

MINUTES

Walnut Grove Homes Association
December 7, 2014, 4:00pm, Lewandowski Home, Madison WI

Present: Eric Lewandowski, Kathy McComb, Mary Kay Battaglia, Tom Wall, Mark Schmitt, Kathy Raab, Gabe Anibas, Eileen Goode Absent: Denise Clearwood Guest: Tina Hogle

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm and quorum was established.

Motion to approve the October 22, 2014 minutes (with minor corrections) was made, seconded and unanimously approved. Kathy will submit for posting on the website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President's Report:

- 10/29/14 Area Safety Committee Meeting. Eric reported the meeting was well attended by over 120 people. The meeting, held at Lussier Center, was hosted by Aids. Paul Skidmore and Mark Clear and the Madison Police Department, West District, safety officer, Vic Wahl. The panel discussed the perceived uptick in crime, but reported no statistical increase in criminal activity or safety issues, although there seems to be an increase in crimes of opportunity (walk-ins, break-ins). All neighbors should remain vigilant.

Treasurer's Report: Current financials and proposed 2015 budget distributed to directors for discussion. 2014 was budgeted for approximately a \$3000 loss, but Tom believes we'll close the year with about a \$3000 net profit. Board discussed and approved sending a \$200 donation to the Lussier Center, as budgeted. Kathy McComb informed the board of a group of neighbors that may be interested in playground improvements using the M&I Park Fund. Kathy M. will check with the City to see if matching funds are still available.

Greenways: Gabe reported ongoing vandalism with a second broken light on Greenway C. He is repairing as quickly as possible but asked all neighbors to be watchful and report any suspicious activity. Eric will post information on the list serve to alert all neighbors. Work on the Oaks is proceeding as weather allows. Mark will follow up on invoices for the maples from K&A so it can be paid in this fiscal year. Mark has talked with a past state arborist to develop a proactive management plan for weeds on Greenway D. The Greenway Committee will meet again in February or March to plan for spring.

ACC: No report

Block Captains: Eileen reported the last newsletter and the ACC Survey was forwarded to the block captains but communication still needs to be improved. The board discussed the benefits and drawbacks of the Listserve, including the \$130 annual price, against the Next Door (free) program. Another option is Wiggio. Eileen will research further for future board discussion.

Communications: Mary Kay prepared the latest newsletter. Tina Hogle has expressed interest in working on future newsletters after the annual election. Many neighbors are asking for snow shoveling and babysitting lists. Mary Kay send those privately. Chris Grosspeach (DoIT Center) has offered to assess communication issues in the neighborhood. Eric will discuss further. Board discussed ways to update communication preferences, including adding a note to the annual dues invoice, possibly delaying the due date for remittance if needed. Tabled until next board meeting.

Social: The New Member November social did not happen due to lack of a facility large enough for the estimated 100 attendees. Hopefully it can be rescheduled for February at Schwoeglars.

Katherine Bidwell was able to obtain a list of homes sold in the last 5 years which provides us with

potential attendees. The bonfire was well attended and coordinated by new committee members. Kathy M. has successfully recruited new volunteers for different activities.

OLD BUSINESS;

Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Review Process: Kathy Raab has reviewed bylaws and will prepare an electronic copy for editing at future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Upcoming Board Openings: Tina Hogle is interested in appointment and would like to work on Communications. Mike Kollath, CPA, is a potential for Treasurer. Eric will contact Mike to discuss.

Next Board Meeting/Annual Meeting: Sunday, January 25, 2015 from 12-2pm at Stark Realty Office. Kathy will prepare notice for mailing to all residents.

March Meeting: Sunday, March 8, 4pm at Kathy Raab's house – 22 Springwood Circle

Planning for Next Year: Board discussed outreach to neighbors and comprehensive communications.

Adjourned by unanimous vote at 5:25pm

Submitted by Kathy Raab, Secretary