

WBNA Membership Meeting

February 15, 2022

President Dave Holland called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Board members present were: Dave Holland, Joy Rehfeld, Eirik Heikes, Elizabeth Zieglmeier, Rose DuBois, and Patrick Roseland, constituting a quorum. Other members present included Brian and Rane Haglund, Jean Kessloff, Holly Lemay, Sharissa Hermanson, and City Council members Ritchie Nordstrom and Bill Evans.

Holly Lemay asked to add Dinosaur Park to the Agenda. The Agenda and January minutes were approved.

NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY: Lt. Sigel

Lt. Sigel introduced his replacement Lt. Chris Holbrook, the new representative for the Southside Sector. Lt. Sigel shared a community report outlining police calls-for-service as well as proactive contacts by RCPD for the WB neighborhood. The “hot spots” are mainly in and around Wilson Park and Wells Fargo Bank.

The reports show a major decrease in contacts from January, 2021 to January, 2022. Lt Sigel reports that, because of COVID, officers were doing much less proactive work during that time, which they’ve again resumed.

TREASURER’S REPORT: John

Same as January’s report.

MEMBERSHIP: Joy

Joy reports that new memberships as well as renewals continue to come in. She’s received several in the past couple weeks from the website.

New, accurate numbers are: 130 members in good standing, 23 unpaid, and 14 guests.

NEWSLETTER: Elizabeth

Elizabeth says there’s nothing new to report. At the last meeting, we decided to publish three newsletters – May, August, and September. Elizabeth requested that we form another small committee to discuss ideas for the letter. Dave suggested that we form the committee after the new board members are elected.

WEST BLVD SUMMER FESTIVAL: Sharissa

Sharissa states that she has sent out around 150 applications, and has received some back already. She states there are 100 booth spaces. She hasn’t sent in the application to the city yet in case we want to reinstate the wagon tours, plus it’s not due until March.

Sharissa has identified committee assignments:

Marketing/PR - (she has someone interested)

Hospitality – finding the volunteers for all aspects of the Festival – staff in the gazebo, set up and tear down, trash duty, etc.

Entertainment – finding, signing, coordinating a variety of entertainment

Historic –

Elizabeth volunteered to help with sponsorships.

Dave added that he and Pat met with Sharissa to sign her contract, and talked more about the committee to assist her with her duties.

Ranee Haglund said she had a booking agency in the BH for many years and still has contacts for many, and is frequently contacted by younger acts. Ranee volunteered to help find entertainment. There was discussion of finding sponsors to fund some better acts.

WBNA BOARD ELECTION: Pat

Pat led the committee which compiled a good list of candidates:

Officers: President – Dave Holland, Vice President – Jeanette Deurloo, Treasurer – John Wilmes, Secretary – (looking for a candidate).

Board Members: Patrick Roseland, Elizabeth Zieglmeier, Jake Mordhorst, Angela Mordhorst, Matt James, Jan Dietrich, Wade Lampert, and Holly Lemay.

There was discussion on amending Section IV of the WBNA Bylaws to extend the terms for board members. Eirik moved to extend the terms from one to two years, seconded by Elizabeth and the motion carried. The proposed amendment will be mailed to the membership along with the slate of board members on the ballot. To be adopted, the amendment must pass by a two thirds vote of the members present at the March meeting.

CITY COUNCIL ELECTION: Pat

Pat announced that he plans to run for the Ward 5 seat on the Rapid City Council which will be vacated by Darla Drew. He was given many kudos and statements of support from all present.

BOARD MEETING VS. TOPIC / SPEAKER FORUM: Dave

Dave suggested that we host a political forum for all candidates running for office before the June 6 election. He also suggested that we alternate monthly meetings – having a business meeting one month, and a speaker on a relevant topic the next month, etc.

Bill Evans suggested using the Meeting Room at the City Parks Office for the candidate forum. The venue offers more room, less ambient noise, and better parking than the YMCA.

COMMUNICATION: Dave

Newsletter – Three times per year.

Postcards – will be used for election, festival, and holiday party.

Email – monthly meetings will be announced by mailchimp a week prior to each meeting.

OTHER ISSUES:

Dinosaur Park Stairs – Holly brought up the concern of the City's plan to take out the historic stairs leading to the dinosaurs which were built by the WPA. She states she understands that

they may not be safe, and maybe shouldn't be used, but feels they should be preserved for their historic value. Dave will send out information about the project, so we can take action or write individual letters if we want to.

Historic Plaques – Jean asked if any work has been done to offer historic plaques on individual homes, designating their historic significance. Dave asked Jean to gather the information and bring it to the board for consideration.

Bill Evans – Latest issues at City Council. He expressed frustration concerning the redistricting of wards and precincts without council input. He further discussed the rezoning of a lot near the Skyline wilderness area. He discussed the plans to replace historic lighting on West Blvd and that the proposed fixtures will most likely be a brighter, whiter light than what we have at present. Dave, Pat, and Eirik will meet with the city concerning this.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Joy Rehfeld.