

GPNA "Special" meeting minutes from November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016

APPROVED

Board members in attendance include Ken Peterson, Ron Laster, Mary Cal Hanson, Stacey Tipp and John Prell. Guests at this meeting include Susan Bach (from the Irvington neighborhood), Joan Malling from Grant Park and Sid Ditson also from Grant Park. Susan and Joan are here tonight to give the group an overview of Villages NW (VNW) and a grant request for VNW.

The only agenda item is VNW and their grant request from GPNA. So the meeting was opened with introductions of the neighborhood members in attendance. Opening the meeting was Susan Bach who gave a thorough overview of the history of VNW, what the local chapter has been doing to get established and what sorts of activities and programs VNW.

GPNA has already donated \$500.00 to VNW two years ago to assist in the startup activities that were needed. Susan and Joan both explained where and how this money was utilized. Ken then inquired about the groups operating budget going forward. Since this group was just formed on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 there was no way to confirm what their budget forecast would be. Most of this money was spent on purchasing a new software program to assist in coordinating the volunteers and the activities for the members. The software programs are Club Express and QuickBooks. This group is a 501(c.) (3) nonprofit organization which relies on donations and member ship fees. The fees are as follows:

1 person - \$495.00 and 2 people - \$750.00. These prices are for "Full membership" and include either 12 or 24 transportations per year. There is also an "associate membership" which is slightly less at \$275.00/single and \$395.00/couple. This covers primarily the more social activities that NWV coordinates around town.

The question was raised about why TriMet wasn't an option for these people? The time and schedule that TriMet uses can be long and exhausting vs direct transportation. Also NWV runs later in the day and on weekends.

Currently there are 66 individual members in 46 different households. This prompted the question, "Why ask for the grant money?" To which Susan explained that this additional money could benefit low income applicants for membership who might otherwise be unable to afford to join, and provide broader options for some of the current members. She added that there are some member/applicants from the Grant Park neighborhood, and that it was possible the donation could be used to assist them. All members and staff are thoroughly interviewed and screened by a team of two NWV members to make sure that the people will fit into the group.

The next question had to do with a Resource list for members who might need help with bigger projects/issues in their home/life. Currently the NWV group hasn't been able to coordinate these commercial vendors but this too would be one of the projects to which additional funding could put to use.

A motion was made to provide NWV with a grant of \$500.00. There was a second to the motion and the vote went ahead with all those but one abstention from the group. The motion was passed.

A motion was made and approved unanimously for the meeting to adjourn at 19:57

Minute meetings by Mary Cal Hanson (GPNA secretary)