

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting September 12, 2007

Present: Eric Winters, Linda Hennigh, Chad Johnson, Bill Byrd, Anne Childers
Rhonda Shaw from the neighborhood

Meeting began at 7pm

Approval of Minutes & Treasurer's Report

Bill moved to approve minutes, Chad seconded.

Minutes from previous meeting approved.

Board looked at the budget so far this year.

Treasurer's Report approval with a balance on 8/31/07 of \$12,794.50 Chad motioned to approve, Bill seconded.
Report approved.

Committee Reports

- Beautification – Planters are still at Gringo Jones and they need to be delivered. Eric to talk to Carl and Jean about who wants planters and if storage is necessary.
- Block Link – No Report
- Community Garden – Grass is taking over. Eric is still waiting to talk to SSDN. The water schedule has not been working very well. Eric to look into this and to follow up with tree trimming reported.
- Dog Park – Melissa is following up with Alderman Craig Schmid about the adjoining lot.
- Facilities – Need toner for color printer. Anne motioned to approve up to \$350 for toner, Chad seconded. Motion passed. Will Liebermann switched to ATT DSL and it has a wireless hub. We will be getting a password for this and it will be for no additional cost to us.
- Membership – Chad saved \$150 in postage by hand delivering the Brick Award nominations so plans to have Office Depot print the invitations. Chad is planning to have lunch/dinner meeting with speaker Mr. Gilberto Pinela. We have received \$4000-\$5000 worth of donations and we are currently at 124 members. Board members informed to keep Oct 19th open on their calendars for help with set-up. Brick award nominations are due by the 20th at the NA meeting.
- PR/Marketing – Press Release is ready for ForSale house tour. Signs – design is at the printer. Budget is up to \$500 for signs. Plan to get yard signs and two new banners with this budget. Discussion of possibly hanging one on Five Star the day of our meetings. Board decided to have the Secretary Anne Childers prepare a list for distributing signs to interested members at the NA meeting. When signs come in, we plan to number them and distribute them to interested members to be responsible for putting them out/taking them down and storing them.
- Publications – Working on house tour book and planning to print brochures/newsletters for this event. Articles for newsletter are due on September 17th.
- By-Laws – See Old Business
- Quality of Life – No Report

Support Organizations

- Sustainable Neighborhoods – Focus on grant writing
- Weed & Seed – Bill Byrd's term was up for President. New president is Laura Hedlan. Bill will stay on the steering committee. Speaker for tomorrow's meeting, September 13th, is the new president. Next month's meeting speaker is Cathy Ruggeri-Rea, Court Administrator for the Municipal City Courts.

Old Business

- By-Laws – Eric's suggested change was changed (Article 10-change word residents to member at large). No other change suggestions were made by the by-law committee. Chad recommends Board approval of new by-laws for vote by the NA in October, Linda seconded. Voted was taken (3 yes, 1 no). motion passed. Chad to provide folders including new by-laws to all members at the September NA meeting. Intention is for vote in October by NA. Members will be encouraged to see Eric or Chad after September meeting with questions/concerns. They will be asked to address issues before the October

meeting in written form to the BPWNA board. Voting for the by-laws will take place in October before the board elections.

- Election Process – Eric looking into who to nominate as election chair. Nominations will start at September NA meeting and will be taken up to 10 days after. Eric will be emailing about election nominations taking place at NA meeting.
- Update on Eric Wolfman/Colt Motors – Eric Wolfman has been allowed into the property without a hearing. Eric to call Alderman Craig Schmid regarding this matter and possibly to send a letter to Mary Hart.
- Vice President Update – Eric to call Carl for his official resignation from the BPWNA Board.

New Business

- House Tour Update – Meetings are going slow. Bill has gotten around \$745 in advertising for the book. Posters are coming along. Chad to email Connie to get a list of home to have open. The deadline is September 20th. Bill is waiting for this to send information to publishing. Looking forward to how this Saturday's meeting goes.
- Membership Dinner Update – Brick Awards Committee worked very hard coming up with nominations. It was tough to make nomination decisions as there are many hard working neighbors in BPW.
- Christmas Party – Ideas were discussed about having an indoor movie with snacks in the Cabrini Gym. Eric to talk to Front Yard Features about indoor accommodations and pricing. We will have the same regulations for kids as the National Night Out movie. Board decides to move December meeting date to Friday, December 14th at 7pm as the movie night/holiday party. Eric to look into partnering with Cabrini so we may have a larger crowd, kid friendly, and will cost us less.
- Monthly Speakers – Franciscan Connection for September, No speaker for October-elections.
- Board Meeting change – Due to conflict, the October board meeting will be Wednesday, October 3rd at 7pm.

The meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.