

WBNA Membership Meeting
January 18, 2022

Vice President Jeanette Deurloo called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Board members present: Jeanette Deurloo, John Wilmes, Joy Rehfeld, Patrick Roseland, Elizabeth Zieglmeier, Rose DuBois, and Dave Holland, constituting a quorum. Other members present were Priscilla Bade, Sharissa Hermanson, and Jennifer ?, a new member.

The Agenda and September minutes were distributed and approved. Sharissa added an item to the Agenda regarding people running stop signs.

TREASURER'S REPORT: John

John distributed the FY 2021 report that shows that we started 2021 with a balance of \$26,286.64, and ended the year with \$24,466.20. This shows a loss of \$820.44. John explained that we had many unusual expensed this year, and cashed in a bond.

MEMBERSHIP: Joy

Joy reported that we currently have 135 members in good standing. Many new members joined after the Christmas Open House hosted by Elizabeth and Leslie. Joy suggested that we resume inviting all members to the monthly meetings like we've done in past years. John and Sharissa suggested that we purchase Mail Chimp, a program by which emails can be sent, rather than spending money on postcard mailings. The board voted unanimously to allocate \$10 - \$20 per month to buy the service.

During the discussion, it was suggested that we have a membership appreciation gathering in the spring.

NEWSLETTER: Elizabeth

Elizabeth talked about publication dates, stating that the last Newsletter was mailed in November, which covered the Block Party, as well as advertised the Christmas Open House. Through a lengthy discussion, it was decided that the Newsletter would be published three times per year – one in the spring to advertise and promote the Wilson Park Summer Festival, one in August to cover the Festival and promote the September Block Party, and the last in November to give a synopsis of the year, and promote the Christmas Open House. Elizabeth and Pat suggested that the upcoming issue should spotlight health care facilities that have operated in the West Blvd area over the years.

To save money, it was suggested that the newsletter be emailed rather than snail-mail hard copies. Dave reminded us that the Newsletter goes to all mail routes in the neighborhood, not just members for whom we have an email address. He further stated that publishing only three issues per year will constitutes a significant savings.

WILSON PARK FESTIVAL: Dave

Dave wants to get Sharissa's contract completed and signed so that she can start

working on the 2022 Festival. He proposed creating a committee that would meet monthly January or February through June to take some of the load off Sharissa, and assist in completing tasks. The committee should consist of a combination of members at large as well as board members.

We further discussed Sharissa's reimbursement, and the Board voted to give her a 10% cost of living increase. As many board members haven't read the contract, Dave will email each member a copy of the contract with the 10% cost of living increase included, and we will vote on it by email.

WBNA BOARD ELECTION: Dave

The WBNA bylaws state: "A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the general membership in January of each year for the nomination of officers and members of the Board of Directors to be elected in March. The committee shall consist of five members, two from the Board of Directors who are not sitting officers and three from the general membership. Committee members shall not be from the same family and must be members in good standing."

The Nominating Committee will contact board members to inquire if they want to run again. They will then search for others as replacement candidates. There may also be nominations from the floor at the March meeting. Elizabeth and Patrick volunteered to be the board representatives. Linda Boland, Larry Beezely, and Jan Gustin were suggested as those to serve from the general membership. Pat volunteered to lead the Nomination Committee.

HOLIDAY PARTY RECAP: Elizabeth

Elizabeth reports that the party went well and estimates that approximately 80 attended. She suggested that we personalize the invitations next year by mailing actual invitations to WBNA members, as well as advertise it in the newsletter.

Rose suggested that WBNA provide an appreciation gift card to the host for opening up their home to the neighborhood. The board voted to give a \$50.00 gift card to the holiday party host.

COMMUNICATION: Dave

Dave suggested we connect to the membership by using text or email. John explained that we voted earlier this evening to buy Mail Chimp and that we will compel the next membership officer to use it as the primary communication tool to the general membership as a requirement of their job. We voted to buy it immediately. Sharissa said we can run it through the website, import our membership list, and it will be operational in the near future. It will allow several future membership emails to be scheduled at one time. For the past several years, Sharissa has performed the WBNA social media functions, and she volunteered to continue those duties. She states once everything is entered in Mail Chimp and the WBNA website, there will be no need to maintain a membership list, except for those who don't have email.

NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY: Dave

Dave states that Lt. Sigel has been promoted and the RCPD will appoint his replacement. Relating to security issues, Rose states that her Ring security system at her front door recorded a man at her house on January 16. He was wearing a parka and mask, came to her front door at 6:10 pm, put his hand over the Ring camera for a short time, then left. He came back at 8:30 pm, stood at her front door, then tried the doorknob. Her boyfriend opened the door to ask what the guy was doing. The guy said he saw someone checking out their car, and was going to report the activity to them. He was told they have several security cameras on the property and would report the incident to the PD. The guy left.

John relayed an incident of a squatter at a friend's house. He suggested that he would like to be able to access an RCPD website to track the rate of complaints in the neighborhood. Dave states that citizens can report suspicious behavior by calling 394-4131, but is not aware of a public website with that information.

Sharissa reports that she was in a car accident at the four-way stop at West Blvd and Quincy St. She stopped and was proceeding through the intersection, when a woman ran the stop sign on WB, hit and totaled Sharissa's car. She feels very fortunate that she wasn't injured, and is wondering if WBNA could bring this to the attention of the city to install flashing lights, or anything that reminds motorists of the stop signs. Other members report that there has been an increase in people running stop signs in the neighborhood.

OTHER ISSUES:

Dave will assist John with the WBNA non-profit application.

Dave adjourned the meeting at 8:46 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for February 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Rehfeld.