no installations have been done yet. The deadline to sign up to join a VASUN solar co-op is October 1. Go to: www.vasun.org/greater-arlington to join or send questions to solarteam@vasun.org

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Maureen Quinn

Recording Secretary