

April 20, 2020 Board Meeting
Via Zoom

Present: Ken Cohen
Hillary Conlon
Steve Hanson
Chris Johnson
Dave McGuinness
Nancy Mueller
Sue Piper
Brenda Roberts
Elizabeth Stage

Excused: Carolyn Burgess

Guest: Gordon Piper

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm by Chair Steve Hanson

1. **Minutes of April 6, 2020** were approved as mailed.
2. **Treasurer's Report – Brenda Roberts**
 - a. No activity since the April 6 report.
 - b. The 2019 Non-profit tax report postcard was filed. The long form for the State for 2016 is complete and Steve will send it out shortly. We have fulfilled all of our 501c3 obligations.
3. **Communications Committee—Chris Johnson**
 - a. The Board discussed options for managing our required Annual Meeting and elections under the current pandemic restrictions. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to hold the annual meeting by Zoom on Thursday, May 28 at 7 pm. Chris Johnson will send out an announcement with 30 days' notice, as required by NHCA Bylaws. The meeting will include voting on a slate of Board members and a minor change to the Bylaws.
4. **Public Safety Committee –**
 - a. Elizabeth Stage agreed to serve as interim Public Safety Committee chair, with assistance from Ken Cohen and possibly new Board

member Alicia Johnson, as current chair Carolyn Burgess has stepped down due to health.

- b. She agreed to contact Mike Tigges, Chair of the Montclair Neighborhood Council, to see if MNC would be open to us “sharing” their May 7 meeting on Vegetation Management, which would have been the topic for NHCA’s May 28th meeting. She will find out how we can work with them on their ZOOM presentation.

5. Garden Committee- Hillary Conlon

- a. Hillary reported that her husband has cut weeds within 15 feet of the perimeter of the Gateway Garden itself, on the West side of the entrance and has started to make inroads on the Gateway Extension. This is in accordance with the word that the Fire Department has asked all adopt-a-spot volunteer leaders in the high fire severity risk zone (Oakland hills) to protect any plantings before the Wildfire Prevention contractors start their work on April 27. Her husband also addressed some of the weeds within the garden itself.
- b. Long term—the plan is to continue to rely on the voluntary support. The Board recommended that the Garden Committee obtain two more bids from contractors to provide support, should additional labor be necessary as the grasses dry out over the next few months.

6. New Business

- a. Elizabeth Stage asked the Board to support the statement sponsored by the Claremont Canyon Conservancy to establish a Joint Powers Agreement for Vegetation Management in the East Bay Hills. The document has already been endorsed by the Oakland Firesafe Council, Montclair Neighborhood Council and shortly, the Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association, the Hillcrest Estates Neighborhood Association and others. It was moved, seconded and approved, with one abstention to support the CONCEPT of a Joint Powers Agreement for a Vegetation Management District for the East Bay Hills, with the understanding that NHCA would like to be more involved in the process. Ken Cohen and Elizabeth Stage will represent NHCA.

7. **Next Meeting** will be Monday, May18 at 7 pm – online.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 pm.