

# Benton Park West Neighborhood Association – Board Meeting

Monday, December 14, 2015

Call to order – 6:42 pm

1. Roll Call
  - a. President, Linda Hennigh, Present
  - b. Vice Present, Becky Martinez, Absent
  - c. Secretary, Scott McIntosh, Present
  - d. Treasurer, Frank Becker, Present
  - e. Member At-Large, Dan Geary, Absent
  - f. Member At-Large, Roz Ball, Absent
  - g. Block Link, Vacant
  - h. Communications, Bill Byrd, Present
  - i. Finance, Frank Becker, Present
  - j. Membership – Karen Becker, Absent
  - k. Beautification, Stephanie McKinney, Absent
  - l. Community Garden, Vacant
  - m. Dog Park, Chris Schmidt, Present
  - n. Facilities, Bill Byrd
  - o. Fundraising, Bill Byrd
  - p. Quality of Life and Safety, Carrie Sleep, Absent
  - q. Youth Outreach, Pam Welsh, Absent
  - r. Cherokee Street Liaison, Anne McCullough, Absent
2. Review and acceptance of November Board Meeting Minutes – Bill Byrd moves, Chris Schmidt seconds, passes
3. Review November Treasurer’s Report and 2015 Budget
4. Standing Committees
  - a. Block Link
  - b. Communications
  - c. Finance
  - d. Membership
5. Special Committees
  - a. Beautification
  - b. Community Garden
  - c. Dog Park
  - d. Facilities
  - e. Fundraising
  - f. Housing
  - g. Quality of Life and Safety
  - h. Youth Outreach
6. Discussion Items
  - a. November Silent Auction Items: reimburse Linda \$35.40 – Bill Byrd move, Frank Becker seconds, passes
  - b. Move to donate to Temple Corps/Salvation Army \$300 immediately – Bill Byrd moves, Chris Schmidt, passes
  - c. 2016 Planning
    - i. Four Cherokee Neighborhoods meeting – Review and discussion
      - l. Will continue Happy Hours Jan-Oct the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday from 6-8 pm

- II. Partner on Concerts in the Park
  - a. Benton Park will only hold 3 concerts as they're getting burnt out.
  - b. BP is willing to help other neighborhoods put on concerts
  - c. Marine Villa and Gravois Park both want to hold a concert in Gravois Park
  - d. BPW would be willing to assist with one concert in Gravois Park and see how it goes
  - e. Potential income from selling food/beverages
- III. Progressive Dinner
  - a. Move to a restaurant/bar in each neighborhood for a different course (drinks, appetizers, entrée, dessert)
  - b. Consider adding silent auction items at each venue for additional fundraising with a larger audience than November Potluck
- ii. Draft Calendar
  - I. All Board and Neighborhood Meetings are listed; same as 2015
  - II. All tentative Housing Corporation Meetings are listed; same as 2015
  - III. New dates for Easter Eggstravaganza and Trunk or Treat listed; keeping same date format as previous years
  - IV. Also listed tentative dates for other area fundraisers we've participated in the past such as Fair St. Louis and Oktoberfest
- iii. Holiday Decorating
  - I. How do we get more residents to decorate the exterior of their homes?
  - II. Contest
    - a. Prizes to best decorated
    - b. How to announce contest and winners?
  - III. Encourage residents to buy lights and decorate in 2016 for holidays; blog post now; show photos of decorated homes
  - IV. Cherokee Street
    - a. Scott emailed Jason Deem and the CSBA has not discussed decorating, but would be very open and interested in partnering
    - b. May want to benchmark/learn from the Loop
    - c. Would we decorate all street lights or just some in the main CSBA?
    - d. Start small and grow/add more each year
      - i. Start with wreaths on each street light?
    - e. Would the CSBA have storage for these items?
    - f. Modify "Signage" Budget to "Signage/Decoration" to allow purchases for street decorations
- iv. T-Shirts
  - I. Try to push more – need to sell these
  - II. Add to blog posts
  - III. Include at other events such as Trunk or Treat and Easter Eggstravaganza
  - IV. Wear your t-shirt to Membership Meetings and get an extra attendance prize raffle ticket?
- v. Curby Church

- I. Add donation
    - II. Project for neighborhood since we sent Rev Cooper to Neighborhood Leadership Academy
    - III. Look for a secular group to donate/partner with so not just religious groups are supported
  - vi. National Night Out
    - I. Promote that the first four applications with a receipt could be reimbursed up to \$25
  - vii. Schedule December & January meetings for Board
    - I. Start at December Board Meeting
    - II. Second meeting on Sat, January 9 at 9-11 am
- d. Action Items
- 7. Open Forum
- 8. Adjournment – Bill Byrd moves, Scott McIntosh seconds, passes at 8:55 pm

## **ACTION ITEMS**

1. All
  - a. Bring \$1 for 50/50 at Membership Meeting
2. Bill
  - a. New neighbor packets
  - b. Follow up on copier (wrong finisher, doesn't have scanning)
  - c. Follow up with Sara on the newsletter – bundling and folks to deliver
3. Chris
  - a. New name: Benton Park West Dog Park; refer to as BPW Dog Park
  - b. Need a sign for the dog park: looking into plaques
4. Dan
  - a. NOM – Dan Geary is willing to work on impact statements
5. Frank
  - a. Monthly Treasurer's and Budget report; includes year-to-date budget
  - b. Send bio (Karen will send)
  - c. Send headshot if you want it added to the website
  - d. Document on Treasurer's Report that Budget for copier lease and copier maintenance will be higher
  - e. Unsure 2016 copier lease and maintenance reflects the correct amount in the budget
  - f. Work with Linda to ensure donations to community partners are categorized correctly in the budget
6. Karen
  - a. January – Membership Proposal
7. Libby
  - a. Monthly Board and NA meeting minutes
  - b. Letters of support
8. Linda
  - a. Board and NA meeting agendas
    - i. Ask residents to email membership about new home owners on their block
  - b. Put page numbers on the Board meeting agenda
  - c. Ensure 2016 Board and Committee Members are on the bpwnaboard@ listserv
9. Sarah
  - a. Quarterly Porch Review

10. Scott

- a. Communications: Website
  - i. Add monthly Board and Membership meeting minutes
  - ii. Add how to be a Porch Review newsletter & Weekly Porch sponsor to Thursday's posts; check printed version for details
  - iii. Update Board members including bios and headshots for 2016
  - iv. Update 2016 Events and volunteer opportunities
- b. Housing Committee
  - i. Post update BPW real estate listings on Fridays
  - ii. Schedule housing meetings; same day as Housing Corporation. If City wants a meeting or not, we'll meet.

11. Stephanie

- a. Thank you note to Corner Pot planters and ask if they'll continue to 2016
- b. Get new volunteers for orphaned corner pots; can move where wanted