

# Brookline Together Community Meeting Minutes May 10, 2021

## Board Officers:

President: Caitlin McNulty

Vice-President: Blake Plavchak

Secretary: Ally Bove

Treasurer: Bill Kim; co-chair Mark Hopkinson

Finance Vice-Chair: Mark Hopkinson

Community & Business Engagement Chair: Melissa Kilmer

Community & Business Engagement Co-Chair: Sami Melhorn

Beautification Chair: Lisa Wilson

Beautification Co-Chair: Blake Plavchak

**Attendance:** In Zoom meeting: Caitlin McNulty, Blake Plavchak, Ally Bove, Bill Kim, Mark Hopkinson, Melissa Kilmer, Samantha Melhorn, Lisa Wilson, Lee Herbermann, Lois McCafferty, Ben Hayes, Ken McNulty, Alex Toner, Amy Fisher, Gisele Betances, Linda Boss, Edith Davidson. On Facebook Live: 8 additional viewers.

Caitlin McNulty called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

- April 2021 board meeting minutes were approved (motion: Caitlin McNulty, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Blake Plavchak, all in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)
- Treasurer Report – Budget Report
  - Happy Mother's Day!
  - Current balance \$22,918.12
  - Reimbursements are up-to-date.
- Committee Report Submissions – To save time, these are not being covered individually today. They were e-mailed to members earlier today; they will also be uploaded on our website.
- New Business: Summer 2021 Plans in Brookline!
  - Beautification – Lisa Wilson and Blake Plavchak
    - We received approval of our zoning permit for the shed we are purchasing; we are still waiting for the building permit.
    - The wheelbarrow raffle is up & running – see our website and Facebook page for more information. It has a \$220 value and is great for gardeners! Tickets are \$3 each. The winner will be drawn on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the end of the Community Yard Sale
    - Additional cleanups on Brookline Blvd are being planned – stay tuned for dates
    - Our Love Your Block Grant is being submitted shortly, with help from a new Beautification committee member with relevant experience
  - Community Engagement
    - We have a billboard up in the community! Go find it, and let Melissa Kilmer know when you see where it is. 😊
    - Community Yard Sale: June 5<sup>th</sup>
      - Spots at the Rec Center are sold out, but you can still sign up to sell at your own house.
      - South Side BBQ will be at the Rec Center
      - Over 40 signups so far for the Yard Sale, including several Brookline Blvd businesses that will be selling out front
        - Any Brookline Together member business who wants to join the yard sale will not be charged any registration fee.

- Deadline for signup is Friday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, to allow sufficient time to make the maps of all of the participating houses and put up signs at each participating house
  - Advertisements have been placed in Nextdoor, Craigslist, Facebook, and may be in one or more of the local newspapers
  - Maps of participating houses will be available at Scoops on the Blvd and 802 Bean Company as well as at the Brookline Together table at the Rec Center
- Breezefest: August 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Stages + Music
  - Food trucks – we have 2 food trucks signed up so far and are open to more food truck signups
  - Dozens of vendors all along Brookline Blvd
- Food Truck Tuesday: every Tuesday
  - Turnout has been fantastic! The trucks love coming to Brookline and really appreciate our support. We will likely be adding a second food truck each week to keep up with demand.
- Jacob / Whited Construction
  - Community Garden construction will occur throughout summer 2021!
  - Grading of the construction site will begin in mid-May. A Brookline resident (who requested to remain anonymous) is volunteering their time and equipment to do the grading work.
  - Another Brookline resident is donating their labor to do the necessary plumbing work, and has connected us with his supplier to purchase necessary supplies at a discounted rate.
  - We are in need of some tree work – if anyone has a connection to a tree service that may be able to offer any discounts for tree service, please contact Bill Kim or e-mail us at [brooklinetogether@gmail.com](mailto:brooklinetogether@gmail.com).
  - Our Love Your Block grant application this year would be used to upgrade the neighborhood welcome sign at the Jacob/Whited site.
- Neighborhood mural
  - Prepping the wall near the dugout of the baseball fields at the Rec Center for the addition of a neighborhood mural – the entire project will take some time, but the ground is being laid during summer 2021
- City of Pittsburgh events - presentation from Gisele Betances from Mayor Peduto's office
  - Love Your Block grant program for 2021 will be launched in the next few weeks, and Gisele will send us the link when application submissions are available.
  - City Cuts (where the city hires contractors to help with lawn care for older adults, veterans, and people with disabilities) is not yet up and running due to lack of funding, but they are hopeful it'll be back up and running before the end of summer
  - Citiparks is looking for lifeguards to open some of the city-owned pools. Training and certification will be provided. Applications are being taken on the website – <https://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks/lifeguard-info>
  - Weekly coding lessons for kids are available on Tuesdays at 4pm all summer [https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/13540\\_TuesdayCodingCohort\\_march2021.pdf](https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/13540_TuesdayCodingCohort_march2021.pdf)
  - Learn and Earn program for youth – helps teenagers from low-income family learn skills and make money- Applications are open until the end of May <https://pittsburghpa.gov/humanresources/learn-earn>
  - Kid Smart club – an at-home club with activities for kids to be able to keep busy while at home during the pandemic. Kits are available to pick up at Rec Centers throughout the city on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:30-1:30 and are first-come first-served. <https://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks/kidsmart-club>
- Old Business

- Announcements
  - Mayor's office announcements (from Gisele Betances)
    - Temporary eviction moratorium is in place citywide except in cases of "good cause", which is considered on a case-by-case basis and must be unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://pittsburghpa.gov/chr/eviction-moratorium>
    - The URA is offering its Legal Assistance Program = free housing legal services for City renters and homeowners, including mediation, limited legal consultation, full legal representation, tangled title, and foreclosure prevention services. Please reach out to the URA if interested. <https://www.ura.org/proposals/legal-assistance-program-homeowners>
    - The mayor has announced the "One PGH" plan – nonprofits and academic institutions forming a community partnership to donate funds for community projects such as affordable housing, improving social determinants of health, and building community engagement centers. <https://pittsburghpa.gov/press-releases/press-releases/4906>
    - There is now a website where you can track the Pittsburgh Police Bureau's implementation of Mayor Peduto's recommendations. <https://pittsburghpa.gov/police/task-force-police-reform>
    - The Office of Community Health and Safety is seeking feedback on their Neighborhood Health and Safety Academy <https://engage.pittsburghpa.gov/healthandsafetyacademy>
    - Please get vaccinated for COVID-19 if you are able!
  - Brookline Teen Outreach
    - Now open 3 days per week – Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 3-6pm
    - Distributing canned goods, PPE, and activity kits the first Saturday of each month.
    - Brookline Nostalgia t-shirts are now on sale! [https://www.brooklineteenoutreach.org/shop?fbclid=IwAR2Qy5nytaf6cG8Wd\\_tDy9jDaqWjLqj8Ac2hT0ZAZ\\_ONofPwSKqaf1q7M5g](https://www.brooklineteenoutreach.org/shop?fbclid=IwAR2Qy5nytaf6cG8Wd_tDy9jDaqWjLqj8Ac2hT0ZAZ_ONofPwSKqaf1q7M5g) .
  - City Councilman Anthony Coghill's office
    - Supply chain delays in receiving materials have caused some delays in the necessary renovations at Moore Pool. We are still hopeful it'll open for July 4 but are not yet sure.
      - Note: Pipes beneath the pool were broken and causing huge leaks affecting the pool and the baseball fields below. These repairs are absolutely necessary. Fortunately, repairing these leaks will save so much water that the repairs will pay for themselves after several years.
    - You can formally request a traffic calming measure on your street (signage, addition of a stop sign, speed humps) by having neighbors on your block sign a petition. The City will then conduct a traffic study and respond appropriately. Please feel free to reach out to the Council office for help. [www.pittsburghpa.gov/domi/traffic-calming](http://www.pittsburghpa.gov/domi/traffic-calming)
    - The city's Café Permitting is working well, to allow businesses to use sidewalk space outside their businesses to extend their dining space to the outdoors. Red's Good News took advantage of this permit and recently reopened on Brookline Blvd with the addition of outdoor seating using the café permit.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm (motion: C. McNulty, second: Bill Kim, all in favor).

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**Notes for upcoming community meetings:**

- July Community Meeting Theme: Rising Brookline Real Estate Costs & Affordable Housing in Brookline
- September Community Meeting Theme:

**Mission:** To promote a vibrant and livable community through collaborative initiatives that unify Brookline's business and residential interests.

**Goals for 2021:**

1. Increase membership
2. Increase revenue
3. Improve communications



# Project Name: Brookline Community Mural

**Project Scope:** To create a mural that celebrates Brookline's residents and history, while looking forward to the possibilities that our youngest community members will one day create.

**Project Location:** Brookline Memorial Park - 1399 Oakridge St, Pittsburgh, PA 15226 - The wall facing the dek hockey rink that used to be the bathrooms and changing rooms for the Rec Center Pool (now obsolete). This site includes bathrooms and concession stand currently being renovated for neighborhood sports teams by the City of Pittsburgh. Wall is approximately 150ft long and 25ft high at its tallest point.

**Project Description:** Over the past 5 months, a community art therapy intern provided by partnering nonprofit organization, Brookline Teen Outreach, has been conducting interviews with community members focused on the history and future of the neighborhood and what should be captured in the mural to reflect the community as a whole. The scope of the mural project is community focused as it considers the future of the community and its members. The mural may also provide a way to build connections among community members and the neighborhood youth organization. The mural will provide an opportunity to use the resources we have as well as branching out and deepening community relationships.

**Concept Art:** Based on community member interviews, historical research, and Brookline Together input





## Event Committee Report to the Brookline Together Board

April, 2021

**Committee Members:** Melissa Distel-Kilmer, Samantha Melhorn, Lisa Wilson, Nicole Taxel, Phil Behr, Lois McCafferty, Amy Fisher, Annette Ferrieri, Brock Boutwell, Jason Shymoniak, Chad Shannon, Ellen Clouse, Ashley Gill, Erin Skinner, Linda Boss, Sister Barb, Ken McNulty, Pamela & Michael Grabowski, Susan Meador, Katie O'Toole, Kelli Murphy, Carla Marratto Cumming, Kelly Goodrich, Tina Betters, Alex Toner

**Present at meeting:** Melissa Distel-Kilmer, Lisa Wilson, Lois McCafferty, Jason Shymoniak, Ken McNulty, Alex Toner

### Programs:

#### Blog/Newsletter

- Katie is working on Blog about Nail Nook
- Seeking volunteers to write blog posts
- Need to promote Seaton Center (35 yr anniversary) & A Boss (50 year anniversary)

#### Food Truck Tuesdays

- Membership table signups in Airtable, you can share a shift if you want.
- April Raffle is Violet Bouquet Basket drawing will be held on May 1
- May raffle, funds going to Beautification for the BT shed. It is a larger raffle basket that Beautification is putting together, and promoting till Yard Sale. Drawing will be held at the end of yard sale.

#### New Member Mixer- -RESCHEDULING

- location Moon Light
- Melissa dropped the ball, the event will be rescheduled to another date where an outdoor gathering can be planned.

#### Yard Sale-June 5

- Permit is approved
- Already lots of people signed up.
- Need to reword the Yard Sale flyer for promotion of the event vs recruiting participants.
- Lisa is going to start promoting the event online.
- We need volunteers for the membership table.
- Southside BBQ truck will be at the Park.

#### Breezefest-August 14

- Stage secured
  - ideas to ask Karate studio & Dance Studio to perform
  - Lois suggested reaching out to Jack Stanizzo about music
  - Promoting online, asking for local musicians.
- working on permit now
- Melissa is reaching out to Lance about kid activities for Breezefest
- Email library about participating somehow, story time?

- we should send emails to neighboring community groups letting them know of our event.
  - Jason has contact at Hilltop Alliance

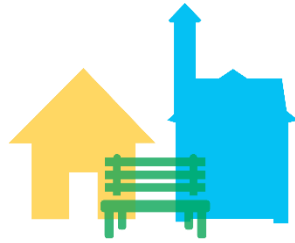
**Brookline together Promotions**

- working on Billboard to promote all summer events as well as promote remaining sponsors from newsletter.
- Melissa is going to ask Cailin about previous tshirt designs and see if we can make some to sell.

**Other notes:** Next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, May 20 , at 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Distel-Kilmer



**BROOKLINETOGETHER**

## **Welcome Packet Committee Report to the Brookline Together Board**

Welcome Packet Committee Report to the Board April, 2021

**Committee Members** Michael & Pamela Grabowski 412-343-2859

**Narrative** We sent out 22 new resident packets on April 1, 2021 for those who moved into Brookline in March.

Notable transfers:

1202 Brookline Blvd. purchase by RMPT, Inc. 5/19 for \$85,000 sold for \$210,000 9/20

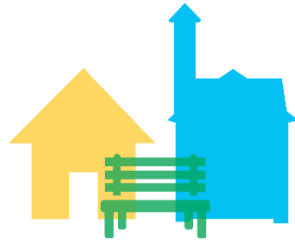
### **Informal Recommendation(s)**

Just a reminder to committees to contact us with any special events that we can use in the two blank ad spaces until we have more ads.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Grabowski





**BROOKLINETOGETHER**

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Notable transfers:

2348 Birtley Avenue purchased by Streamlined Property Buyers LLC in 4/20 for \$81,000 sold for \$209,000 in 10/20

2658 Amman Street purchased by Keystone Properties Buyers LLC in 3/20 for \$75,300 sold for \$199,900 in 11/20

920 Woodbourne Avenue purchased by Dourid Aboud in 1/20 for \$110,000 sold for \$245,000 in 10/20

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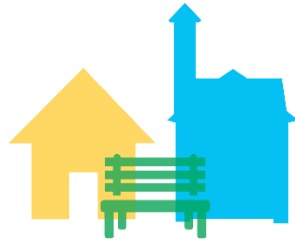
# Beautification Committee Report – March 2021

In Attendance: Lisa, Blake, Bryce, Ellie, Ryan

Next meeting – 4/19 @ 7 PM on Teams or Zoom – meetings will continue remotely

Committee discussed the following topics:

- City Cuts program
  - Delayed this year and will operate similar to snow angels until mid summer.
    - Important to promote this to the community to avoid overgrown lots for our elderly, disabled, and veteran neighbors.
- Next clean up will be 4/24 in honor of Earth Day
  - Lisa sent list of hot spots to Blake
    - Blake to scout locations and give recommendations to Lisa in advance of clean up
- Love Your Block Grant
  - Blake to follow up with Bill on this (Blake has been slacking, someone can yell “shame” at him during the next meeting)
  - New member Ryan, who moved to the community recently, has professional experience in outdoor design and engineering – Blake will work with him on the LYB application once it opens up.
- Shed
  - Lisa has secured commitment for financial support from Councilman Coghill. Unclear if that is from his Council Office or PAC. – Being clarified
  - Permit in process
    - This will determine size and cost of project
    - To support the expense a fundraiser is being considered
      - Like a gift basket but instead it is a “Wheelbarrow”
      - To include excess of committee’s equipment and hopefully support from
        - Pitt moss
        - Grounded
        - Grow Pittsburgh
        - Tree Pittsburgh
      - Also nalgene and snacks
    - Board support is being sought before proceeding
    - Time line is as follows:
      - 4/19 – all logistical questions answered, all outreach completed, preliminary list of goods, BT Board support
      - 5/17 – All goods acquired, wheelbarrow pictured and donation page set up
      - 5/22-6/5 – Donation page open
      - 6/5 – announce winner
- Meeting adjourned



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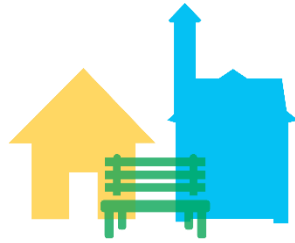
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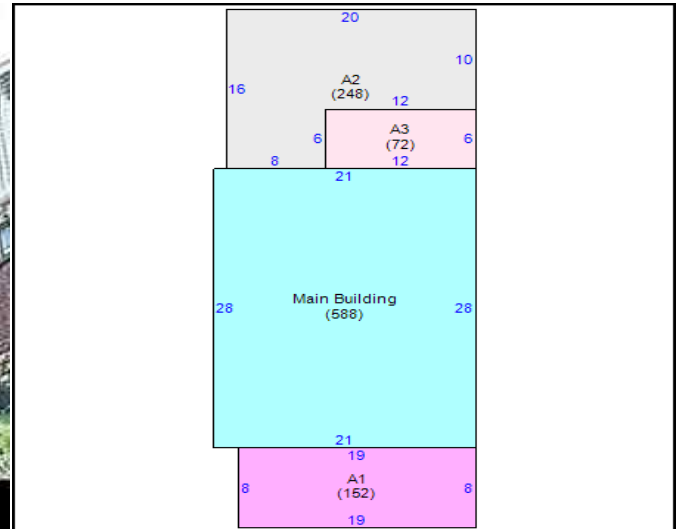
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Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Grabowski

Parcel ID : 0097-H-00257-0000-00  
Property Address : 920 WOODBOURNE AVE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15226

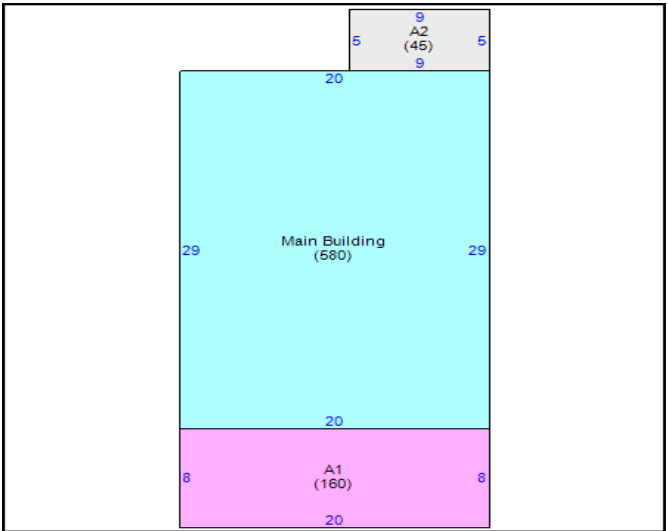
Municipality : 119 19th Ward - PITTSBURGH  
Owner Name : MAI DUNG Q  
HOANG VI P



Main Building		588 Sq. Ft.
A1	Porch Masonry - Open	152 Sq. Ft.
A2	Wood Deck	248 Sq. Ft.
A3	Full Basement (conv main bldg) 1 story frame	72 Sq. Ft.

Parcel ID : 0096-E-00010-0000-00  
Property Address : 1202 BROOKLINE BLVD  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15226

Municipality : 119 19th Ward - PITTSBURGH  
Owner Name : VOJNIK KAITLIN



Main Building

580 Sq. Ft.

A1

Porch Masonry - Open

160 Sq. Ft.

A2

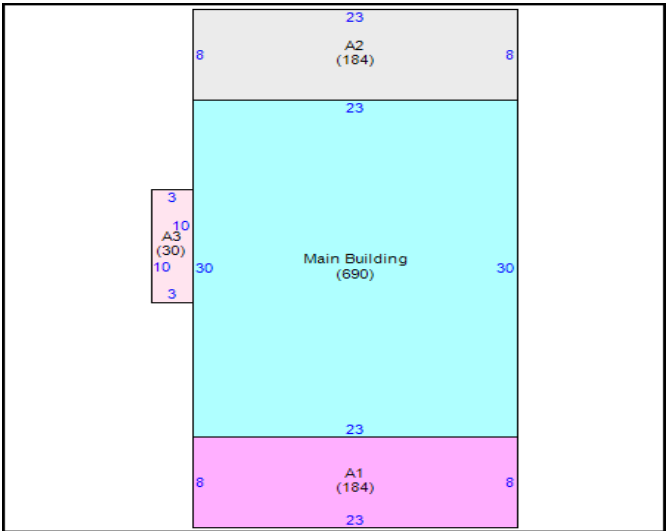
Porch Frame - Open

45 Sq. Ft.



Parcel ID : 0062-M-00073-0000-00  
Property Address : 2348 BIRTLEY AVE  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15226

Municipality : 119 19th Ward - PITTSBURGH  
Owner Name : BUCKLEY PEGGY E



Main Building

690 Sq. Ft.

A1

Porch Masonry - Open

184 Sq. Ft.

A2

Patio Concrete

184 Sq. Ft.

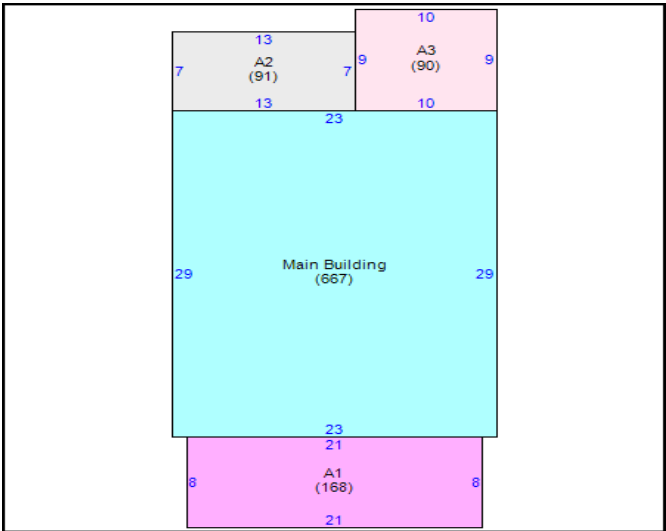
A3

Bay Area Brick

30 Sq. Ft.

Parcel ID : 0062-K-00130-0000-00  
Property Address : 2658 AMMAN ST  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15226

Municipality : 119 19th Ward - PITTSBURGH  
Owner Name : NESTLER DANIEL LOUIS



Main Building		667 Sq. Ft.
A1	Porch Frame - Open	168 Sq. Ft.
A2	Full Basement (conv main bldg) 1 story frame	91 Sq. Ft.
A3	Patio Concrete	90 Sq. Ft.