

## **Benton Park West Neighborhood Association**

### **Board Meeting February 5, 2008**

Present: Chad Johnson, Bill Byrd, Anne Childers, Melissa Winneshiek, Carrie Sleep, Rhonda Shaw, Pam Welsh, and Blake Roell. Two Guest Speakers: Mike Glodeck with FOAM and Shawn McKie with Juice Box

#### **Meeting began at 7pm**

#### **Guest Speakers**

Mike Glodeck with FOAM presented his business for support from the NA.

He purchased the building at the corner of Jefferson & Cherokee in May 2007. He explained his plan to offer a “third place” for people to go for coffee, to work, to have community, and for entertainment and specialty beer in the evening. He will feature local beverages and local music. He explained how he came upon Cherokee as the perfect location for his new endeavor and presented a business plan with a budget and pictures of the space as it looks now along with businesses in other cities that have inspired his plan. The April issue of St. Louis Magazine will have a feature on FOAM.

Shawn McKie with Juice Box presented his business for support from the NA

Shawn gave a background of his life in relation to vegan and healthy food choices. He also gave a history of his business background. Since moving to St. Louis he is in contact with the schools to offer healthy snack alternatives. He is moving into 3159 Cherokee which is currently Typo Café. He wants Juice Box to be a wellness grocer offering food and healthy snacks for adults and school kids. He presented a business plan. He answered questions regarding products, layout, size, hours, and security.

Both guests were then excused.

#### **Approval of Minutes & Treasurer’s Report**

Chad motioned to approve minutes with a change of the treasurer’s amount. Melissa seconded. Minutes approved. Chad motioned to approve treasurer’s report, Pam seconded. Report approved.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Block Link – Melissa to see Linda to deliver newsletters to more blocks.
- Community Garden – Looking for a new chair. Board discussed duties of the garden. Pam and Jon M. may co chair this committee. Gateway Greening possibilities discussed.
- Dog Park – Needs a letter from the NA to St. Louis City Parks Department. Chad motioned to create a letter to be send to the Parks Department, Pam seconded, motion passed. Bids are being collected to get the work done.
- Facilities – Request to purchase 8 bottles of toner. Anne motioned to approve up to \$230 for 8 bottles of toner, Melissa seconded, motion passed. The lease is up in March and board planned to increase the budget for rent by 50-100% as it may be going up.
- Membership – Met January 9<sup>th</sup> and planned a membership mailer as well as the first monthly social of the year scheduled for the last Thursday or Friday in February. Memberships are coming in – 48 total, business members – 8. Please talk to your neighbors about membership. Membership dinner 2008 proposal to come.
- PR/Marketing – Please let Anne know if anyone would like to adopt a sign as she has the list. Banner for events needs to be replaced. We are scheduled to have a booth at Cinco de Mayo 2008.
- Publications – Newsletter is taking a reduction to 16 pages. Jay Swoboda is working on the new design. Should be available for delivery next week pending issues with the copier with double-sided. Thank you to Carrie and Chad for working the chicken and dumpling night at Five Star. Mark Halloran to update the website.
- President’s Report – 2907 Jefferson hearing was last Thursday; waiting to hear from Ken. 3301 Minnesota was also last Thursday. Bill met with Jean of Incarnate Word Foundation. Their focus is on residents, youth, and Cherokee Street. Possible additional funding for planters and to collaborate with Roosevelt Council.
- Beautification – Blake had two handouts showing current and possible planter locations. Board discussed possible changes/additions to the maps and how to adopt planters in the future. Board also discussed future landscape for corner of Jefferson and Arsenal. Money is allocated for post flags – city has to install them and must have a rider on our insurance. Bill to follow up on post flags.
- Quality of Life – The billboard on Utah and Gravois has now been removed. The C&A Hip Hop Shop signage is being investigated at 2711 Cherokee.

- Youth – Easter Egg Hunt is in planning stages. Pam to call Linda to help out with the event. Carrie to co-chair Youth. Board looking for a representative for the Roosevelt Counsel that meets every third Tuesday at 4:30pm in the library. More info about the accountability board to come.

### **Support Organizations**

- Sustainable Neighborhoods – They are working to keep their music program. Meetings are every third Tuesday at 6pm
- Weed & Seed – Next meeting is March 6<sup>th</sup>

### **Old Business**

- Copier Maintenance – problems with the power button or power supply as well as duplexer. May have someone come back to work on it.
- 2008 Budget – Board discussed the budget and the details of adding an interest column, consolidating membership levels, staying under \$25,000, and restricted grant carryovers. Chad motioned to approve budget for recommendation at the NA February meeting via changes discussed and to be approved via email, Anne seconded; motion passed.
- Board Planning Session – Let Bill know what Saturdays in March work.

### **New Business**

- Memorial Donation or Plant for Rhonda – Donation to Luke Memorial Hospice in Pinckneyville. Board took a confirmation vote to approve.
- Rhonda motioned to approve Blake as chair and Brad as co-chair for beautification, Pam seconded; motion passed.
- Recycling Program – This would be a NA sponsored program. Laura Snell with Earth Circle and possibly Jean Durell to help with funding for curbside service. Rhonda motioned to approve official sponsorship by BPWNA, Carrie seconded; motion passed.
- Facilities – Minor office supplies needed per report. Chad motioned to approve up to \$100 for miscellaneous office supplies, Carrie seconded; motion passed.
- Blues Festival – Joe Pastor and Melissa are working together and discussing details. Want the first year to start small and looking for grant writing to grow in 2009. Set for a Saturday in May; late afternoon into evening, some bands to play, food vendors with their own licenses. To speak with Jason Dean about loaning equipment/stage for bands. Melissa to bring budget for festival to March BPW board meeting.
- NLA Applicant – Betty Halloran is the NA's applicant for NLA. Chad motioned to approve \$300 for Betty to attend NLA, Melissa seconded; motion passed. Chad spoke about the importance of NLA and the board's attendance.
- Membership Mailing – using grant from 2006 for mailings. Membership asking for \$900 to be used for mailings to every household. Carrie motioned to approve \$900 for membership from grant, Pam seconded; motion passed. Chad motioned to approve a congratulations letter to Terry of Roosevelt High School for Principal of the Year, Rhonda seconded; motion passed.
- Faith Beyond Walls – a volunteer organization. Bill to meet with Beth Rodriguez to get info and discuss projects. They do best with two day projects requiring 10-20 people. Bill to call citizen service bureau on Jefferson/Arsenal lot.
- Beautification Requests – Chad motioned to ask Ken for a letter stating the rights to put and maintain a planter at Pestalozzi and California, Minnesota and Juniata to take care of existing planter, letter from NA to Millennium to put planter at Jefferson and Arsenal, Melissa seconded; motion passed. Chad motioned to approve contacting IWF for funding for the planting, Carrie seconded; motion passed.
- Small planters – order on hold for future info from beautification about plans for planter locations.
- February meeting agenda – Sergeant Ron Hasty and Laura Snell to speak about recycling
- Both presentations by Mike Glodeck (FOAM) and Shawn Mckie (Juice Box) were discussed. Chad motioned to support both of these businesses, Melissa seconded, motion passed.

### **Additional Business**

Chad announced a membership mailer board gathering at his house on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 9am. He will send a reminder email.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.**

