



Westcott Neighborhood Association

June 8, 2015

Board meeting minutes

NEXT MEETING: Regular monthly meeting, July 13, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library

Persons registering as in attendance (at Alice Honig's home, 317 Allen St.):

Starke Donnally, Kathy Downing, Alice Honig, Grant Johnson, Natalie Stetson, Charles Tremper, Damian Vallelonga, Marilyn Zaleon.

1. Grant Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:15.
2. Old business:
 - a. Update Board contact list: Will be done at a later date.
 - b. Graduate Student Association goals and objectives: Has been pending for some time with a lack of clarity as to original intent of the outreach. Grant will contact Kate Hammer for an update.
 - c. Committees:
 - a. Communication has been most active.
 - b. Programming in a general way has been inactive; specific projects such as the cookbook have been developed independently of the committee. Using the committee to plan programming for the regular meetings was discussed and seen as way to make meetings more relevant to the neighborhood.
 - c. Financial: Starke and Natalie are the 2 involved.
 - d. Beautification: defunct, despite obvious needs in the business district.
 - e. Revival of WNA awards to recognize service to the community and individual property improvements was proposed, with the Board serving as the selectors. Recognition will be part of the annual meeting.
 - f. Proposed survey of members for interests and to identify projects members would be willing to work on.
3. Projects:
 - a. UNSAAC grant for pedestrian safety project at corner of Euclid and Westcott (Grabby's). Design Professor Zeke Leonard (from the neighborhood) will conduct an independent study with 3 students to develop a solution to prevent cars from cutting across the sidewalk to get from Westcott to Euclid. Project to include a site analysis, study and research, meetings with the community, with the goal of having a proposed solution by spring 2016.
 - b. UNSAAC/WNA initiatives: still awaiting SU and the city to negotiate the future of UNSAAC. A coalition of neighborhood groups sent the mayor an overview of UNSAAC projects and their value to residents. WNA will begin developing an UNSAAC "wish list" for possible future projects. Damian proposed WNA sponsor a neighborhood-wide survey of street lights to identify those not working to be submitted to Nader Maroun for action. Several board members volunteered and the survey will be conducted during July.
 - c. Website and WNA brand: Damian reported that the WNA Website would be launched on June 30, with a launch party at Recess July 1, with a press release. The site will contain basic

neighborhood and business information, Sam Gruber's tours, as well as introducing West talk, with volunteer committed to producing 2 articles per year for both information and to stimulate discussion. The current WNA site will be amalgamated into the new site. Damian will be working on WNA graphic identity and the "new look" will be ready by the Fair in September. WNA will need to take responsibility for further Website development and maintenance. Damian said \$2000 of the grant remains unspent and he will use that money as needed to continue work on the site, with a reporting out at monthly meetings as part of the financial reports until that sum is spent.

4. Marketing and fund-raising.
 - a. Street Fair: The group approved by consensus Starke's writing a \$50 check to cover WNA participation in the 2015 Fair. Starke has a table and Lynn a tent. Planning for the table covered such issues as insuring membership forms are available, along with the cookbook and tablet or other access to the Website. Natalie will produce an updated membership list.
 - b. Cookbook: Funding will come partly from WNA's participation in the Food Co-op's 1% Wednesdays under which WNA will receive 1% of total sales the 4 Wednesdays of June. All present were encouraged to do our shopping on Wednesdays this month. Cookbook submission forms will be available on the Co-op. Damian will send out an email on this.
 - c. Promoting WNA on Facebook and other social media: Share WNA postings via Facebook. Natalie asked if folks had any "historic" photos of the neighborhood. She will scan and post them if brought to July meeting.
 - d. Recruitment: Identifying potential board members should be done by January, so interested parties can attend a couple meetings to get a feel for things. Agreed to undertake a membership drive in September using the newsletter, the Website, and the Fair as venues.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 and those present thanked Alice for her generous hospitality and delicious food.