



**Sept. 12, 2016, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library
Meeting minutes -- DRAFT**

NEXT MEETING: Monday, Oct. 10 , 2016, 6:30 p.m., Petit Library

Persons registering in attendance:

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

WNA members and friends: Sgt. William Croft (SPD), Starke Donnally, Tony Gigliotti, Zoe Meighan, Susan Rainey, Glenda Ranallo, Andrew Younts

1. Welcome and introductions:
Grant Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30; those present introduced themselves.
2. Approval of the August 8th minutes: Alice Honig moved Lynne Odell seconded approval; passed unanimously.
3. Fiscal report: Natalie Stetson report some \$5,172.39 in the account; subtracting the money designated for the planters, leaves some \$2,500 for operations.
4. Neighborhood SPD report: Sgt. Croft reported a series of burglaries from student apartments with the familiar pattern of access being gained via unlocked windows or doors. Robberies reported at various times of the day, with victims being approached seemingly at random. Sgt. Croft suggested walkers remain aware of who is near them and speaking to and looking at people could inhibit the robbery, since victim would presumably be able to identify the robber. Gang-related violence remains a concern with a stabbing in Barry Park being the latest example; the victim was, unsurprisingly, not cooperative. Later in the evening, Grant raised a concern from Jesse Daino of Recess concerning panhandling on their property and in their shop. Issue not simply a matter of policing, with need for social services and other intervention being raised.
5. Business: Old
 - Street corner safety project update:
Ribbon-cutting held September 1st; a label, crediting WNA with the project will be installed.
 - Westcott Street Flower planters:

Some plants were vandalized, or, dug out by animals. Three metal wrappers have been made by Brendan as a test. With the plants intended to cascade over the sides of the planters, those present discussed whether the bands were really necessary, with agreement reached that the money for the bands be held in reserve for another purpose. Alice Honig moved and Damian Vallelonga seconded this proposal which passed unanimously. Signs crediting to sponsors of individual planters will be installed. Grant raised the need to create a better means for watering the plants; collaboration with the Thornden Park Association is a possibility, since they need to care for plantings in the park

- Taste of Westcott:
Slower this year, perhaps because of competing events, with contact being made with a small number of interested students. Street light audit deemed a success.

6. Business: New

- Street Fair
Plans for the day were reviewed, with Natalie and Grant meeting at 11:30 for the parade; Lynn will supply the tent; Grant, the chairs; Starke, the table; Damian computers for the booth. Cookbook will be available for sale. A sign-up sheet for volunteers to staff the booth was passed around.
- UNSAAC:
WNA awarded \$15,000 over the next 2 years for amenities for the streetscape. Priorities discussed include a neighborhood welcome sign (cost possibly to be shared with TNT); trash cans (Zoe proposed recycling as part of these); and benches. Plans will be discussed with appropriate property owners, but amenities added will be on city right of way and not on private property. (Not everyone sees changes as improvements.) Holiday lighting, with possibility of merchant support for funding was also discussed.
- Westcott Winter weekend: still in planning phase.

7. Item reports:

- Communications Committee update: newsletter being planned, with paper issue available at WNA booth at the fair.
- Website update: enhancements possibly part of the UNSAAC grant.
- Cookbook update: With production cost at \$5 or under, decision made to sell cookbook at the Fair for \$10, of as part of a deal for new memberships. 30 copies in initial print run. Zoe suggested a raffle for the ingredients of one of the recipes; idea to be pursued.
- Stickley House update: Grant reported some \$30,000 had been raised at the August 28th fundraiser; meetings with Pam Hunter, assemblywoman, concerning possible grants to be held.

- Westcott remembers: Ollie Clubb and Michael Moody bricks have been completed; Alice Honig moved and group unanimously agreed to accept them and have them installed, despite variations in capitalization.

8. Neighbor input:

Kathy Downing raised incident of loud party at 107 Trinity and the SPD non-response. Sgt. Croft said to call 911 and that the address would be added to those periodically checked by the Neighborhood Safety Patrol.

9. Upcoming events:

- Eastside TNT: Tuesday, September 13th, 7-8:30 p.m., Nottingham High School. Marilyn and Starke likely to attend.
- UNPA annual meeting and potluck: Thursday, September 15, 5:30 p.m. at Thornden Park Fieldhouse.
- Westcott Street Cultural Street Fair, Sunday, September 18, noon-6 p.m.

