



Hill and Harbour Neighborhood Association  
East Greenwich, Rhode Island

**HHNA Meeting Minutes**

November, 14 2023 EGPD Community Room, 6:30PM

**Chair:** Bob Jordan

**Vice Chair:** Michael Brennan

**Treasurer:** James Cederberg

**Secretary:** Amanda Yvonne Galmiche

**Membership:** Sara Doherty & Elizabeth Roy

**Present:** Bob Jordan, Amanda Galmiche, Elizabeth Roy, Sara Doherty, James Cederberg

**Absent:** Michael Brennan

1. Call to Order
2. Committees
3. Old & New Business

Elle said she received an e-mail from James Gorham about a few different topics. The first was his suggestion that HHNA might help with fundraising for the Zimmer family whose son recently passed away. The group agreed that we would like to help raise awareness for the family's GoFundMe by sharing the link on the HHNA Facebook page. Elle shared that James Gorham also asked if we would consider changing the days and times of HHNA meetings. The group agreed that the board would like to stick to the original week days they already agreed on. Elle continued reading James's e-mail to the group and went on to his next suggestion that the board consider a less formal location for meetings. The group agreed that if James has a suggestion for a different location that they are open to it. The final topic of the e-mail is that James pointed out that according to his interpretation of the bylaws the board needs to have an election for the board for 2024. James Cederberg referred to the bylaws on the current HHNA website that state that the board holds their office for one year from the time they are elected.

Bob segued into suggesting that the board should consider bi-monthly meetings instead of monthly. The board decided that Tuesdays at 6:30 is still the night and time that is best for the board members, so we will continue to meet then. However, the board decided that we do not need to meet monthly. We will meet *every other* month with committees meeting in between. This change is in accordance with our bylaws which Jim Cederberg read at the meeting. The 2024 board meetings will be: 1/9, 3/12, 5/14, 7/9, 9/10, and 11/12.

Amanda suggested eliminating the HHNA committees for Friends of Academy Field and Eldredge. James Cederberg asked for clarification about why Eldredge is a polarizing topic and Amanda explained that it can be a hot button topic because community members have strong personal feelings about what should happen with the Eldredge building in the future. The group agreed that eliminating these two committees is a good idea. Amanda made a motion to eliminate them and it passed.

James Cederberg said he has run into issues setting up the Venmo account because it is requiring a different phone number. The group agreed that they would be okay with scratching the need for a Venmo account if it proves to be too difficult. James said he's going to try to get it to work again but if it doesn't work we will just use PayPal instead. Elle said as long as we have a QR code that is fine. Sara suggested yard signs as well.

Bob changed the subject to followup on the Halloween event. He said overall it was a success but that the location of road blocks should be slightly adjusted to better control the flow of traffic next year. He also handed out a planning document for the Halloween event. He said next year we should have a table with an HHNA banner and a small giveaway item for next year. He said at least one other person should be at the table with him and that we should adjust the food trucks next year. Perhaps complementary food trucks or even just one truck.

The group moved on to touch base about the holiday party. Elle said Christina Phipps is confirmed for providing the location and that we should announce the party the week after Thanksgiving. Sarah said Thorpes provided the liquor last year and mentioned that because The Patio is closed we will need a new idea for food for the party this year.

Bob said Camille Speca is waiting for an update from Andy Wade about the timeline for the mural project. Bob also said that the Town will have to go through a formal purchase order process for disbursing funding for the project. Andy Wade from the town has asked that we pause the mural initiative until he has a better understanding of the cost of a pair of large project bids in the next two months. The first of which is the Academy Field court renovation that went out to bid yesterday and will be opened on the 20<sup>th</sup> of December. Next will be the bids for the construction at Eldredge Park and Basketball courts. Andy anticipates going out to bid for this project in December and opening the bids in January. For those reasons, Andy would like to pause the mural initiative until March or April to ensure he still has the funding.

The group casually discussed what is going on with the Varnum Armory and the Post Office Cafe.

Meeting adjourned.