

**WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES—DECEMBER 18, 2014**

IN ATTENDANCE

Josh Boehme, Dan Boutell, Cathy Cunningham, Kim Fauson, Veronica Gracia-Wing, Cheryl Hecksel, Paul Holland, Maureen Nelson

EXCUSED

Danielle Casavant, Tim Kovacik, Cassandra Nelson, Emily Stevens

UNEXCUSED

Suzanne Knight, Jackie Payne, Paul Pratt, John Stratton

CALL TO ORDER

Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:35 without quorum.

OLD BUSINESS

The following items were accomplished:

- **Casavant** will organize a 2015 Strategic Plan and Budget meeting.
- **Holland** will contact Keith Kris re: printing a sign or banner for neighborhood events.
- **Hecksel** will contact Sexton High School to reserve the space for the 2015 Annual Meeting.
- **Payne** will contact BWL and Elder Law re: copy for newsletter.
- **Boutell** will write article on the Financial Empowerment Center.

NEW BUSINESS

- Casavant received a request from Dayle Benjamin, who organizes the holiday meals for the Lansing Police Department each year. Benjamin asked for a contribution from the WNA. Without quorum, the board could not act on this request.
- On December 16 Casavant and Cunningham met with Andi Crawford, the Neighborhood Resources Coordinator for the city. Her position is half-time for one year. She is meeting with different groups to present a plan to City Council as to how they can best communicate and serve neighborhoods now that the LNC has been disbanded.
- Directors' liability insurance is available from Mid-MEAC through Auto Owners for \$135.00 per year.
- Julie Powers at the Neighborhood Empowerment Organization may be able to help print the newsletter. Boutell will contact her.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Report submitted; reviewed and signed by Fauson.

NEWSLETTER

- The newsletter was sent to the printer December 8. The invoice arrived and was given to Boehme, who will pay it upon newsletter delivery.
- It may not be feasible to print and mail a quarterly newsletter if the board cannot find a way to cut down on printing and mailing costs. As it stands, our newsletter will eat $\frac{3}{4}$ of our budget in 2015 if we cannot find an alternative. The board informally discussed alternatives but no decision was reached. Further discussion will occur at the January 11 Planning and

Budget meeting. In the meantime, Gracia-Wing will research models and best practices for producing neighborhood association newsletters.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT

Victoria Keith, wife of Willard Walker, has proposed that we rename St. Joe Park in his honor. Both Keith and Walker are members of the neighborhood. Walker has served the city's youth for 50 years, many of his activities taking place at St. Joe Park. The Park Board has requested that we give input to them before they make their decision. Should they approve renaming, the decision will go to the Memorial Review Board, then to City Council for a final vote. Further discussion will take place at the WNA Strategic Planning Meeting in January, at which point an electronic vote will be taken.

ANNUAL MEETING

- Each committee chair will make a brief statement to share highlights from the past year and a rundown of what is coming up in 2015.
- Each board member is asked to bring a dish to pass. Hecksel will create a Google document and share it with board members to coordinate dishes.
- Furniture arrangement and set-up were discussed.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Fauson thanked retiring board members for their service.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

ACTION ITEMS

- **Fauson** will turn over Westside history materials to **C. Nelson**.
- **Gracia-Wing** will develop a memorandum of understanding with **Kovacik** in order to improve communications between RACER Trust and the WNA.
- **Boutell** will contact Julie Powers at the Neighborhood Empowerment Organization to see if she can help with newsletter printing.
- **Gracia-Wing** will research models and best practices for producing neighborhood association newsletters.
- **Hecksel** will create a Google document for board members to coordinate food for the WNA Annual Meeting.
- **2014 committee chairs** will prepare a brief statement to share highlights from the past year and a rundown of what is coming up in 2015 at the WNA Annual Meeting.