

Minutes
Summit Neighborhood Association
Board of Director's Meeting
September 16, 2019

Attendance: Zachary Barnes, Ethan Gyles, Britt Page, Read Porter, Tom Schmeling, Sharon Lee Waldman

Guests: Olina Urizar, Community Relations Coordinator from Mayor's Office, member Grant Dulgarian

Addition to Agenda: Last meeting was in July, August meeting cancelled due to low turnout, no additions on previous agenda. **July Minutes:** Approved

Presidents Report: As we kick off the Fall season, received positive newsletter response (from Erik). Movie Night was successful, thanks to Laura and others; another is to take place in October.

Treasurer's Report: \$230 in memberships since mid July; \$102 for membership database; \$200 in yard sale registrations

Program Committee Reports: 82 current members, down from May totals of 100. Reminders will continue to go out. 40 lapsed memberships, including several with no valid contact information, others not yet returned. Goal is 100 membership. Half utilized the web form, which continues to be a successful platform for membership signup. Online Platform renewal but web form platform did not renew but still works? Read advises that other options are available but with coding required.

- We now are spending approx. \$160 for website and database/forms.
- The phone number for SNA is 401-400-0986
- Board is in agreement to renew \$60 annually (unanimous)

Newsletter Committee: Grant and Liz divided up the lots/doors. Some did not want a newsletter delivered, and others are pending delivery.

Online Newsletter: 102 people on the list; requested both the newsletter and the e-newsletter when renewing/signing up.

- September e-newsletter advertisements for the yard sale and movie night, October will include the "Spooky" movie night, cookout, and the little free library
- Goal is approx. 3-4 stories for each newsletter
- E-version will go out no more than monthly.

North Main Committee: no update. Ethan and Laura met with Ray Watson, how to work together on plan for empty buildings, whether trader joes or something else. They'd like it to be affordable housing component. Mount Hope data is typically grouped with higher value properties, skewing data. The plan is to work on agreed upon principles of what is desired. Once agreed upon, to be taken to City Council, to meet again to discuss next steps.

Community Garden: Next workday is end of October. Turnover for the garden remains about ¼ of all plots per year.

New Business

- a) Taxes: would like SNA to request data regarding the new revaluation. Addressing the measurable shift of burden from Commercial to Residential. Information is available online. Chris cautioned regarding our role in a “City wide” issue;
- b) City Meeting update (non-mayoral) – moving toward 4-5 city wide subcommittees: crime, education, and other groups.
 - Conduit from neighborhood groups of information and etc through a mutual framework
 - Mirrored philosophies across neighborhood groups, (School/Air quality and crime vs LED brightness)
 - Pushed for Accountability, got a better idea of how city recognizes activity and attention to issues. We should Revisit what the mission is of our neighborhood group. Chris plans on sitting on the one of the committees.
- c) Yard Sale: Need 2 volunteers for each shift – morning and afternoon – Zach can do either that is needed (on call) Ethan to backup for even for the afternoon, Reed can do the morning. Setup materials to be retrieved from Anna. 20 registrations so far, more advertisements to come.
- d) Bakeoff – Event will be at Seven Stars for October 30, 6-8pm; The theme is pear.
- e) No volunteers so far for music committee
- f) No assistance needed for Movie Night, help share event with others for the October 11 event
- g) Neighborhood Nights: Chris (with Zach and Sharon) – education topic as into to providence schools, how the school system, charters, interactions and framework. Oct 15th booked the cafeteria.
 - Board can offer to reimbursement of expenditures for refreshments or the sound equipment.
- h) Reed wants to set up the October e-News to include the Neighborhood nights series.
- i) Steve K for the wine event plan (not part of a series)
- j) Pamphlet refreshing; update from Ethan to follow
- k) Avenue Concept – Torin and Brit to meet with their community outreach coordinator, more to report next month
- l) i. and j. are pending; Dean put the signs up (halfway done), waiting on neighbor feedback. A request for a map of sign locations was made. Signs may be a bit high. Approx. 18 remain to be posted.
- m) Reminder that the postal service is in charge of the mailboxes, per Sharon, when placing Newsletters
- n) Uses for stacks of unused newsletters – leave them with the free publications at various locations around Summit Neighborhood, can be used for new members as a “welcome”, barring extra burden. Extras can also be dropped off at an open house
- o) Little Free Library – Sharon to get the gift card. All agreed the project was a success.
- p) Drinking Fountain (“bubbler”) – RFP received only one bid, which was high. Repeated call for bids went out. 4-5 bids were received (some close to the original estimates). Low bids could be because of busy summer season. They expect to respond to the bids. Not sure if it can happen before the cold weather sets in.
- q) Calendar of events – yearly highlights to expect and/or ICS feed, would centralize activities in the neighborhood, including highlighting the yearly activities of SNA, including links.
- r) Best way to integrate social networking, to create a framework, plus a bi-weekly “neighborhood fact”; using an intern?

Next meeting is October 21,2019.