

## WBNA Board Meeting by Zoom March 16, 2021

President Dave Holland called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm.

Board members present were Dave Holland, Pat Roseland and Joy Rehfeld, thus no quorum. Members attending were Sharissa Hermanson, Nancy Gowen, Larry Beezley, and Ritchie Nordstrom, Ward 2 Alderman.

### **WILSON PARK FESTIVAL:** Sharissa

Sharissa reported that there are currently 17 vendors signed up for booth spaces plus a couple more that came in today. Booth rental income is \$2755 plus a \$250 sponsorship from BH Bank. She reports that our MC Barry Pitt will be able to expand audio coverage with additional speakers for an additional \$300 so announcements and music can be heard throughout Wilson Park. Sharissa developed a COVID plan which states that each booth is asked to have hand sanitizer available, encouraging masks and social distancing, but not requiring anything. She states she still needs volunteers to assist in set-up on June 18 and tear down on June 20, as well as trash cleanup and hospitality booth assistance for both Saturday and Sunday. Larry Beezley volunteered to help with setup. Sharissa's friend Justice is helping her with the festival planning, as she has great experience and good contacts. She says Justice is excited to help and is very enthusiastic. As we may have unused booth spaces available, Sharissa suggested we allow vendors whose products are not necessarily hand-crafted to be included. She's referring to vendors who deal in vintage clothing or home goods, knick-knacks and curated or hand-sourced items. The board agreed to open 5 spaces as a test to see how it goes. Dave suggested that we may open up space for educational booths, such as SDSMT, WDT, Outdoor Learning Campus, the Running Club, Dept of Health, Monument Health, etc. Sharissa suggested these groups may be a means to get volunteers to help with trash cleanup for the advertising. It was suggested that non-craft and educational booths would be also be required to pay for booth spaces. Sharissa and Mason developed a new flier for the festival that has a vintage feel and looks great. She will use it for the digital advertising that should begin next month.

### **WEBSITE UPDATES:** Sharissa

Sharissa is working on the mechanics of allowing members to pay dues on the website. She again asked for headshots and bios from board members. Dave and Sharissa reported on Mailchimp, an online email marketing service by which we could automate emails to the membership and individual groups without having to set it up ourselves on our own email accounts. When someone signs up for membership, their email address could automatically be added to the list. It's an easy way to maintain our mailing list. Sharissa states that they also have a means of sending cards to those who have no email. Mailchimp costs \$9.99 per month. As there is no quorum, Dave will send an email to Board members to vote on those things that require approval.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

John isn't able to be here, so no report. Dave spoke about establishing an annual budget.

### **NEWSLETTER:** Dave

Dave reports that Elizabeth has a very good start on the first WBNA newsletter that will come out in April.

**NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY:** Dave

Dave reports that there were no major security incidents in the past month. He is doing research on cameras to make recommendations for members who want them. Ritchie spoke with Lt. Sigel, who is looking for a funding resource for us. The Library has a data base to do grant research, which Ritchie will look into.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Joy

Nothing to report.

**WELCOME LETTER FOR NEW RESIDENTS:** Dave

Jan Gustin wrote a welcome letter that can be distributed by realtors who sell a house in the West Blvd area to help promote the neighborhood and WBNA.

**STREET LIGHT PROJECT:** Dave

Dave outlined our street light project with numbers, amounts, names and general information for Alderman Nordstrom, who indicated he may be able to be of assistance as he was recently elected as secretary for the board of BH Council of Local Govts as well as being Ward 2 rep on the RC Common Council. Dave reported that the Deadwood Grant is a competitive matching grant that is specifically dedicated to historic improvement. The DOT Grant is still a possibility, and Dave plans to pitch both grants to the city engineer. Ritchie informed us that Pat Hall owns the MG Oil property, so he would have an interest in that portion of the DOT grant. Pat Roseland brought up the need for renovation of St Patrick St from Rushmore Rd to West Blvd. Ritchie said the main driver on street renovation is utility-related repairs more than road quality, but he will look into those plans.

**BLOCK PARTY:** Dave and Sharissa

The Block Party is scheduled for the Saturday after Labor Day – September 11, 2021. Sharissa has volunteered to head up the event as she did the first two years, and will be seeking assistance after the Festival.

**NEIGHBORHOOD WALK AND SOCIAL:** Dave

Dave said he and Elizabeth Zieglmeier came up with an idea for a West Blvd Walking Group when weather warms up. Interested parties can join the walk and Elizabeth volunteered her back yard for socializing afterward.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES:** Alderman Ritchie Nordstrom

Ritchie spoke about federal monies that will be coming to RC to assist in several projects, to include our Community Development Block Grants. This money should help our local non-profits as well as city road projects. He spoke about RC losing our MSA status which could greatly affect our eligibility for federal projects.

Dave adjourned the meeting at 8:29. The next meeting will be held on April 20, 2021 at 7:00.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Rehfeld.