



## July 11, 2016, 6:30pm, Petit Library Meeting minutes -- DRAFT

**NEXT MEETING: Monday, Aug. 8, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library**

### **Persons registering in attendance:**

**WNA board members:** Jesse Daino, Kathy Downing, Alice Honig, Grant Johnson, Lynne Odell, Natalie Stetson, Charles Tremper, Damian Vallelonga, Marilyn Zaleon

**WNA members and friends:** Jane Begley, Tony Gigliotti, Sam Gruber, Jane Kalkbrenner, Nader Maroun, Ben Tupper, Keith Weil, Dan Whittles (SPD)

1. Welcome and introductions:  
Grant Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30; those present introduced themselves.
2. Approval of the June 13<sup>th</sup> minutes: Kathy Downing moved and Alice Honig seconded approval; passed unanimously.
3. Neighborhood SPD report: Officer Whittles reported that the recent homicide in Dorian's parking lot had been a "targeted shooting" and that the investigation was ongoing. Dorian's is investigating installing cameras and the possibility of hiring off-duty police for the off hours. The June 6<sup>th</sup> shooting followed random shots being fired, with one of the perpetrators being shot in the foot; no cooperation from witnesses or those involved in either incident. The Westcott theatre owner faces closure if there is another incident with an open event (renting out the space to a third party). There have been 19 burglaries, 9 in occupied houses. Officer Whittles cautioned about leaving deposit items in blue bins, after one "can picker" stole 2 recently-delivered packages. Jay walking and parking issues were raised. Goal remains to ticket miscreants. New police are being trained.
4. Fiscal report:  
Natalie Stetson reported \$3,197.87, with some \$1,100 available for general operations and the rest committed to project reimbursement. Damian Vallelonga moved and Charles Tremper seconded reimbursing Starke Donnally \$129.00 for plants he purchased for the planters; passed unanimously.

Grant reported that Starke had resigned as treasurer and from the Board. Members were urged to reach out to him. Alice Honig moved and Damian Vallelonga seconded the appointment of Natalie Stetson as sole treasurer; passed unanimously.

## 5. Business: Old

- Street corner safety project update:
  - Damian reported that new curbing and concrete pads for the shelter had been installed; unpaved area will be seeded for grass with the hopes of obtaining a small tree. Bus canopy to be installed in the next 2-3 weeks, with benches to follow. Some upset at new curb cut expressed by property owner. Damian will send PDF's of final design to the group. Questions about additional bus stops have been received.
- Westcott Street Flower planters: metal bands will be in place by the time of the street fair.
- UNSAAC:
- Some 17 proposals have been received, with WNA submitting 2, the 178 steps and upgrades for the streetscape: signs, trash cans, benches, bike racks, etc. A public meeting on the recommendations will be held Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m., at City Hall Commons atrium.

In response to a report that the trash can at Harvard and Allen had been damaged and removed, Nader Maroun said he would look into the replacement.

Alice moved to thank the group responsible for the proposals. All agreed.

## 6. Business: New

- Street light audit: scheduled for dusk, July 25; volunteers may work times that suit them and report to Damian who will compile the master list for Nader Maroun who will submit it to National Grid. Damian will contact group with additional information.
- Street Fair and other events:
  - No final decision on location of WNA table.
  - Taste of Westcott to be held September 1<sup>st</sup>, details to follow
  - Small business/winter weekend (weekend after Thanksgiving), with goal of urging businesses to offer sales or other deals for customers in hopes of encouraging holiday shoppers to shop local. Melo Velo had a good response to their offer last year; Jesse will check to see if Recess experienced something similar.
- Board member removal:

Due to scheduling conflicts, new board member Asomgyee Pamoja cannot attend Monday meetings. In light of this, Damian will contact him about his inability to meet the by-laws' requirement and inform him of the removal from the board. Damian moved and Charles Tremper seconded the removal; passed unanimously.

7. Item reports:

- Website update: up and running for one year, with some 20,000 views and 6,000 repeaters. Architecture tours heavily viewed; events listing kept current by Damian.
- Cookbook update: Natalie hopes to have 25 or so recipes; plans remain to have it available by time of the street fair.
- Stickley House update: Grant reported foundation has been granted 501 C3 status and has website: [gustavstickleyhousefoundation.org](http://gustavstickleyhousefoundation.org)
- Westcott remembers: Wording for the Ollie Clubb and Michael Moody bricks finalized at meeting; Natalie will submit paperwork to the Library.

8. Neighbor input:

Sam Gruber reported that the Westcott Florist had removed the 1940s tile as part of its façade upgrade; Norm Roth has purchased the Ward Wellington Ward house at 564 Allen and will restore it; Sam has written nomination in support of listing the property on the National Register of Historic Places. Thursday night trivia at Beer Belly is very successful.

Jane Begley asked if there were plans to keep the Police storefront open at night in the wake of the 2 recent shootings.

9. Upcoming events:

- Eastside TNT: No July or August meetings
- Garden volunteer hours at Thornden Park: Wednesday, July 13, 5-7 p.m. at Madison Street entrance; Friday, July 15, 1-3 p.m. at E.M. Mills Rose Garden.
- UNPA potluck: Thursday, July 21, 5:30 p.m. at Barry Park.
- Public meeting on UNSAAC funding recommendations: Monday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m., at City Hall Commons atrium.

