

Nelson Neighborhood Improvement Association

Minutes of October 15, 2008

Board Action Items:

1. Roll Call of Board of Directors

Present: Larry Spataro, Dan Rinsema-Sybenga, Romella Ealom, Dollie Hippchen, , Helen Sherman, Bob Bosch, Irene Cooper, Marcia Hovey-Wright, Bill Wright, Sarah Rinsema-Sybenga

Not Present: Greg Borgman, Karen Ladd, Ann Craig, Greg Laws

2. The Treasurer's report was presented. Upon a motion by Larry Spataro, seconded by Helen Sherman, they were approved by a voice vote.
3. The minutes of September 17 board meeting were not accessible and upon a motion by Larry Spataro, seconded by Bill Wright they were tabled till the next regular board meeting
4. The minutes from the special board meeting of September 24 were presented. Upon a motion from Larry Spataro, seconded by Bill Wright, they were approved with a voice vote.
5. Sale of Building and Transition Team report
 - Nelson Place has agreed to host the NNIA general membership and board meetings if the meetings are able to be wrapped up by 7:30. Also, those who attend must use parking spaces on the street, or those closest to Houston Ave. The change of meeting location will be publicized in the next edition of the Nelson Newsletter which should arrive at residences by November 14. Motion by Dan Rinsema-Sybenga, second by Helen Sherman to authorize Dollie Hippchen to spend not more than \$15 to mail postcards to inform members of the new location for NNIA meetings. Nelson Place has also made available storage space and three file cabinets have already been relocated to the available space and a number of boxes remain to be transported to Nelson Place.
 - The closing on the building was delayed due to the need of Fifth Third Bank to produce a document stating there is no lien on the building.
 - Irene Cooper led an effort to sell any items that were in the building. This sale had revenue of over \$400. Motion by Larry Spataro, seconded by Dollie Hippchen to pay Irene \$60 for her effort to hold this successful sale. Motion carried on a voice vote.
 - Moment of Silence for Mike Miller, former NNIA president, who passed away on August 13, 2008.
6. Strategic Planning revisited
 - It was agreed upon by consensus to hold a board strategic planning session that would focus on specific activities the board could engage in to accomplish the broader goals identified in the previous strategic planning session on January 15 at 5:30.
7. Annual meeting date
 - The NNIA annual meeting will take place February 21 at 10:00 a.m. at Nelson Place.
8. Nominating Committee and appointment of new Vice President
 - The nominating committee will meet to present a candidate for the board to fill the current vacancy.
 - Motion by Bill Wright, seconded by Irene Cooper to appoint Larry Spataro as the Vice President of the NNIA to fill the currently vacant position. The motion carried on a voice vote.
9. Board meeting/general meeting proposal
 - From now on the Board meeting will last one hour from 5:30 to 6:30 with the general membership meeting taking place at 6:30. Notices of the meeting will continue to announce the meeting beginning at 5:30 as board meetings are open to the public.

10. General Membership participation

- 15 people were present and introduced themselves
- Mr. Eikehorse, who was the only scrap metal hauler permitted to participate in Dumpster Day made a presentation and presented a cash donation of \$42, as part of the proceeds of the scrap metal collected during the Fall dumpster day.
- Neighborhood Concerns (Community Officer Scott Vanderwier)
 1. An explanation for the rise in grafitti activity was presented. The rise is due to Hispanic gangs.
 2. It is now junk vehicle season and those spotting junked vehicles are encouraged to report them to Scott.
- Committee Reports
 1. Membership (Dollie Hippchen) – Dollie reported that 4 new members had joined the organization over the last month.
 2. Communications (Dan Rinsema-Sybenga) – The Newsletter will arrive at resident houses by November 14.
 3. Activities (Marcia Hovey Wright) – Update on Home Tour and Holiday potluck were presented.
 4. Mike Miller Memorial (Dan Rinsema-Sybenga) – This committee still needs to hold its initial meeting
 5. Endowment Committee (Bill Wright) – report tabled till next meeting
- Community Involvement
 1. NAM (Marcia Hovey-Wright) – NAM is making positive steps to address common issues of all the neighborhood associations. One idea is to have joint block club training with McLaughlin Neighborhood Association.
 2. First Congregational Breakfast - The next service opportunity will be November 29 and 4 people signed up to help.
 3. It was noted that the piece of public art displayed in the NNIA side yard has gone missing. It is presumed scrapped.

11. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.