

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

April 10, 2018

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

Tim McHugh, Bill Tracy, Lance Musselman, Joanne Asher, Butch Clark.

Board Members not present:

Ryan Schulz, Lee Berkey, Monica Brisnehan, Ana Quintana.

The Board meeting was brought order by Tim at 6:45 p.m. at St. John's.

The agenda was accepted.

The minutes for the March 13, 2018 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Board members, guests and speakers were introduced.

Presenters:

Ken Hopper, President, Washington Park Lawn Bowling Club.

The Club has been active since 1924 and has 30 members. The Club operates on the croquet lawn in the park and helps maintain the grass. Although similar to the game of Bocce, lawn bowling uses balls that are weighted to allow backspin and curves. Membership is \$100 annually, and they are hosting an open house on May 12th. The Board discussed adding the event to our website.

Corporal Emily Bastien, DPD.

Standing in for Officer Lopez, Corporal Bastien emphasized the importance of closing windows and doors when leaving the house or going to bed, that most WPE crimes are crimes of opportunity. Don't call 911 unless it is an emergency, call 720-913-2000 for nonemergency issues such as reporting something or someone suspicious. If you're going on vacation, call 720-913-1300 and let the DPD know and they will check your house while you are gone.

DPD is urging people to register their bicycles. That way, the DPD has the information necessary to identify a stolen bicycle and return it to its owner. WPENA may add bicycle registration to the Fourth of July event.

Paul Kashmann, City Councilman

Once the work on the playground near Grasmere Lake is completed, work should begin on the main playground. Changes in the park will include new bathrooms, which are expected to cost about \$750,000.

Parks and Rec will be getting additional funding to address the “goose problem”. Also underway are changes to the alcohol policies for the parks. Since 3.2% beer is being eliminated by the State Legislature, consideration is being given to beer, wine and liquor, allowing “open pours” and allowing liquor at events.

CDOT is moving, and a total of 24 acres on two sites will be redeveloped. Current plans for the site along S. Colorado Blvd. include a mixed residential and commercial area similar to Belmar in Lakewood. The other site is being considered for rezoning to allow taller buildings. All of these changes together have the ability to increase traffic in that area by of factor of five to eight times.

In response to a question about damage to the alleyways by construction trucks, Paul stated that they have the right to use the alleys and recommended that people document any damage and report it to the city. Call 311 and retain the incident number given to you for future reference and follow up.

Treasurer’s Report:

Bill Tracy presented the report on revenues and expenses for the past month. The balance of the WPENA bank account is \$6978.87. Expected revenues from renewals of business memberships and ads for the following month totals \$1625, which should cover the rest of the anticipated newsletter expenses for the Spring edition. The report was accepted.

Committee Reports:

Communications: Monica Brisnehan, Chair

Newsletter:

The Treasurer’s Report led to discussion of the long term financial sustainability of the newsletter. Given the changing nature of media, the cost of printing and distributing a paper based edition, and the difficulty of sustaining funding through advertising, business and household memberships, the Board and guests discussed options for the future of the newsletter.

Options included:

- Going completely digital, which might violate the City and County’s requirements that RNO’s have a minimum of one hardcopy newsletter per year. The newsletter could be monthly or quarterly, and could either supplement or replace the monthly emailer.

- Phasing in a digital format for the newsletter, perhaps twice a year with the other editions remaining in print format.
- Sending the newsletter digitally to the monthly emailer subscribers and printed copies to the rest.
- Substituting household delivery for placement at different locations around the neighborhood (shops, restaurants, churches, mini book libraries and public venues) where neighbors can pick them up, with notification via email and Next Door.
- Surveying the neighborhood on their preferences for digital or print newsletters and substituting digital for those who want it.

These options can be combined and modified as needed, and provide a base for planning.

Since FANS is not hosting the photo contest this year, it was decided to ask WPE residents to submit black and white photos for the newsletter, emailer and website.

Emailer and Website:

There was discussion about finding a new person(s) to manage both of these, as Monica Brisnehan and Butch Clark have notified the Board that their work schedules will not allow them to continue their current levels of involvement.

Zoning: Biddie Labrot, Chair.

1200 S. Gilpin St:

The Zoning Committee met with the owner and builder about this variance request, which involved allowance of more space for an outdoor pool. The committee recommended disapproval of the request.

1247 S. Vine St.:

The Zoning Committee supported this request for an additional inch of space on one side of the building and small additional space in back, which improved the appearance of the house.

Membership: Ana Quintana, Chair

Ana will not remain on the Board or in charge of Membership Committee due to her work schedule. A list of membership responsibilities will be developed and a new chairperson assigned. Ana used access to the MLS to identify neighbors who moved out of the neighborhood, allowing Bill to remove them from the membership list.

Park/FANS: Tim McHugh, Chair

April 11th meeting features Board elections, and FANS has decided not to host the annual photo contest this year. Their speaker for April is Sarah McCarthy, the author of Denver's Washington Park, one of the books in the Images of America series, which feature local areas around the nation.

News about the park included new kiosks in perennial garden, completion of the playground in May, adding signage at all the pedestrian crosswalks, patching the rough spots in the asphalt roadway and the possibility of reducing the speed limit to 10 mph along the east side of the loop road.

Traffic: Bill Tracy, Chair

There has been a request for speed bumps on S. Downing alongside the park, which has raised questions about whether this would affect snowplows or divert traffic into other parts of the neighborhood. Also discussed were alternatives such as speed tables, which have longer rises and declines with a flat area so as to reduce the likelihood of damage, and speed dips, which might be less likely to interfere with the plows. Councilman Kashmann asked Tim McHugh to forward the email he received requesting the addition of speed bumps on S. Downing St., to allow him to contact the sender.

INC: Tim McHugh and Susan Payne, INC Representatives

The construction on I-70 will affect the health of people living near the work zones over the next few years. Amelioration has been proposed by CDOT in the form of air conditioners so people can stay indoors in the summer.

Old Business:

Elections: review of bylaws

Annual elections are in May. All Board members will be surveyed for their intent to remain on the Board and new members will be solicited via email and Next Door. Lance will send a proxy document to all Board members.

House Tour:

May 12, 10 – 4. WPENA traded ad space in the newsletter for a free table at the Street Fair, which is from 10 till 3. Set up is from 9-9:45 in the 400 block of S. Gilpin. We will have a canopy, table, chairs, newsletters, event pictures, with emphasis on getting more membership dues.

Future Speakers:

May: Paul Smith, Candidate for State Representative.

June: City Auditor Tim O'Brien.

July: Fluid Market?

August: No meeting.

Historic House designation

A request for historic designation of the former bicycle shop at 1005 South Gaylord by the building owner led to investigation of the role of the RNO in these decisions. Apparently the RNO is not required to take a stand on the issue but may do so if requested.

Snacks at WPENA meetings?

This was suggested by one of the guests. Discussion led to having an annual meet-your-neighbor party once a year, before or after a regular meeting, possibly during the food truck nights.

South High School garden

Kickoff April 16th. Benefits youth with disabilities; school is looking for volunteers for the summer.

Bus Stop Shelter restoration:

Paul K. says it is on city property, will try to find out who is responsible for maintenance. His office will contribute funding for the project.

Happy Hour:

April 19th at Max's, sponsored by Barbara Perrucio.

Shredding event:

Since the original plan to hold this event in June was not possible, a new date of September 29th has been tentatively set. Included in the paper shredding services will be electronic recycling. This will be hosted jointly with University Neighbors, which usually charges \$5 per household for shredding, with electronics charged separately in accord with the number of items brought in.

New Business:

Reserving St. Johns for 2018-19 WPENA meetings.

There being no objections from the Board, Tim will notify St Johns of our intent to continue use of their property for our meetings for the next year.

Croquet:

The Jiminy Wicket event this year will be May 23rd. Tim will ask West Washington Park to attend.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Secretary

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association