

12/5/08

Woodlawn Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting at the WCRC

Present: Ethan Jewett, Shirley Minor, Andrée Culpepper, Anjala Ehelebe, Ayleen Crotty, Willie Ranson, Thelma Diggs, Ross Danielson

Meeting begins at 7:15. Discussed the need for a new group of officers: Chair/Co-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer. Anjala volunteered to be Secretary. Thelma volunteered to be Agenda Chair (the person who will be contacted if a speaker wants to be on the agenda) and Andrée volunteered to be the Meeting Chair, the person who makes the meetings run on time and in an orderly fashion. This leaves the Treasurer position vacant. Ethan said he'd ask his wife Kelly if she'd consent to take on the position, because she is "one" with Excel, is honest and responsible.

Old Business

Rich Cassiday (sp) visited WNA at the last General Meeting about the 2009 Sunday Parkway event.

Realtor Fred Stewart visited WNA at the last meeting about a property for sale across the street from Dekum and 15th and this church building that he says could become an open space.

Former Woodlawn liaison officer Koenig has joined the Tri-Met transit police. We want a regularly attending liaison officer.

LUC Report

The historic district sign caps have been installed along Dekum.

Grant Money Used

Sandwich boards (weather resistant) that we can use to announce WNA meetings have been purchased.

We have almost spent all of the grant money obtained to provide refreshments at meetings and thus attract more attendance. The money was stretched by the generosity of several restauranters who donated food on certain nights.

Shall it be used for a holiday party? Have a party instead of a general meeting? We discuss whether to change meeting frequency (fewer meetings) and decided against it. (One argument against: if someone had a job and only worked at it one hour a month, nothing much would get done.) We've tried combining Board and General meetings on the same night. That didn't work well. Andrée asked for a voice vote: does anyone here now object to a once a month meeting? No. So Board Meetings will be at 7:15 to 8:30 the 1st Wednesday of the month and general meetings at 7 -8:30 pm the 3rd Wednesday. Ethan made this an official motion, Ayleen seconded it and it passed unanimously.

Newsletter

Anna Van Tol officially resigned from both the Board and as Newsletter Chair due to health concerns. We discuss other issues related to the newsletter; its expense, is it cost effective? Is it visible? Ayleen said we could now get those who would have written for the newsletter to write for the website. Grant money will transfer ownership of the website from herself to the WNA board. It costs \$96/year. It has unlimited e-mail addresses. Ayleen wants to be the WNA media contact person/Communications officer. Offer gladly accepted. Anjala made this an official motion, Ethan seconded it and it passed unanimously.

We discussed alternatives to an e-newsletter. Door to door delivery by volunteers or by NECN for a small fee. Postcards. Have our articles go out with another newspaper, like the Portland Sentinel. Agreed to have several meetings about the newsletter vs GoWoodlawn to gauge the neighborhood wishes.

Food

How much \$ is left? Unknown without a current treasurer's report, but about \$150. Discussion. Let's hire a local woman who is known by Andrée to cater Jamaican food for about 20 people. Shirley will provide the "fronting" dollars and will be repaid by WNA. Ross will make the arrangements.

Possible Open Space

Ross says he and Amy Fish met further with Mr. Stewart and thought they might create a neighborhood contest to come up with ideas for the property. The adjacent bus stop needs improvement. Ayleen suggests getting the LUC to take this on as a project.

Outgoing Officer Recognition

Tracie and JoEllen and Andrew all did their duties very well. Ethan will design a certificate of appreciation. It can be saved as a template to use for future appreciations.

WNA Representatives Visit PSU

Ross recounts how he, Amy Koski and Anjala Ehelebe visited the class of Professor Richard Wright that studying urban planning and gentrification. He said Professor Wright is in charge of an internship program that might yield some interns to help WNA with projects.

Neighborhood Emergency Team

Ethan says the new citywide coordinator hasn't scheduled training yet. There is a registry being maintained by ONI for folks with disabilities. Maybe neighbors could take a census and locate such disabled neighbors and add them to this database. Maybe the hypothetical interns could do

this as a project.

WNA NET members are mentoring the folks in King Neighborhood who are developing their team.

Meeting adjourns at 8:40 p.m.