

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

January 13, 2015

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Steve Skalski, Lance Clem, Joanne Asher, Neil Jorgenson, Tim McHugh, Biddie Labrot, Susan Payne, Lance Musselman, Darrell Oliver, John Kudrycki.

The Board meeting was brought order by Steve at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's

The minutes for the November 11, 2014 meeting were reviewed and amended. Tim made a Motion to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Neil; all approved.

Committee reports:

Fourth of July: Biddie will contact Lori Poole and let the Board know if she is planning for the July 4th event.

Newsletter:

Lance M reviewed questions submitted by Becky and Mark regarding the next newsletter. There was a lot of support for the new format and the excellent job being done by Becky and Mark.

Steve will write up the Board candidates and Biddie will write up the INC candidates (and we may host a meet-the-candidates event for District 6 at S. High or the PD station). Joanne, Tim and Biddie agreed to write their columns for the spring edition, and there was discussion about how to highlight WPE businesses – places to eat, new liquor licenses – by updating the list done two years ago on where to eat in WPE. Another idea was to put a map on the website showing the locations of WPE businesses.

There was concern about newsletter delivery, which has been spotty. Two of the eight Board members had not received theirs, and Biddie said that she had asked Becky to check with the distributor.

Fund raiser: Neil Jorgenson

The fund raiser at Reiver's will be held Thursday, January 15th. Forms have been printed in the newsletter along with the notice about the fund raiser, which need to be turned in to the server for credit to WPENA.

Crime and Safety: Joanne Asher

December's crime rate was low. There were four home burglaries, all involving unlocked doors. An armed robbery occurred January 4th in the alley between York and Gaylord, possibly involving employees of one of the restaurants, who were robbed while leaving at the end of their shift.

Another phone scam is making the rounds, involving a caller who claims that you missed your assigned jury duty and then tries to collect money.

The crime expo at S. High may be held again this summer. Joanne will know more about this soon.

Zoning: Biddie Labrot

Tap & Dough received their liquor license.

Sweet Leaf's owner has opened new shops on East Evans and in Aurora, but there are no signs that the shop at Mississippi and Gaylord is closing. Biddie and Joanne will check whether the owner can sell the store to a new owner by transferring ownership.

Park/FANS: Tim McHugh

Tim attended the last FANS meeting, where there was concern that WPENA's request for photos for our website and monthly email could interfere with FANS' annual photo contest, perhaps confusing some people. There was consensus to support the FANS contest in our monthly emailer, on our website, and decide later on if we should stop soliciting photos. Biddie proposed printing trivia questions about WPE in the monthly emailer, and will come up with some sample questions for Neil.

The next FANS meeting will deal with problems with the geese in the park, turf management and defining passive use areas of the park for this summer.

INC: Susan Payne and Tim McHugh

Tim reported that INC had voted against the city's proposal to allow entertainment districts for local business areas, which would allow bars to remain open after 2 a.m. and let people take their drinks with them as they wandered through the area.

Susan reported on a silent auction that INC will hold to raise money. They are looking for donations to the auction from local businesses.

Croquet: Susan Payne

Susan proposed holding a croquet/happy hour event this spring, perhaps at Tap & Dough.

Membership: Susan Payne.

Nearly one thousand dollars in membership dues were collected in December.

Business membership:

Neil has sent out membership forms to WPE businesses with the new rate.

Guest: Paul Kashman

Paul is running for District 6 in May. Resident of the Wash Park area for 40 years and publisher of the monthly Profile newspaper, Paul wants to restore faith in government. Growth is affecting our neighborhoods, transportation congestion is getting worse and affordable housing shortages are forcing families out of the core areas. A middle ground on condo insurance issues needs to be found. The effects of recreational marijuana must be monitored and the benefits maximized.

Paul proposes to be an advisor to the Council on South Denver needs, to establish a South Denver Chamber of Commerce to help small businesses, and establish a youth leadership program to acquaint youth with government service.

Other business:

There was discussion about whether to dismiss Jonathan Jensen from the Board. He has not attended a Board meeting since last summer and does not respond to email requests. It was decided to try to contact him again and decide next month whether to dismiss him.

Treasurer's Report: Biddie Labrot, WPENA Treasurer, reviewed current revenues and expenses.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m. by Steve.