

Benton Park West Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 11, 2020

Meeting called to order by Scott McIntosh at **6:40**

Attendance - Roll Call

- President – Scott McIntosh -**Present**
- Vice President – Tim Thomas -Absent
- Secretary – Erin Godwin -**Present**
- Treasurer – Linda Hennigh -**Present**
- Member At-Large – Pam Welsh -**Present**
- Member At-Large – Gwynn Jackson -**Present**
- Membership – Rosie Jackson -**Present** /Bill Byrd
- Beautification – Stephanie McKinney -**Present**
- Block Link – Chris Schmidt -**Present**
- Communications – Scott McIntosh
- Community Garden – Linda Hennigh
- Our Neighborhood Garden – Scott McIntosh
- Dog Park – Jeni Poole -Absent
- Facilities – Bill Byrd- **Present**
- Fundraising – Vacant
- Housing/SLACO Committee – Scott McIntosh/Linda Hennigh
- Quality of Life and Safety – Vacant
- Youth Outreach – Darren Young -Absent

No **President's Report**, but Scott has been working in the flower garden this past month trying to get it tidied.

April Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Bill Byrd motioned to approve with corrections and was seconded by Linda Hennigh.

Treasurer's Report

- Bill moved to reimburse Linda \$504 for the copier return shipping and was seconded by Christ Schmidt. Reimbursement for copier shipping was approved.
- Bill moved to reimburse Scott **\$42.35** for the annual web domain/hosting fees and was seconded by Stephanie McKinney.

Beatification

- Stephanie proposes promoting people picking up litter on their walks around the neighborhood. She will look into potentially giving awards to residents of the cleanest block (not including alleys) each month, possibly starting in June.
- There may or may not be organized litter pickups, depending on what people are comfortable with and what can be done safely.

Membership

- Bill proposed continuing to reach out to residents during this time and continuing to share meetings live online even after we are able to resume in-person meetings.
- One new member joined BPWNA last month during the general meeting.
- Bill asks that use of the google doc sign-in sheet be promoted for general meetings.

Garden

- The garden was mowed by a neighbor along the alley.
- Bill Byrd dropped off dirt for the garden and may be able to get more dirt from a neighbor if needed.
- Compost from the garden's compost pile was ready to be used for the first time after several years, and Linda stated it was beautiful.

Dog Park

- Efforts will move forward to find a new/backup dog park chair. Still need to get all documents consolidated.
- Mike Schmidt has been mowing the dog park, and he and Chris Schmidt have been clearing back the trees/brush along the fence.
- The bushes need to be trimmed back from the sidewalk.
- There is also a branch that fell last year that still needs to be removed. Bill will try to get the limb removed.
- Bill also weed-wacked along the alley; he offered to do so again as needed.
- Linda will reach out to Jeni about the park and documents.
- Scott offered to trim back the bushes at the dog park.

Facilities

- We don't owe DaCom the \$471 they had billed us for; they hadn't been informed the copier was returned.
- On STL Gives Day we had two donations totaling \$35.

Events and Meetings- June meeting location is TBD

Other

- Rosie has a deal with Wal-Mart where she picks up unsold items. Thanks to this, Chris has a large amount of Easter items for the neighborhood that need to be stored, preferably not in her basement. We need to find long-term storage for items and make sure the bunny suit for Easter is kept with the other Easter items.
- Rosie also has a lot of Mardi Gras items, mostly decorations, no food. How much we can keep/use will depend on how much storage we have in future.
- Rosie is still doing the weekly food and toiletry handout. A lot of people are out of work and need help; they need volunteers. Rosie will post requests for volunteers to Facebook.
- The tree lawn by the community garden needs trimming. The Salvation Army house residents may be able to help. If not, Linda or bill may be able to.
- Linda is still trying to get Quickbooks 2020 stuff up to date; she still needs to reconcile some categories etc. Linda and Scott will need to get together and update the budget from the Quicken records.
- The proposal for opening businesses up starting May 18 has been published on the city website with information about businesses reopening and requirements for their operations.

Bill moves and Chris seconds adjournment at **7:55pm**