



**Monday, August 14th, 2017, 6:30pm – Petit Library
MINUTES**

WNA board members: D.J. Hellerman, Alice Honig, Grant Johnson, Lynne Odell, Damian Vallelonga, Marilyn Zaleon, Glenda Ranallo, Zoë Meighan, Megan Nugent,

WNA members and friends: Michael Greene, Jane Kalkbrenner, Nader Maroun, Lieutenant Don Schultz, Anna Kelley, Dennis Katz

6:30

1. Welcome / Introductions
 - Meeting called to order at 6:32 – light but we have a quorum
 - Absent: Jesse, Charles, Natalie, Brendan
 - Introductions, identify with your Street, Anna as Jake's proxy – can we do this?
2. Approval of Minutes / Agenda
 - Motion by: Alice Second: Lynn Passes unanimously – no abstain
 - Grant: any additional items? Damian wonders about Euclid paving
3. Fiscal Report
 - **August Treasurer Report:** Natalie via email, read by Grant
We have:
 - \$2,756.88 for operations
 - \$49.42 for cookbooks
 - \$1,576.63 for the planters

The account breakdown is:

- \$3,655.00 in Checking
- \$1,576.63 in Planters
- \$851.30 in Savings

Previous expenses for the cookbook were \$99.66 total (for planning purposes as we discuss printing more):

- \$35.00 Ansun Graphics – Cookbook Covers
- \$37.50 Syracuse Blueprint Cookbook Pages
- \$20.90 FedEx Cookbook Back Covers
- \$6.26 Cookbook Comb Binding Spines (we still have plenty of spines left)

We have received all of our UNSAAC money for FY2016/2017. We still have \$1,700 from TNT designated for the signage project. And then there's \$7,500 to expend before June 30, 2018.

There were no questions about the report.

4. Neighborhood SPD Report

- Lieutenant Schultz lives in DeWitt, but has 15 years of experience patrolling the Westcott neighborhood. For the past 30 days, burglary and car thefts are low. There was once report of vandalism on Cumberland. Burglaries have been isolated to SU / University Area.
- Some fail to report car break in – there is a teleserve/online reporting system when there is no suspect information.
- So far this has been a good year, but we've had problems with juveniles in the past. This has been the longest hiatus for a while.
- City-wide: pop-up, gang parties at Comfort Tyler Park (near Manly Fieldhouse), the new trend is to rent a warehouse and often the party grows beyond the host's ability to maintain control.
- The Thornden and Lexington areas are quiet.
- Question for Nader from Grant: Have the cameras along Euclid approved by common council? Nader confirms. Grant summarized the project with an admittedly biased position – check Daily Orange and Syracuse.com – the pitch for the cameras was crime.

6:52

5. Business: Old

- a. UNSAAC 2016-2017 – Neighborhood Signage: 3rd sign update (ECHO)
Damian: 2 new signs went up in July, the third more sculptural sign will go up at Harvard and Westcott – DPW is reviewing the revised plans and haven't had the final review for signoff. That is anticipated for the next week or two and then we will move ahead to fabricate and install. New component: due to its size, a new painting process is being devised - something community led, paint by numbers for the community to get involved with to keep an eye on for more buy in and care. Ideally, the sign will be finished by the end of the month, but DPW has it in administrative land. Done before the Westcott fair 3rd week of September. Seems possible.
- b. UNSAAC 2017-2018 – Street Amenities (Committee: Brendan, Damian, Zoë, DJ)
Damian: Kate Hammer, capable coordinator, to help out with the RFP process for amenities ideas from the community. Kate will do the RFP and the Marketing plan. Brendan has been the contact. She has a timeline and draft of language. Major opportunity is the street fair. Timeline for production seems tight. Grant is questioning the process, Damian doesn't know details. There will be edits. Outreach for neighborhood signage was good, but it is difficult to reach everyone. We still need to try. Timeline seems tight, should be adjusted.
Lynne: are we allowing people to give suggestions? Yes, it is an ideas question – on a Post-it or a complete proposal.

Ward Wellington Ward walking tour summary

Led by famed neighborhood historian, Sam Gruber, it was great. Grant attended along with 40 other people. Rain held off. Sam gave \$75 to WNA, already given to Natalie. If you missed this tour, your loss. Another person

agreed. Renovated house was with wine, nice touch. Question: will it go on the site. Eventually, yes. We have ideas for that. Eventually it will happen. Zoë reports that all of the author information is in process. Research is happening. Alice has only written a couple of dozen books.

Street light audit.

WNA expanded the territory surveyed and ½ the number of dark lights. Great news! Question from Grant: can we help other communities do this? Yes, Damian would do this. Nader responds: two key things each community needs – the leadership and the organization. Alice added that Nader is always pivotal to establishing the relationships. Neighborhood watch groups are good too. TNT has block captains who might be a good fit for the expansion.

7:19

6. Business: New

- a. Levy Middle School – Zoë: dreams of it as a community center, after a year-long stall she is now back, up and running. She spoke with the Westcott community center and they have interest, if Zoë does the work. The location is good to engage across Genesee. Starting a community dialogue and needs help. Lynne, is opposed. She thinks it should be senior center housing. Grant reminds us, WNA leads the conversation, not take a stand, yet. Damian is sad to see it just sit there empty. Owen Carney said maybe 5 years. NADER chimes in on the reality of the situation is – not to damper the dreaming – it will be a continued swing space. Phase 2, 14 spaces to go – most likely 2023 before SCSD are done with phase two. And, there will be a phase 3 – 32 buildings total, only 4 have been rehabbed. If graduation rates continue to increase, there is not enough space. Levy was a High School and they may need it for that. Nader may have dashed the dreams. But, maybe it can be a community space again too. Nader: some schools are doing this – not all. He agrees in theory. But, cost and expenses won't be recouped. Alice has seen this type of high functioning environment. Yes, worthy of the conversation. Nader suggests going to the superintendent.
- b. Buildings Speak/Building speak walking tour sponsorship – September date TBA Sam Gruber walking tour – in and around the Stickley house on Columbus Ave. Late September ok. Charles has offered his garden as a stopping point. Motion by Lynne for WNA to partner with Sam in the same capacity as the Ward Wellington Ward tour. Second: Damian; vote: passes unanimously no opposition or abstentions.
- c. Taste of Westcott – Thursday, August 31st – (2) volunteers needed Held by SU, typically we table at that. Grant signed us up. 6:30 – 8:30, Irwin Methodist Church – free food. Damian thought it was going to be a waste of time, but it wasn't. Zoe and Damian will represent WNA: DJ on reserve if he doesn't travel.
- d. Westcott Street Cultural Fair – planning
 1. Parade volunteers
 2. Sign-up sheet for shifts - circulating
 3. Materials needed
 4. Cookbook reprintZoe wanted to do a basket raffle. Sam wanted to do Westcott trivia. Alice wants to make sure we can sell cookbooks.

The basket would be materials for the basket. Damian likes the trivia, but it needs a presence. Westcott prize wheel.

We are out of magnets and pins. We have stickers. WNA will use Lynne's tables and tent.

7:30

7. Item Reports

- a. Planters – Wrappings – ECHO
Damian: We did a test. It looked ok. But, we may be editing the wrap a bit. We will figure it out before the fair for the thank yours.
 - b. Communication Committee & Website Updates – newsletter for TOW/WSCF
No update. We need a newsletter for the fair.
- Huckster hill report. It looks great. Next year we may explore burning the weeds.
 - Misc things from Grant:
 - Stickley kickoff event Thursday. Phase 1 exterior is happening before winter
 - UNPA potluck and annual meeting in September 6, Barry park
 - Euclid Paving: Nader: reports it hasn't been decided. He is meeting tomorrow with DPW commissioner and other Common Councilors: 4/10 of a mile – less about bike safety than it was about fiscal responsibility for the city. State has made money available. We'll see tomorrow. SYR has 400 miles of roadway and only 2 million in annual funds. Perpendicular street to Euclid is a National Grid project for water, and city contributes ADA curb cuts. More to come.
 - Nader makes concluding remarks as he concludes his time as a common councilor: thanks the committee for coming out month after month. "It's inspirational for me." You are active and engaged, we are blessed and fortunate, to have a diverse group of active citizens young to old.

Meeting adjourned at 7:49.

**Next WNA Meeting:
Monday, September 11th, 2017 @ 6:30pm, Petit Library**