

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting May 1, 2007

Present: Eric Winters, Linda Hennigh, Chad Johnson, Bill Byrd, Carl Jones, Anne Childers
Phil Jarvis, David Early, Chris Schmoker, and Sharon Burgess visiting from NA

Representatives from Preferred Family Healthcare to speak about pending business in BPW

Meeting began at 7pm

Guest Presentation

- Dick Dillan, Jim Wallace, Mark Levinston, David Schlafly, and Linda Gergerich spoke from Preferred Family Healthcare. Dick spoke about interest for a residential facility at 3100 Gravois. He described their organization, its history, and how they would be an asset to our community. David Schlafly spoke as the architect for the project. He described Linda's budget for the project and what rehabbing he was planning. He described the aerial view and layout of the outside with pictures and architectural drawings. Linda also spoke about the details of the business. Dick then spoke about why they wanted to stay in the neighborhood (They are currently occupying a floor at St. Alexis Hospital, a building at Nebraska and Juniata, as well as their office at Broadway and Chippewa, and their office at Jefferson and Miami.) They answered questions from the board. Preferred Family Healthcare representatives were dismissed.
- Board then discussed concerns and support for Preferred Family Healthcare. Board planning to visit current program at St. Alexis Hospital. Board discussed conditions upon their support. Eric to ask how they assess residents and any other concerns. Board approves giving conditional support with terms in the letter. Bill motioned, Carl seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes & Treasurer's Report

Copies of minutes forgotten; to be approved next month.

Treasurer's Report approved with a balance on 4/30/07 of \$3,362.43. Chad motioned to approve, Linda seconded. The credit card fees are not frozen yet. Bill and Linda are looking into it.

Committee Reports

- Beautification – Cannot move planters, needs help. He will in a couple of weeks.
- Block Link – No Report
- Community Garden – Still need name for the garden, something going into the newsletter.
- Dog Park – No check received from Woofstock. Bill moves to approve Melissa at chair of dog park committee, Chad seconded. Motion passed.
- Facilities – Bill spoke with Mike from Five Star about other fundraising opportunities for BPW. We could help at the VITA center. Eric to call SSDN and investigate the rent checks not being received. We will need 11X17 paper in June/July, 8 ½ X11 paper supply is fine.
- Membership – We have a total of 85 members. The social was a huge success with about 35 in attendance. The Hero Initiative mailing will be going out by the weekend. The goal is to raise \$500. Membership brochure will be mailed within the month.
- PR/Marketing – Dreamweaver software is in St. Louis; will be receive soon. Some updates have been made to the website. It is still recommended that reminder calls be made the week of meeting. Linda expressed idea to split the phone list between board members so that this may be implemented.
- Publications – June focus is on summer activities. July will be a green edition. Ideas for speakers are a green developer, someone from recycling. We are still gaining advertisers. May's focus is on the Mayor's office.
- By-Laws – Chad to contact committee and to meet within the next two weeks.
- Quality of Life – Bill did training drive through with Amber Narzinski. Bill has 5-6 couples to do training with. Amber voted in as committee chair. Carl motioned, Chad seconded. Motion passed. Amber to attend meeting in July and make future reports.

Support Organizations

- Sustainable Neighborhoods – Includes McKinley Heights, Fox Park, Gravois Park, and BPW. We are interested to see who their representatives are and what their focus will be.
- Weed & Seed – Next meeting Thursday, May 10th. Kim Norman resigning has the Personnel Committee working on gathering and evaluating resumes, and developing a recommendation for the Steering Committee. The position is 75% office, 25% field. Interviews are next week and a new person should be in by early June.

Old Business

- Signage Follow Up – Board likes Phil Jarvis' new meeting signs. Chad motioned to approve sign design with added line about free snacks, Carl seconded. Discussion of plan for signage. Phil to give bid from B&N Signs. Eric motioned to approve 100 signs with cheaper sign stands at a comparable price to last time, Chad seconded. Motion passed.
- National Night Out Movie Night – The top voted movies from the NA meeting were Happy Feet, Shrek, and Ants. Eric to pursue Happy Feet and Ants. NA approves having the movie on National Night Out. Board discusses locations and decides on Cabrini's lot between the parish and the school. Anne motions to approve \$250 for event, Chad seconded. Motion passed. Eric to ask if BPWNA can also be shown on the screen as the sponsor.
- Cinco de Mayo Beer Booth – Training at Five Star at 7pm tomorrow night. We still need volunteers. Eric sent around the sign up sheet. Eric to find out and email where the booth is. Board discusses plan and supplies needed.
- Liquor License Recap – Eric recaps Liquor License ordinance. Alderman Craig Schmid is still open to experimenting with current ordinance. His next suggestion is that in about a month we bring across a written proposal to NA. Guest Dave Early owns property and lives on Cherokee. He expressed his interest in changing the ordinance as well as his understanding of the concerns. Guest Sharon Burgess had questions about having restrictions in ordinances. Board to present a proposal to NA and Eric to continue to talk to Alderman Craig Schmid.
- Color Printer Proposal – It is more suitable for the board to invest in a printer with a duplexer. The original printer approved does not have this option. Bill proposes that we change printer to the Dell 5100cn. Bill asking for additional \$300 to the original approval of \$250 for a total of \$550. Chad motioned to approve the additional \$300, Carl seconded. Motioned passed.

New Business

- Garden Supplies Purchase Proposal – Chad motioned to approve up to \$250 for Community Garden, Bill seconded. (\$100 in plants, \$50 sprinklers, \$50-\$100 for wheelbarrow and miscellaneous supplies.
- Yard Sale – Board approves to have the 2007 yard sale on Saturday, August 4th from 7am-2pm at the Cabrini Gym. We have some things from last year. We can store things in the Business Incubator and have the drop off Friday night 6pm-10pm. We will have no pick up service this year. Carl motioned to approve \$100 for event, Anne seconded. Motion passed.
- Meeting Speakers – In May we will have a representative from the Mayor's Office. June – Roosevelt High School Representative. July – Green speaker.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.