

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2022

Meeting called to order via Zoom by President Ben Cober at 7:05 PM. Thirteen people attending online.

We are onboarding our new Board of Trustees after a review of the By-Laws and discovery that such positions existed. Each new Board member is either an officer or chairing or co-chairing a neighborhood committee. You can read biographies of the new members [here](#).

Amber reported we skipped the Teen Feed in February, but it will be back.

Events: Ann Forrest's six week online emergency preparedness course on Wednesdays is coming to an end on the 23rd, but each half hour session has been recorded and will be made available. She'll do another round in April/May.

Sunday, March 6th at 2 PM at the tennis court in Victory Heights Park (unless it's pouring rain), the communications HUB will be opened and set up to do some training scenarios. This will be 60-90 minutes at most, come on by and see how it's done. We have two extra keys for the storage box to lend to responsible people.

Saturday, April 30th there will be another HUB event that will feature cooking for crowds, how to turn to turn off your gas, and other skills.

Community Comments: Ben talked to SDOT last week about street safety, which starts at about \$3000 per intersection in order to do any sort of traffic calming. But first, an intersection has to have had three significant accidents before the city will release any funds (nowhere in Victory Heights qualifies). Our thought is for us to hire an independent Traffic Safety Expert (non-city employee) who could study our roads and create data using pneumatic tubes to record speed, number of cars, etc, which could then be used to find intersections that would have the most impact in neighboring streets. The city though, along with the accident minimum, would require any street that got traffic calming to have 85% of its current traffic exceeding the speed limit (currently 20mph on residential streets). So it's up to us to raise the money (or get matching funds) to hire an expert to do a study. Meanwhile, while it is illegal for civilians to impose their own traffic calming measures on streets, it is possible to get permits to shut down a block once a week for play streets or block parties. Such moves could possibly influence traffic and force motorists to seek alternative routes or avoid our neighborhood.

President's Desk: Ben has lined up speakers for most of the rest of the year (although tonight's fell through). March will feature a representative from the Kraken Ice Complex, the new facility just over a mile away by the mall that opened with three ice rinks, a Starbucks, and restaurant.

Meetings in person again? We might give it a try this summer in the park when it's warm and sunny late into the evening. Or in the autumn regain access to the co-op preschool building in the park. We'll play it by ear, the pandemic has not been short of surprises so far.

Food Truck Friday will be back in 2022! Ben has secured the appearance of at least two trucks (sometimes three) weekly when it resumes in prime time (6 – 8 PM) in May with 14 new trucks this year we haven't had before (some sound really yum!) through the summer.

The officers (Ben, Ryan, Brad, and Ann) have been attempting to revise the by-laws which haven't been updated since 2013. We will involve the community now we have a Board of Trustees on changes with the goal of helping the community council best serve our neighborhood going forward.

Not to bury the lede, but Ben Cober will be stepping down as President at the end of February, he announced. Ben and his family had been renting in Victory Heights while looking for a permanent house for their growing family, but our insane house prices forced him to buy outside King County, and thus out of our neighborhood, much to his (and our) disappointment. Ann Forrest will step in as interim president, and we will elect officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) this spring with the help of the new Board. The entire community extends their thanks to Ben whose many accomplishments in our neighborhood will not be forgotten. View Ben's farewell video on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/1936478/videos/2798450413634607/>

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

Minutes submitted by Ryan Johnson
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council