

**BPWNA Board Meeting
Feb. 1, 2005 @ SSDN**

Members Present: Chad, Johnson, President; Bill Byrd, Vice President; Linda Hennigh, Treasurer; Eric Winters, Secretary; Jean Durel, Marlene Levine, Bill Levine

Meeting Began at 7:01 p.m.

Treasurer's Report – Linda presented the board with the bank activity of the last quarter. Some questions were raised as to the grant funding provided by Incarnate Word. Linda and Jean would work to clarify this matter.

Committee Reports

- A. Block Network/Interns** – Postcards have been sent to interested residents. Plans are underway for a meeting to coordinate the block links.
- B. Community Garden** – Communications with a number of organizations are underway to obtain grants and support. More information available at the next meeting.
- C. Communications Team** – Submissions always welcome.
- D. Beautification Team/Litter** – Jean presented something she had learned about the ability of residents to request trees be planted along their street. Chad will speak with Craig & Ken about the possibility of their support of this matter.
- E. Facilities** – Bill presented a proposal to relocate BPWNA offices to a location on Cherokee Street. A good discussion followed as board members and guests discussed the requirements of moving into such a space and the potential benefits. Some clarifications of permit requirements and insurance problems were necessary before moving forward. SSDN, through Marlene, agreed to maintain the file storage of the child grant files from previous years. Bill presented an option for the neighborhood to purchase software titles at a very discounted rate. He will look into presenting that option to the neighborhood soon.

Support Organizations

- A. Sustainable Neighborhoods** – The neighborhood still has a good deal of Annie E. Casey funding available. Chad was looking into how that might be spent. A new program for small businesses was announced. It provides loans to new businesses in the area. See Chad for more info. Bruce expressed his exasperation with the leadership of Sustainable Neighborhoods and advised caution and challenge from BPW representatives.
- B. Weed n Seed** – Hamilton and West End neighborhoods were added to the program. Meeting location moved to Five Star Senior Center
- C. Incarnate Word** – Jean expressed the foundation's desire to maintain a low profile. She discussed the ArtWorks project in which youth across the city participate in an apprenticeship during the summer to create works of art. Through Incarnate Word's support, BPW youth will receive priority in the selection process.

Old Business:

- A. Board Retreat** – Retreat cancelled due to scheduling conflict. New time TBA.
- B. SLACO Workshop** – Board decided to become an endorser for the neighborhood conference, which required publication in our newsletter, promotion at our meetings and sending 5 or more people. BPWNA will be paying the registration fee of \$15 for all residents attending the conference. See Eric to register

New Business:

- A. **2nd Quarter Speakers** – Kim Norman from Weed & Seed will be presenting at the February meeting.
- B. **Leadership Academy** – Bill and Chad are attending the UMSL Leadership Academy for non-profit management. The academy includes a number of seminars and requires a good time commitment. Incarnate Word provided the funding for the attendance of Bill and Chad. Two scholarships were also offered to Gravois Park board members.
- C. **St. Louis Association of Community Organizations** – The board is currently considering membership in this organization. No recommendation to the membership has yet been determined.
- D. **Operation Brightside** – Volunteers sought.
- E. **Membership** – How do we provide recognition to the members. Some discussions included listing the members' names in the newsletter, as well as promoting business membership through ads in the newsletter. Chad and Eric will look into that advertising aspect.
- F. **PIE (Planning/Implementation/Evaluation) Cycle** – Chad presented a representation clarifying the planning and implementation process of BPW business, outlining the role of the board and the membership. Marlene and Bruce raised some concerns over who actually makes the final decisions. An informative discussion ensued and the board agreed to continue working on this matter to clarify the roles.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30 p.m.