

WBNA Membership Meeting
YMCA Courtyard Cafe
July 20, 2021

President Dave Holland called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Board members present were Dave Holland, Jeanette Deurloo, John Wilmes dropped off the Treasurer's Report but couldn't stay for the meeting, Patrick Roseland, Eirik Heikes, Elizabeth Zieglemeier, Rose DuBois, and Joy Rehfeld.

Minutes from the June 15, 2021 meeting were approved. Joy thanked Jaclyn for doing a wonderful job taking and recording minutes for the June meeting.

Neighborhood Security: - Dave

Officer Sigel was unable to attend, so Dave gave the report. Rose DuBois had expressed concern at the June meeting of loud noise and questionable activity late at night in Perkin's parking lot which borders her property. She reports that PD has since been patrolling the area, which has mitigated that problem. Dave said Lt. Sigel indicated that there were no new security issues reported. A discussion of security cameras – Ring and Blink and how to link them ensued.

Treasurer's Report: - Dave

The majority of the Summer Festival figures have been recorded. Current balance of all accounts stands at \$30,095.38.

Membership: - Joy

Joy reported that since we distributed the newsletter in April, we have added 9 new members, and have had 8 members renew. We currently have 58 paid and 59 unpaid members on the list. She suggested that cards be sent out to the membership to inform them and invite to membership meetings. Sharissa volunteered to create an email list. Those who have no email listed will be sent cards. Joy asked for help with membership and Jeanette volunteered. They will set up a meeting and invite Dave.

Block Party: - Dave

Dave called for a committee to plan the Block Party. Eirik volunteered to be the director with Elizabeth, Pat, and Becca as committee members. Sharissa suggested that we not have a bouncy castle and find other fun kid events. Eirik stated that the permits are in place; the city no longer requires us to have a beer license or designated beer garden area as long as we don't go beyond the 3-block area. There is a potential for electric power for lights, band instruments and equipment; Dave will inquire at the city. Deb Mitchell has a press and offered to set up an educational booth on print-making. Eirik suggested that we recruit more sponsors

so that the Block Party becomes self-supporting. He listed several sponsors that are already committed. He will send an email to the Board to outline what's needed. Dave suggested that we have a welcoming committee to introduce those who are new to the neighborhood. Discussion about a neighborhood Rummage Sale in conjunction with the Block Party ensued. WBNA would not coordinate, but help with advertising the event. It was discussed and decided that it would be too much activity all on the same day as the Block Party with streets being blocked off at 3:00.

Newsletter: - Elizabeth

The group was complimentary of the one-page, two-sided format of the April edition. It was largely agreed that, although hand delivery gave a personal touch, there wasn't full coverage – not everyone received the newsletter. Dave suggested that we find an inexpensive way to distribute the next edition.

Elizabeth outlined ideas for the August newsletter to possibly include: 1) Promotion for the Block Party. 2) Letter from Dave. 3) Recap of the Festival. 4) Membership, and what's in it for me, and membership form. 5) Events on the Blvd – Wilson Park flowerbeds and Cleanup, Block Party, Holiday Party (which Elizabeth has volunteered to host). 6) Mark Your Calendar section. 7) Feature article on a special WB resident - Toni Martin was suggested. 8) City Council update by Laura Armstrong or other Alderman. 9) Gardening or canning - by Rose. 10) RCPD report. Elizabeth will call a meeting of her Newsletter Committee.

Summer Festival: - Sharissa

Sharissa stated that the Summer Festival was a great success. Vendors were VERY pleased and she received lots of compliments on the entertainment, and many positive comments from attendees.

She gave a verbal financial report which she'll submit to John. Income: Applications - \$7535, Sponsorship - \$450 for a total of \$7860. Expenses: \$3116.32 plus \$485.64 for rest stations; Entertainment \$700 plus post card and advertising expenses. Gift baskets for KOTA Care and Share raised \$531. Sharissa will give the complete report at the Festival Wrap-up Meeting. She states she went to Spearfish Art in the Park to get ideas – Handicapped Parking and ATMS were possibilities.

Adopt-a-Park – Wilson Park: - Dave

We'll pick up trash on Saturday, August 7 at 10am and Thursday, August 19 at 6:30pm.

Starbucks Update: - Dave

Dave visited Starbucks management about drive-up traffic and employee parking in the neighborhood. He reports they seemed quite receptive to finding solutions to move traffic and parking off of Saint Patrick St. They will take it to their corporate office to help find a solution.

St. Patrick St. Construction: - Dave and Pat

Dave and Pat attended a pre-construction meeting at the city. The contract to repair St. Pat from Rushmore Rd to West Blvd was awarded to Diamond Const. The project is slated to start on August 9, be completed in November, and includes adding 6 feet of width to allow for parking on both sides of St. Patrick. Pat said that the contractor seemed disinterested in speaking with the affected residents. Aldermen Bill Evans and Ritchie Nordstrom shared their views about the council's lack of input into the planning process, which has historically rubber-stamped most proposals of the engineers and planners. A long discussion ensued about the engineers' and planners' obsession with traffic, moving cars and parking without regard to aesthetics and livability for neighborhoods and residents. It's a culture change which takes lots of discussion and time. Pat moved that we ask the city to redesign the project to fix the street, but NOT increase the width, and allow parking on one side only. Jeanette seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Dave will take this proposal to the city.

Jean Kessloff reminded members that the continued existence of the Historic District is dependent on groups like the WBNA speaking up and being heard. Ritchie suggested that we attend Coffee with the Planners to express ideas and concerns.

Other Issues:

Jean Kessloff proposed that plaques be put up on houses in the historic district stating the year built, architectural style, and name of the house, if there is one. Dave will speak to Sarah Hanzel about the possibility of identifying a city department that could take over management and responsibility for this project. Jean also suggested that WBNA put out educational materials on how to scrape, sand, prepare and paint houses to accomplish proper restoration without damaging the wood. Jeanette suggested that educational information be added to the new Walking Tour Book.

\$500 check from City of RC. We will request them to re-issue.

MRRG – we voted to renew membership of \$150.00. Jeanette voted against.

Skyline Wilderness – Elizabeth met with the group. They are seeking to expand the wilderness area for public usage.

YMCA parking – with \$370 parking permits unaffordable for employees, the Y requests WBNA support to resolve the employee parking problem with the neighborhood and the city.

Street Light Project – still waiting for a viable light. Bill Evans is working on this for us.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 15, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Rehfeld.