

Community Building Committee  
Minutes. February 10, 2021  
Recorder Susan Larson-Fleming

*Listen, learn, ask and transform how we do community work*

Attending: Jerry Stein, Susan Larson-Fleming, Lynn Von Korff, Joe Ring, Ben Tuthill, Vera Marshall, Jenna Hoge, Kaaha Kaahiye

Updates:

Glendale Historic Designation.

No date has yet been set at the City Council for a vote on designation. Preparation work to answer council members objections is ongoing. The author of the original application study for Glendale historic designation, which argued for historic designation, will be consulting on the project again. The original assessment argued for designation under the Federal Dept. of Interior criteria 1 and 5, which deal with social and economic significance. It is important to note that historic designation does have Glendale resident support.

Jackson project:

Jerry reported that granddaughters Judith and Sharon were a part of the last meeting of the ad hoc group working on the project. The project has several moving parts including the redesign of the Pratt playground as a memorial to the Jackson family. A new aspect will include development of a school curriculum and significant whole community events dealing with race and the integration of the neighborhood and the school, the work and unionization of the Pullman Porters (Madison was a Pullman Porter). The trajectory of the family and its descendants play a significant role in Black history of the 20th century. Traffic calming measures for Malcolm Ave. and better incorporation of Tower Hill may also figure in.

Renters and TOPA

Our concern with the exclusion of Public Housing tenants as part of the TOPA legislation has resulted in meeting with the proponents and supporters of a local version of TOPA. There seems to be agreement that TOPA must apply to Public Housing tenants. Language for TOPA has not yet been set. Any action must be monitored to make sure that all tenants are included. Once language has been determined, the proposal can come back to PPA for support. Enforcement is an important issue.

Renters rights and historic designation.

Jenna and Joe will talk further on this topic. There is concern that landlords within the historic district may practice "demolition by neglect." Landlords must be made aware of their responsibilities when properties are part of the historic district.

Emergent Strategies

There is interest in discussion around this book, which committee members now have. Jerry suggested that we read pages 41-50 to get a taste and then at next meeting decide on potential discussion times.

Next meeting: March 10, 2021 at 4pm.