



**Westcott Neighborhood Association  
April 11, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library  
Monthly meeting minutes – DRAFT**

**NEXT Membership MEETING: Monday, June 13, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library  
Next meeting: Board members only, May 9, 2016, venue to be determined**

**Persons registering in attendance:**

**WNA board members:** Starke Donnally, Kathy Downing, Alice Honig, Grant Johnson, Brendan Rose, Natalie Stetson, Charles Tremper, Damian Vallelonga, Marilyn Zaleon.

**WNA neighbors and friends:** Jane Begley, Lt. Frank Caruso, Kate Hammer, Alex Locke, Zoe Meighan, Gary Morrison, Jack Murphy, Biboti Ouikahilo,

1. Grant Johnson called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m.; those present introduced themselves.
2. Approval of annual meeting minutes / Agenda: Pending the following corrections, minutes were accepted (\*\*Did we ever vote on them?): remove Sharon Sherman and Brendan Rose from Board members present; correct spelling of Huckster Hill and Ryan Canavan; change amount for planters from Eastside TNT to \$2295; and remove extra period from Website address.
3. Fiscal report: Starke reported \$3,007.93 following UNSAAC reimbursements, with \$275 collected in dues at the annual meeting.
4. Neighborhood SPD report: Lt. Caruso asked those present about concerns. Parking led off the discussions, with problems reported throughout the neighborhood, with Harvard, Columbus, even Berkeley Park area highlighted. Churches do get a pass on Sundays. Noise from the theatre and the Beer Belly courtyard were mentioned. Lt. Caruso reported the capture of a youthful criminal in a house, with burglaries focused in outer Comstock and other areas where most folks work days; 12 or so per month was the estimate given.
5. Business: Old

- Planters on Westcott: So far, there are sponsors for 6 of the 10 planters to be installed along Westcott between Euclid and East Genesee; the need for regular watering was raised (for these planters every 3-4 weeks suffices).
- UNSAAC: Program will continue for another 5 years at \$500,000 and geographic area expanded to include Comstock and the near south side (to the west of SU). The city will be overseeing the program.
- Annual meeting review:
  - o With new memberships, there are now 32 paying members.
  - o Election results: 20 ballots cast, with all board members on the ballot re-elected and Brendan Rose and Asomgyee Pamoja (is this correct???) elected for the first time.
  - o Election of officers: Marilyn Zaleon moved and Alice Honig seconded the re-election of current officers; passed unanimously.
- Street corner safety project: One of the SU student designers has been working with the group. Questions of ownership and maintenance have not yet been resolved, with the city owning the land, but reluctant to own the structure. Details of maintenance—ongoing and attending to damage—have also not been established. Both the structure and the benches will ultimately need refurbishment. The structure is open in order to insure visibility.

#### 6. Business: New

- Paint the town project: Kathy Downing, Brendan Rose introduced the concept of turning street intersections into community art projects (the blue striping on Erie Blvd, near Clinton Square was cited as an example). Along with Melissa Fierke, they are proposing a project for the intersection of Broad and Lancaster, near the Ed Smith School. Such projects provide opportunities to bring community members together, as well as enhancing the environment through art and even slowing traffic down. Brendan has developed the design which will be presented to the public art commission for approval; DPW will also weigh in. The goal is to begin painting in May. These creations are not permanent and will need to be redone over time. In response to their request, WNA board members (without Kathy and Brendan who recused themselves) voted to support the project with a one-time gift of \$200. Alice Honig moved and Grant Johnson seconded the initial motion which passed with support of all remaining board members.
- Westcott Remembers: In response to the death of artist and muralist Michael Moody, the group discussed how best to honor him and his contributions. Initially, Alice Honig moved and Damian Vallelonga seconded a motion to contribute \$25 for a small brick; further discussions led to Natalie Stetson moving and Kathy Downing seconding a motion to purchase a large brick for \$60. This motion passed, with Alice Honig abstaining.
- Westcott Art Trail donation: Damian Vallelonga moved and Alice Honig seconded donating \$75; passed unanimously. Damian offered to develop a graphic for the Trail brochure.
- Stickley House mailing and reception: UNPA will take ownership of the house in the near future which means that exterior work will begin. To involve the near neighbors on Columbus and inform them what is going on, a reception is being planned to be held at the house. Given the large number of student renters and apartments on that block, flyers will be distributed.

- Earth Day clean-up: Starting with breakfast at the WCC, volunteers will work in the neighborhood to clear away the accumulated debris and trash from the winter. Event is scheduled for Saturday, Apr. 23, rain or shine.

7. Item reports:

- Website update: none.

8. Neighbor input:

- Papa John's parking lot: signs have been installed directing people to appropriate parking; these are visible in both directions. This is not the only private lot in Syracuse which boots cars of offenders. A motion will be introduced at the Common Council to ban the practice.
- Go Chix has been replaced, or, menu augmented by Korean food.

9. Upcoming events:

- Eastside TNT: Tuesday, Apr. 12, 7 p.m. at Nottingham H.S.
- Plant swap and sale: Sunday, May 1, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at 404 Westcott St. (Bread & Roses)
- Plant sale: Saturday, May 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Syracuse Real Food Co-op, Kensington.
- Westcott Art Trail: Saturday-Sunday, June 4 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) and June 5 (12 noon-5 p.m.)