



**Westcott Neighborhood Association
June 13, 2016, 6:30pm, Petit Library
Meeting minutes -- DRAFT**

NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 11, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library

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 members and friends: Gabe Coleman, Tony Gigliotti, Stephen Harris, Nader Maroun, Zoe Meighan.

1. Welcome and introductions:
Grant Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:34; those present introduced themselves.
2. Approval of the April 10th and the May 9th board minutes: Natalie Stetson moved and Kathy Downing seconded approval of both sets of minutes; passed unanimously.
3. Fiscal report:
Starke Donnally reported \$4,737.27 in the account, with some \$2,700 committed.
4. Neighborhood SPD report:
Officer Whittles not present; Nader reported that nothing had been received and that he had no information on the recent shooting on Westcott.
5. Business: Old
 - Street corner safety project update:
 - o Brendan Rose reported he had met with DPW and CENTRO. CENTRO not interested; WNA will assume responsibility for upkeep of shelter. Goal remains to have project completed by August to include new curbing, with a new curb cut, tree lawns, and trees. Will meet with property owner who will have responsibility for mowing grass.
 - o Nader Maroun raised the need for WNA to request a letter detailing city responsibilities, including liability insurance, with WNA being responsible only for long-term maintenance. Damian will email Nader with this.

- Westcott Street Flower planters:
 - o After initial missteps, including losing a planter and using the wrong soil, plants are now taking hold. Water reservoirs should insure up to 30 days without need to water.
 - o Starke purchased additional petunias which will drape over sides and soften planters; help requested to plant them
 - o Brendan described metal “wrapping” for planters, featuring asymmetrical designs using Westcott color palette. Plan to have installed within 4-6 weeks.

6. Business: New

- UNSAAC proposals due July 7:
 - o Brendan Rose distributed details on 178 Steps project to rehabilitate the Westminster Stairs: repairing bricks and pavements; installing new lighting and new hand rails and rejuvenating plantings. SU, ESF, the city, and neighbors would be involved in planning and designs.
 - o Damian Vallelonga described a series of projects to expand Westcott branding, including banners that would be up beyond time of the fair, signage for the neighborhood, more attractive trash cans, murals, sculpture and art. (Nader Maroun provided background on UNSAAC and recent changes in response to a question from Zoe Meighan.)
 - o Alice Honig moved and Damian Vallelonga seconded the 178 Steps project; passed unanimously. Alice Honig moved and Brendan Rose seconded the Signage/murals/trash cans project; passed unanimously.
- Proposed by-law updates:
 - o Article III: Fiscal year. Proposal to change fiscal year to begin July 1st and end June 30th. Starke Donnally moved and Damian Vallelonga seconded acceptance of the change; passed unanimously. Filing form 990 will be necessitated to cover the changed year; Tony Gigliotti offered assistance if needed.
 - o Article VIII: Proposals call for electing 7 directors and 8 directors in alternate years; limiting terms of directors to 3 consecutive two-year terms, with a mandatory year off the board (unless director is elected president or vice president); and requiring that at least 2/3 of directors must reside or work in the 13210 or 13224 zip codes. Discussion points included: from those supporting the measure: tasking members to seek out new members and potential board members and encouraging newer members to step assume more responsibility; from those opposed: against involuntary termination of board members with proven interest and record of service. Damian Vallelonga moved and Charles Tremper seconded approval of the changes; passed with 7 board members voting yes; 1 against; and one abstaining.

- o Street light audit: to be scheduled for July with report to be sent to Nader Maroun.
- o 2016 street fair: Starke will submit application, with request for a change in booth location to be submitted later; Damian to talk with Sharon Sherman about this.

7. Business: New

- Website update: none
- Cookbook update: Natalie reported work ongoing.
- Stickley House update: Grant reported Board had met and he is vice president.
- Westcott remembers:
 - o Michael Moody brick: Grant has family contacts and will pursue.
 - o Proposed brick for Ollie Clubb: Natalie Stetson moved and Stark Donnally seconded WNA sponsoring a brick for Ollie, a founding member of the organization.

8. Neighbor input: none

9. Upcoming events:

- Eastside TNT: Tuesday, June 14, 7 p.m., Nottingham High School (Kathy Downing likely to attend)
- Rose Day: Wednesday, June 15, 12 noon-3 p.m., Mills Rose Garden, Thornden Park.
- Thornden Park Association Garden Tour: Sunday, June 26, 1-4 p.m., \$15 tickets to benefit the Association.

