

Washington Park East Neighborhood Association

DATE: October 11, 2016

Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

Tim McHugh, Lance Musselman, Joanne Asher, Ryan Schulz.

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

The minutes for the September 13, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Joanne made a motion to accept the minutes; all approved.

The Board, guests and speakers were introduced.

Presenters:

Kyle Dalton, from the Community Planning and Development Department, reviewed the department's responsibilities and current projects. Denveright is a planning process that will determine land use, mobility, parks and recreation for the next twenty years. This includes Blueprint Denver. Access and take the survey by October 14th at www.denvergov.org/denveright.

Kyle also reviewed the process governing variances, the need for unnecessary hardship to exist, based on unusual conditions, disability, mitigating an adverse impact on historic character, compatibility with existing neighborhood or nonconforming uses in existing structures. RNO input to the process, he stated, varies from hands on representation of affected neighbors to hands off, deferring to residents to contact the BOA.

Tim then read the responses from the city regarding the issue of RNO involvement and suggested that the November 8th meeting (election day) might be used to discuss whether WPE-NA should include affected neighbors in its reviews of variance requests.

Treasurer's Report:

Bill Tracy was absent; there was no Treasurer's report.

Committee Reports:

Newsletter:

Lance Musselman reminded Board members that the deadline for the next edition is November 7th.

Website:

Tim and Susan will meet soon with Dave Kottcamp so he may show them how to maintain the website; Tim has also contacted a neighbor who is willing to assist.

Monthly Emailer:

Ryan successfully developed and sent out the monthly emailer. Susan stated that she would continue to assist him when her schedule permits.

Crime and Safety:

Joanne Asher reported that District 3's CAB meeting was sparsely attended and that consideration is being made to combine the meetings of Sectors 1 and 2. The PD is no longer printing and distributing crime reports at the meetings, and has not provided a way for citizens to access that data.

DPD is now using software that combines contact information with communications, enabling them to follow Next Door posts from beginning to end.

125 garage doors were reported left open last month. Crime is stable. DPD has stated that officers will soon begin ticketing pedestrians who are hit while crossing the street at points that are not designated as pedestrian walkways.

Zoning:

Discussion centered around whether WPENA should reach out to affected neighbors when meeting about a variance request. At present, only the person requesting the variance attends, and affected neighbors must protest to the BOA. Tim contacted Margie Valdez, chairperson of INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee, to obtain information on how the city views RNO responsibilities in this area, which might help us determine our own philosophy.

Park/FANS:

Tim McHugh stated that the next meeting of FANS would review the progress on the new playground. FANS has also stepped up to replace a bronze plaque, which seems to have been stolen, that designates the Big Ditch, the 150th anniversary of which is coming up next year.

Membership:

Susan Payne will continue to coordinate the membership drive through the end of the year. The winter edition of the newsletter will have pre addressed envelopes stapled into the format for members to send in their dues.

INC:

Tim McHugh reported that INC resolved last month to oppose the marijuana consumption measure on the upcoming ballot, which would allow people to consume MJ in designated public areas.

Old Business:

Survey: Tim will contact Paul Kashmann to ask if there is any information from the city survey to share with us.

Happy Hour: Lance, Tim and Susan will try to organize one for early to mid November, and try to set up three or four per year.

Lance will get information from Mikki on the cost of multipurpose signs for announcing events.

St. Johns is holding us to contract requirements that prevent us from setting up before 6:45 p.m. or remaining in the room past 8:45.

New Business:

Leaf Drop: begins October 10th, ends December 2nd. You can get a free bag from Ace Hardware with a coupon.

Energy efficient furnaces are eligible for discounts from the city until November 1st.

There being no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 by Tim McHugh.

Lance Musselman

Secretary

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