

# Nelson Neighborhood Improvement Association

P.O. Box 1224 Muskegon Michigan 49443

## Minutes March 18, 2009

### Board Action Items:

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. Twenty-four members were present.
2. Directors present: Dollie Hippchen, Romella Ealom, Bob Bosch, Bill Wright, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Larry Spataro, Karen Ladd, Ann Craig, Rebecca Flowers, Bill Krick  
Directors absent: Dan Rinsema-Sybenga, Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga, Greg Laws, Greg Borgman, Irene Cooper
3. Larry Spataro moved and Bill Wright seconded to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2009 meeting. *Motion carried.*
4. Bill Krick moved and Karen Ladd seconded to approve the Minutes of the February 21, 2009 Annual Meeting. *Motion carried.*
5. Larry Spataro moved and Bill Krick seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report with the \$84 listed as "Postage/Shipping" expense be transferred to "Membership" expense. *Motion carried.*
6. Bob Bosch conducted the election of officers. The following nominations were presented: Marcia Hovey-Wright - President, Larry Spataro - Vice-President, Dan Rinsema-Sybenga - Secretary, Bill Wright - Treasurer. Bill Seebach was nominated from the floor for President but he declined. Bob Bosch closed the nominations. Larry Spataro moved and Bob Bosch seconded to elect the nominees by acclamation. *Motion carried.*
7. Marcia Hovey-Wright presented the committee report regarding the hosting of an AmeriCorps Member. Marcia Hovey-Wright was asked to bring information regarding the responsibilities NNIA would have as "host" to the next meeting. Bill Wright moved and Karen Ladd seconded: NNIA will serve as host of this project temporarily and tentatively pending the completion of a final plan to be approved by the Board of Directors before funds are allocated. *Motion carried.*
8. Marcia Hovey-Wright recommended the following committee chair appointments: Block Club - unfilled, Membership - Dollie Hippchen, Community Gardens - Bill Krick, Finance - Bill Wright, Activities - unfilled, Communications/Publicity - Dan Rinsema-Sybenga, Youth and Senior Programs - Rebecca Flowers, Hospitality - Bill Krick. Larry Spataro moved and Bill Wright seconded to confirm the committee chair appointments. *Motion carried.*  
Larry Spataro moved and Bob Bosch seconded to appoint Romella Ealom chair of the Nominating Committee. *Motion carried.*

9. Sue Kroes provided an update on the community garden project. There is funding for two gardens. Morning Bear was contacted to see if her garden group wished to participate in the grant. Bill Wright presented a proposed contract between NNIA and Central United Methodist Church for the use of their lot on Muskegon Ave between Second St and Third St for a community garden. Bill Wright moved and Rebecca Flowers seconded to approve the contract and authorize the President to sign. *Motion carried.*
  
10. Larry Spataro presented the final report and recommendations from the Endowment Committee. Larry Spataro moved and Ann Craig seconded to adopt the Resolution to Implement the Endowment Fund. *Motion carried.* Larry Spataro moved and Romella Ealom seconded to authorize the deposit of \$62,000 into the Endowment Fund. *Motion carried.* Larry Spataro moved and Dollie Hippchen seconded to authorize the execution of the Agreement with the Community Foundation for Muskegon County. *Motion carried.* Larry Spataro moved and Karen Ladd seconded to call a Special Membership meeting to run concurrently with the April 15, 2009, Board Meeting for the purpose of amending the By-Laws with written notice to include the proposed amendments mailed to all currently paid members at least ten days before the meeting. *Motion carried.*
  
11. Mike Miller Memorial update – no report

**General Membership Participation:**

1. Introductions were made and the Krick's were thanked for providing the refreshments.
2. D. J. Hilson, Community Prosecutor was present and heard concerns from the members. He indicated there would be a focus on shutting down drug houses.
3. The committee reports were deferred, because of time.
4. Marcia Hovey-Wright reported on the Neighborhood Associations of Muskegon Meeting. She said the city grant had been approved and would be sent on March 28, 2009.
5. Marcia Hovey-Wright presented information sheets regarding the upcoming Muskegon Public Schools bond election.
6. Laura Swenson reported on the update to the city's Leisure Services Master Plan.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted – Lawrence O. Spataro, Vice-President