

BPWNA Board Meeting
June 7, 2005 @ 2715 Cherokee

Members Present: Chad, Johnson, President; Bill Byrd, Vice President; Linda Hennigh, Treasurer; Eric Winters, Secretary; Marlene Levine, Bruce Levine, Derrick Morris and Bryan Herring

Meeting Began at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Linda explained that the budget needs to be put in buckets for each committee. She will work with Chad on that. She suggested the creation of a check request form to be used for reimbursements. Current funds: \$9,175.13.

President's Report – Chad presented his report detailing his activities:

- Chad will be attending DEFY camp.
- Donations are coming in for office supplies, including a tax attorney on Hampton.
- Membership – Six more businesses joined in May. Chad is considering hosting a dinner for the members of the Association.
- Fundraising ideas are needed. Contact Chad.
- Chad led a discussion about shortening neighborhood meetings and board meetings. It was determined that detailed reports would be created for board meetings and sent out 3 days prior to the meeting. Short reports will be compiled and presented at the neighborhood meetings. The chairperson of each committee should be limited to only mentioning one or two important things at the association meeting. The commotion created at meetings can be reduced by having board members remain in specified areas rather than moving around the room. A formal call to order was also suggested to start the meeting.

Committee Reports

- A. Beautification Team** – Derrick discussed upcoming projects for the beautification team. He would like to work on beautifying the Pocket Park and the street barriers, and has been speaking with Craig Schmid about it. Jill from the Refuse Division will be the featured speaker in June. Derrick is looking at getting additional waste cans brought into the area, and he was pleased to learn the city will buy and take care of them if requested. More info soon on this.
- B. Block Links** – A discussion among the board led to the consensus that the Block Link program lacks direction and additional leadership is necessary, as this is a priority for the association. Bill volunteered to step forward with the purpose of empowering the other members of the coordinating team but also providing the organizational capacity that is needed. Bryan and Linda said they would assist.
- C. Community Garden** – The July work day has been moved to the second Saturday due to the holiday weekend. The BBQ in May was a huge success with

more than 125 people. Priorities now include the fence, signage and rocks around the perimeter. Tamyra from the Flower Garden would like help dividing some of her plants.

- D. Communications Team** – Bill submitted his written communications report. The May newsletter was published in the new offices. Advertising is growing in it as well. Eric agreed to resend the information he needs to gather for the website to progress. The new logo was unveiled at the Open House on May 22. Also, a new fundraising opportunity has arisen to have board members hold the open house at the properties for sale on Wyoming. The board would make \$30 for the three-hour shift. Other PR ideas include creating window stickers, signage, plaques and beautification awards.
- E. Facilities** – The office open house was a success, despite less attendance than anticipated. Internet connection up and running on one computer, while the remaining computers await software. The copier will be repaired to extend its life, but no contract is available for service on it.
- F. Youth Outreach** – The board discussed the possibility of hosting a movie and game night in the Cherokee Incubator lower level. Other ideas were also discussed as ways to reach out to the youth of the community.

Support Organizations

- A. Sustainable Neighborhoods** – The group meets at Siegel School on the 3rd Thursday. Due to some conflicts between BPW and other communities' views of the program, BPW participation has waned. Eric inquired if BPWNA would continue participating in the program. Linda decided to attend the meeting to learn more.
- B. Weed n Seed** – Bill presented his written report. The DC office was in town in May to check out the St. Louis sites. Bill met with those representatives. Chad Johnson is one of only two civilians attending the DEFY camp as counselors.

Old Business:

- A. Yard Sale** – Eric is stepping forward to move along this process. Aug. 20 is being considered and a new location is being sought. More info soon.
- B. Pot Luck** – Pot luck prior to this month's meeting, beginning at 6 p.m. Eric will get soda and plates/flatware.

New Business:

- A. DEFY Sponsorship** – Chad requested that the board support the Weed & Seed DEFY mentoring program with a \$1000 grant, which would be matched by Incarnate Word Foundation. He expected the money to be reimbursed from Annie E. Casey funds. Eric and several other board members raised concerns that for that size of donation, the neighborhood should get something in return, such as working with them to put on an event in the neighborhood or having the youth serve on a youth council of sorts. Linda asked Chad to look into whether or not DEFY would be willing to co-sponsor something. Bruce noted that the kids would already be going to camp, so there was time to take this to the neighborhood association or look into it further. Bill motioned to table the matter until August,

- after the DEFY kids spoke at the July meeting. Eric added that the board should discuss it at July if DEFY is willing to work with us on an event. The matter was tabled until more information is gathered.
- B. June Speaker** – Jill from Refuse Division about recycling.
 - C. July Speakers** – Kids from DEFY camp will speak about their experience.
 - D. Letter of Support for SSDN's Lead Abatement Grant** – SSDN will be working with a number of other organizations to receive a grant from the federal government to provide lead abatement to home daycares working with SSDN. They asked for a letter of support. After some explanation of the program and modifications of the letter, the support letter was approved.
 - E. Board Email Procedures** – Eric raised concerns that too much neighborhood business was occurring via email (not decisions being made but consensus on ideas being reached) but that not all board members often had time to respond before a consensus arose. He asked and the board agreed to make a conscious decision to use email less for board business, limiting it to time sensitive matters only. Also the idea of replying to the original sender was encouraged.
 - F. Brainstorming Session** – Eric suggested a brain storming session be had to discuss things we can do as a neighborhood. Chad will be working to coordinate this.

Agenda for next meeting discussed and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.