

**WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES—AUGUST 27, 2015**

DIRECTORS IN ATTENDANCE

Danielle Casavant, Caryn Coyle, Cathy Bacile Cunningham, Kristie Dickinson, Kimberlyn Fauson, Veronica Gracia-Wing, Emily Johnson, Cassandra Nelson, Maureen Nelson, Emily Stevens, Cheryl Williams-Hecksel

CALL TO ORDER

Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. Quorum present.

AGENDA

MOTION by Coyle to approve the agenda. Motion adopted without objection.

MINUTES

MOTION by Coyle, seconded by Gracia-Wing, to approve the June 2015 minutes. Motion adopted.

MOTION by Gracia-Wing, seconded by Coyle, to approve the July 2015 minutes. Motion adopted.

GUEST SPEAKER

WNA member Jackie Payne updated the Board on plans for the upcoming Child Health and Safety Fair. She is seeking help from the directors on obtaining prize donations and reaching out to organizations who might be interested in having a booth at the fair. Relevant documents will be sent to the directors via e-mail.

OLD BUSINESS

The following action items from July 2015 have been completed or are no longer applicable:

- **Williams-Hecksel** will help Jackie Payne create a Google doc to facilitate volunteer sign-up for the Child Health and Safety Fair.
- **Casavant** will help **Coyle** print a copy of the Articles of Incorporation.
- **Fauson** will set a date for November and December board meetings (with director input) and will book the Community Room at Letts for those dates.

The following action item from July 2015 will be placed on this month's list of action items.

- **M. Nelson** will solicit volunteers on Facebook to adhere the disks to the storm drains.

The following actions were taken by electronic vote since the July meeting:

MOTION by Gracia-Wing, seconded by Cunningham, for the Westside Neighborhood Association Board of Directors to officially endorse the 2015 Lansing Parks Millage renewal on the August 4, 2015, ballot. Official endorsement will include the sharing of information on the WNA Facebook Group Page, asking neighbors to vote "yes" on the millage, and other forms of endorsement, including, but not limited to opinion letter submissions and verbal endorsements on behalf of the WNA. Motion adopted July 27, 2015.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

- Since there was no one advocating for moving meetings to 6:30, meetings will stay at 6:00 for the remainder of the year.
- November and December meetings will be moved up a week to the third Thursdays of those months due to the holidays. Dates are November 19 and December 17.

- Paul Holland resigned from the Board. Since he could not attend the meeting, he asked that his statement be read at the meeting and included in these minutes:

"It was a true privilege to serve on this Board over the past year and a half and I am humbled by the ambition and dedication of the people with whom I was fortunate to serve. Although I was dimly aware of the strong community presence in the Westside Neighborhood when I purchased a house here over three years ago, I could never have fully appreciated the extent of the esprit de corps that exists amongst our neighbors. Unfortunately, due to lamentable circumstances affecting my personal affairs, I will be listing my house for sale in the imminent future and, consequently, feel it appropriate that I should resign from the Board effective immediately. I would like to express my gratitude to each one of you for your service to and support of our community and my confidence that our neighborhood is in the very best of hands. Lastly, if anyone on the Board is interested in overseeing the "Thump the Stumps" initiative, I am more than willing to continue my efforts on that project for as long as I am in the neighborhood. Again, thank you all and I wish you all success and contentment."

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- The final Lugnuts payments have been deposited.
- Coyle submitted a financial statement to the Board. We have \$10,965.32 in our account. This number does not reflect payment for the summer newsletter nor a reimbursement to Casavant for the money she spent on the picnic.
- Our accounts have not been switched to Astera Credit Union yet because Coyle has had difficulty locating the proper documents needed to do so. In addition, with Fiesta ticket sales and expenditures now on the horizon, she would prefer to finish the year at LAFUCU and switch to Astera at the beginning of 2016.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

EVENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

- Casavant distributed ten Fiesta tickets to each director and gave instructions for how to record ticket sales. Directors who sell all ten tickets may contact Casavant for more.
- A Fiesta Committee meeting is set for Tuesday, September 15, at 6:00 P.M. at Harry's.
- Hecksel handed out a document that outlines the procedure for soliciting donations for the silent auction. It is expected that all directors will solicit donations and use the Google forms provided in the WNA Google documents folder to track those items in accordance with the procedures outlined by Hecksel.
- John Addis is creating a poster that can be displayed at area businesses and used on Facebook to promote the event.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Holland has resigned, so we need a new committee chair.

GOOD AND WELFARE

- Bill Morris of the Downtown Neighborhood Association contacted Casavant, asking to shadow our candidates forum, but we are not having one this fall. Since our newsletter deadline is August 31, it would be impossible to organize a forum and publicize it. However, Colonial Village is hosting a forum, and provided that items on their ballot apply to our neighborhood, it might be worthwhile to promote the event to WNA members.
- The possibility of applying for a Love Your Block grant was mentioned in the event that the Thump the Stumps program falls through.

- Jackie Payne is working hard to make the Child Health and Safety Fair a go without the support of the Community Relations Committee. The Executive Board will address how to give Jackie and her subcommittee of volunteers the support it needs.

ADOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 P.M.

ACTION ITEMS

- **C. Nelson** will e-mail a list of WNA accomplishments that she uses for grant writing to Jackie Payne.
- **Coyle** will submit copies of financial documents needed to fill out the Meijer donation form to Jackie Payne.
- **Cunningham** will get an update from Holland regarding the Thump the Stumps program.
- **M. Nelson** will solicit volunteers on Facebook to adhere disks to the storm drains.
- **Fauson** will reserve the Community Room at Letts for November 19 and December 17.