

Board of Trustees MEETING MINUTES

December 3, 2024, 12 p.m., Blakely Hall

BOARD MEMBERS:

Kashif Zahoor, President Lisa Soboslai, Vice President Ben Armlin, Secretary Phil Nored, Treasurer Zach Hall

STAFF:

Michele McFarland, Controller Lindsey Pinkston, Executive Director Maddie Coats, Communications Manager Albert Wang*
*Attending virtually

NOT ATTENDING:

Alisa Taggert

GUESTS:

Jeremy Fallt, HFN General Manager Sarah Hoey, IHCA Executive Director Xia Li, Manchester Court Resident Chelsea Musick, Central Park Resident

Call to Order - Kashif - 12:00pm

Public Comment

Maximum five minutes per person. Board may ask clarifying questions but will not respond to comments during the meeting.

• Xia Li shared concerns about rental noise at Blakely Hall. Lindsey to meet with neighbors about their concerns.

Consent Agenda – Kashif

• Minutes –10/15/2024

Motion to approve the meeting minutes from October 15, 2024, as submitted: Lisa

Second: Ben

Result: All in favor, no one opposed. Motion passed.

Open Business

- Blakely Hall resiliency
 - We learned from the recent storm that resilience hubs were widely used, however Blakely Hall was unable to open due to lack of a resilient power source.
 - Discussion on what role should Highlands Council play in community resiliency, resulting in the formation of a new Task Force (Subsidiary of Emergency Committee) to plan and recommend measures/next steps for the Blakely Hall resilience hub, including all three community organizations.
- Looking for potential board members to represent multi-family and commercial stakeholders
- Branding MOU/Rebranding (No update still working on trademarks)

Committee Reports

- Communications Committee Albert/Maddie First draft of new Community Connect magazine is expected Friday In homes the first week of January!
- Equity Committee Alisa/Lindsey Brief meeting in November focused on supporting community during difficulty political climate.
- Safety Committee Zach/Lindsey Continue stop the bleed trainings, CERT basics starts in Q1.
 Power outage cancelled last meeting. Working now with Alex Helms, the new community resource officer for IPD.
- Finance Committee Phil/Michele Financials are accurate and trending to budget

Management Report

- Issaquah Arts Commission grants is the only funding we are currently eligible to apply for. May partner with Issaquah Arts to open additional opportunities only available to 401(c)(3)s. Applied to arts commission for a grant for maintenance on our Blakely Hall gallery equipment and artist receptions. Applying for GGG Grant as well.
- 2025 Outlook Several events coming up New neighbor Social, speed neighboring. Launching SWAPS (Quarterly). Summer 1 GGG. Summer Picnic (hotdogs and ice cream). Summer movie in the park.

Stakeholder Updates

- City Council Zach reported that city council passed the new city budget, with unfortunately lots
 of cuts across the board. Check out the city's website to report property damage due to wind
 storm. Victoria Hunt's council position needs to be filled. The City Council was looking at school
 speed enforcement IVE will get a camera. Grand Ridge Elementary is going back to the
 committee.
- Grand Ridge Plaza Good Lazy Donuts waiting on permitting. Expected Q1 opening.

Partner Organization Updates

- HFN Jeremy Upgrade project should be finished Q2 2025. New speeds will be announced in first edition of Community Connect magazine.
- IHCA Sarah New construction for Shelter Holdings. Last house on Harrison will be done this month.

Adjourn – Kashif – 1:41pm