

GPNA Board meeting: February 11th, 2014

APPROVED

The meeting was called to order and board members introduced themselves. In addition several community members were in attendance and also introduced themselves. Board members in attendance include: Ron Laster, Stephanie Hemstead, John Prell, Ken Peterson, Brian Cefola, Kate Davenport, Gregg Sneller and Mary Cal Hanson. Katy Asher from NECN was also in attendance.

The meeting agenda was reviewed and approved unanimously.

The meeting minutes from the January board meeting were reviewed, amended and unanimously approved.

Brian started the meeting off with an update on the recent assault and flasher incidents that took place in or very near the Grant Park neighborhood. It seems that there have been some new developments in the case where the victim has recanted some of the statements previously given to the police. The investigation is still ongoing and we hope to receive updates from the police. There is some concern about the lag time in getting the information out and available to the public. There was a motion made to pursue a community meeting with representatives nearby Neighborhood Associations (NA), other community resources (ONI, NECN) on how best to deal with future incidents. The motion was unanimously approved by the board. Gregg did offer up the Grant Park Baptist Church as a possible meeting site.

Next up on the agenda was the Grant Park Dog Park (GPDP) Improvement discussion. There are dealings in the works for some Portland park improvements but the main block point is money or lack thereof. Amanda Fritz who oversees Portland Parks and Rec (PPR) wanted groups to submit lists of priorities of neighborhood park improvements. The primary issue seems to be the need for some fencing at GPDP. Then second most common area to consider for improvement in the park would be lighting at Grant Park Bowl and then the possibility of an additional fenced off area for smaller dogs. Ken Peterson has already set up a meeting with the current dog park administrator and supervisor from the Grant Park maintenance of the dog park area. Ken has submitted a proposal after this meeting and discussion requesting \$35,000 for improvements for the GPDP. Email Ken @ [email address redacted] after reading/reviewing the proposal which was passed around to the group. A motion was made at this meeting and unanimously approved for Ken to submit the request as it currently reads.

The Grant Park Clean Up: The date has been set. The Clean Up will take place on May 17th, 2014 from 9 am until 1 pm. Kate and Mary Cal gave an update on the upcoming event. The primary area that is lacking is the need for volunteers.

Newsletter issue: Costs of advertising was discussed and after the discussion a motion presented to the group to accept a price increase for all sizes of advertisements in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Items to include in the next newsletter were discussed and Kate will provide a e- version prior to sending the draft off to the printer.

Treasury report: After all the current deposits and pay outs our final balance was \$7,378.21. (the attachment available upon request from Mary Cal Hanson.)

Katy Asher was up next with on overview of upcoming events from NECN. She updated the group to some of the issues that lead to the Trader Jo's grocery store not going forward with store implementation in the King neighborhood. Ron suggested NECN review some of the archives of past NECN activity and assistance if needed.

NECN also has some grants available for community development. In addition she put forth a request for any volunteers who would be willing to read and review the grant applicants. March 14th, 2014 is the deadline for the grant applications. Katy mentioned that the Sullivans Gulch NA (SGNA) has made an application to try and reclaim land in

their neighborhood. This is in addition to the bike trail proposal and trying to coordinate efforts with some private land owners and the railroad. The bike trail proposal is still in process but due to lack of funding is somewhat on hold.

Bylaws: the second public reading of the GPNA bylaws was put forth. The final reading will take place at the upcoming GPNA meeting in April. It was clarified that the GPNA board members are the only ones who have the responsibility and ultimate authority to deal with any major issues

April GPNA meeting agenda items: the 3rd reading of the bylaws will be on the agenda as will the elections of GPNA board members. The upcoming Clean Up in May will also be discussed. Ken will update the attendants as to the progress of the GDPD proposal. In addition and if there is time, Grant Park Village (GPV) developers may give an update and let us know about the possibility of tours on the grounds. If the city sewer project can have a representative available that would be a nice addition. And the final item that may be included on the April agenda would be a possible community celebration with SGNA and GPNA for the completion of the Grant Park Bowl project, GPV update and the new New Seasons store that will be coming to the neighborhood.

New Business: Ken made a motion to request funds for 4 more yard signs announcing the next GPNA meeting. This motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Ken can buy the new signs and Mary Cal has the 3 signs from Merryl.

A guest speaker returned to the meeting tonight. A Mr. Tom Sincic was here to discuss the possibility of a bronze plaque placement somewhere in the Grant Park neighborhood. This is due to the fact of the importance the General U.S. Grant was very influential in the early settlement and agriculture in the area. Currently Mr. Sincic is unable to proceed with his request due to the resistance of PPR. The approximate cost of the plaque would be \$500.00.

Meeting was called to adjourn at 8:42 pm

Minutes taken by Mary Cal Hanson