

## Benton Park West Neighborhood Association – Board Meeting

September 11, 2017  
Linda Hennigh called to order – 6:35PM

- 1) Roll Call
  - a) **President** - Scott McIntosh: **Absent**
  - b) **Vice President** - Alison Hillman: **Absent**
  - c) **Secretary** - Liz Gerard: **Absent**
  - d) **Treasurer** – John Simons: **Present**
  - e) **Member At-Large** - Jason Hillman: **Absent**
  - f) **Member At-Large** - Eddie Schmid: **Absent**
  - g) **Membership** – Char Young: **Absent**
  - h) **Block Link** – Chris Schmidt: **Present**
  - i) **Communications** – Erin Godwin: **Absent**
  - j) **Beautification** - Stephanie McKinney: **Present**
  - k) **Community Garden** – Linda Hennigh: **Present**
  - l) **Dog Park** - Jeni Poole: **Absent**
  - m) **Facilities** - Bill Byrd: **Present**
  - n) **Fundraising** - **Vacant**
  - o) **Youth** – Darren Young: **Absent**
  
- 2) **Three Guests: Amy Simons, Katie Mack and Casey Hunt.**
  
- 3) **As no minutes were available, the August board meeting minutes will be reviewed at the October board meeting.**
  
- 4) **Katie Mack of City Greens spoke of the “Veggie Mobile” for Wednesday, 9/13, at Love Bank Park**
  - a) Produce trailer will be at the park on Wednesday from 4:30-7:39p.
  - b) The scope is to support underserved community, but not compete with other retail outlets for fresh fruits. Discussions will be held with the other “markets”.
  - c) An individual donation allowed the veggie mobile program to start up again.
  - d) The initial market is a “pop-up” perspective, as a proof of concept, the hope is to at least monthly, if not weekly at the park. There is planned music and promotion to make it an “event”.
  - e) With the new ordinance, allowing of up to \$1K sales, the idea is to help grow a “market” of local individuals selling their own garden produce.
  - f) A letter of support is being requested to support having the produce market at Left Bank Park.
  
- 5) **Review of April Treasurer’s Report**
  - a) John reported the balances of both the checking and savings. No other review was available as no printed reports were available. It was noted in the email, sent today, with the reports that the monthly treasurer’s report was missing the right side of the report. John will re-do the report and send out to the board.

- b) Linda mentioned that a previously voted re-imbusement check was never submitted to the recipient. A replacement is needed. Chris moved for a replacement check to Pam Welsh in the amount of \$200, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephanie, motion PASSED.

**6) No Membership Committee Report**

**7) No Communications Committee Report**

**8) No Dog Park Committee Report**

**9) Review of Community Garden Committee Report**

- a) 12/26 beds are currently vacant due to members moving or simply neglect.
- b) Vacant beds have been tarped and prepped to plant garlic and other items, such as rye, to build soil.

**10) Review of Facilities Committee Report**

- a) Business cards have been produced, however, we are out of card stock.
- b) Stephanie moved to allocate up to \$ 50 to purchase card stock to be taken from Facilities- Paper budget item, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion PASSED.

**11) New Business**

- a) Board Elections – Noted that Scott will probably be notifying current board members to see they have interest in running again. Noted that at this point it is known the Secretaries position will be available. Nominations are at the September Neighborhood meeting with elections at the October neighborhood meeting.
- b) Happy Hours – Unknown of the exact scope, but the following was spoken to:
  - a. Noted that Dan was on Cherokee in an open Forum perspective. Unknown if this was a one-time thing or will be ongoing.
  - b. After meeting gatherings at a local bar or eatery.
  - c. Re-engaging the neighborhood happy hour on a quarterly basis; primarily for BPW, but possible to include all four Cherokee neighborhoods.
- c) Trunk or Treat – Pam will not be organizing this year. Possibly Darren will organize. Either way, consensus is the event will happen. Published date is Oct 29<sup>th</sup>.
- d) SLACO – Linda mentioned the annual conference will be in April 2018. SLACO is thinking of offering a free 3"x5" advert if a neighborhood sends at least six people at \$ 30 each. This is a method to enlarge the attendance at the conference. Consensus was that we could probably have the six, discussion around providing the \$ 180 was held.
- e) Other items on the Agenda were not address as it was unknown the scope of the item(s).

**12) Neighborhood Meeting Agenda**

- a) Discussion was held about attendance, sparked by a question from Casey Hunt. Suggestions:
  - a. In addition to the question(s) at the meetings, was to have a survey promoted to non-attenders.
  - b. Possible streaming of the meetings; Facebook Live, etc.

- c. Question, from Casey Hunt, "Why have the monthly meetings?". While at the meeting the board responded with the normal items such as the police update, Alderman and NSO, etc. The question was very poignant and directed to the topic of garnering more in attendance, members, etc.
- d. Casey Hunt also asked "How does someone submit suggestions or ideas?" Those in attendance gave the direction of contacting Scott or actually any board member. A business card for President was given to Casey.
- e. Suggestion that the "Parking Lot" needs a bit better description and enforcement to help with meeting control and keeping meetings to an hour.
- f. Suggestion to the entire board to not leave the responsibility only to Scott. We can help maintain the schedule: by suggesting the individual resident talk with the specific speaker after the meeting; suggesting asking questions that would benefit the larger group, not just a personal questions or complaint; etc.

13) **Adjournment:** Bill moved to adjournment, Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup>, PASSED at 8:13PM.

**14) Miscellaneous Action Items**

- a) **All:** Seek candidates for open board and committee positions.
- b) **All:** Send Scott feedback City Greens
- c) **All:** Help with meeting control to keep meetings to an hour

Respectfully submitted,  
Bill Byrd