

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

DATE: May 10, 2016

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tim McHugh, Susan Payne, Lance Musselman, Neil Jorgenson and Joanne Asher.

The Board meeting was brought order by Tim at 6:45 p.m. at St. John's

The minutes for the April 12th meeting were reviewed. Neil made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Joanne; all approved

The Board, guests and speakers were introduced.

Presenters:

Grace Lopez Ramirez, Community Liaison, Denver Office of Special Events. This is a new agency, created about one year ago to study the impact of special events on city property and to coordinate scheduling. Four years ago Denver had about 450 special events per year, now about 700. About 90% are private; 17 city agencies are involved in special events. Event permit holders are required to notify RNO's. The website has information about scheduling on their event calendar at www.denvergov.org/specialevents. 311 online is accessible via pocketgov, where one can sign up for notifications.

Mike Lute, Denver Recycles, Solid Waste Management. Denver Recycles distributed about 25000 carts last year and has finished most of WPE; only a small area south of the park is left. Another 35000 are to be distributed this year, and the changes to the garbage pickup schedule have to be coordinated between garbage, recycling and compost schedules. They have noticed less illegal dumping this year.

Treasurer's Report:

Tim presented the report on revenues and expenses for the past month. Revenue since the last report were from membership. As of May 3, 2016, WPENA had \$10,668.18 in the bank. The IRS has approved our application for 501c4 status. The report was accepted.

Elections:

This was the annual meeting of the WPENA, and time to elect Board members. Five Board members were present, two non-Board members were present, and Tim and Lance brought another 12 proxy votes, exceeding the number of voting members necessary for electing Board members.

Tim reviewed the WPENA Bylaws and election requirements. Tim nominated Lance Musselman, Joanne Asher, Susan Payne and William Tracy for the Board of Directors; lance Musselman nominated Tim McHugh for the Board of Directors. There being no further nominations for the Board of Directors, Joanne made a motion to close nominations; Neil seconded, all approved. Voting proceeded, members and proxy votes elected the five nominees.

The Board of Directors then chose the following Officers:

President: Tim McHugh

Treasurer: William Tracy

Secretary: lance Musselman

Committee Reports:

Newsletter:

Lance Musselman reminded the Board that the deadline for articles was May 15th, and the Board discussed ideas and deadlines for the summer edition with Mikki Wilder, the newsletter editor.

Monthly Emailer:

Susan is taking over this job, as Neil is moving out of the neighborhood. She asked that material be sent to her by the 20th of each month. Susan will also monitor the email traffic on the website.

Crime and Safety:

Joanne Asher reported that there were only 18 calls in April from our district, including one burglary. Car thefts are up.

The PD will have a new Community Relations Officer next month.

People have been complaining about solicitors, particularly after dark, which is illegal. Ask to see their ID's if it is not visible, and call the non-emergency number at the PD if you have concerns.

Zoning:

Tim reviewed two zoning variance requests that were the subjects of the zoning committee. One was for walls that were built too close together; although WPENA recommended denial of the variance, the city allowed it. The other case involved setbacks and lack of permits for several improvements, for which the city allowed an extension of the request for later consideration.

Park/FANS:

Tim McHugh announced that June 4th is the new date for Youth Fishing, which will be held along the canal instead of the youth fishing pond.

Earth Day volunteers planted 238 trees in the park, an event sponsored this year by Starbucks. Does anyone have pictures from past youth fishing events for the newsletter?

Membership:

Susan Payne stated that she has another \$560.00 in undeposited membership dues to give to Bill. We now have 223 paid memberships, and the Board discussed ideas for increasing membership. 34

Old Business:

Veteran's Park: a group from DU is conducting a planning exercise for their class, and will be contacting community groups for ideas on future usage.

Memorial Day on S. Gaylord: after a one year suspension, the event is back on and will not close Mississippi.

Fourth of July event: West Wash Park is coordinating, but WPENA needs more volunteers to assist. The bicycle streamers will include information on the yard sale in August. Tim will be contacting area businesses for sponsorship funds for the event.

WPE Yard Sale: scheduled for the first Saturday in August. Ryan Schulz has volunteered to help Lori Poole coordinate. ARC truck will be at S. High School for unsold yard sale materials.

New Business:

Speakers for future WPENA meetings have been lined up:

June: Tim O'Brien, city auditor.

July: Marcy Kaufman suggested someone from Zoning. Issues that are hot now in the neighborhood are street closings, parking congestion and noise related to the many construction sites throughout WPE.

August: No meeting

Not yet scheduled: Jessica Jones, COPIRG.

EPA: sent a letter stating that they want to work with WPENA to reduce electric and water usage.

Be a Smart Ash (.com) has information on ash trees and how to treat them.

Metro Denver Nature Alliance: David Carlson, Phd. is asking for representatives from east and west Wash Park to address schools about improving health through nature.

Denver Affordable Housing made a presentation at East High School about raising the property tax and construction fees to raise funds for affordable

housing, expecting about \$150 million over ten years. This would fund nearly six thousand homes for Denver's work force and people with moderate incomes.

Play Everywhere Challenge: a program that is seeking ideas to turn areas into play areas across America.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Secretary

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