

## **Grant Park Neighborhood Association (GPNA) meeting minutes (APPROVED)**

**June 20, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Ken Peterson at 7:01 pm. Since there was a guest speaker, Anne Marie Heistand tonight and one neighbor, John D'Avolio in the room the members of the board introduced themselves to the audience. Board members in attendance included Ken Peterson, Stacey Tipp, Ron Laster, Pat Schmitt, Olivia Louise and Mary Cal Hanson. A list of attendees was filled out and will be kept on file.

There was a slight modification to the agenda and a motion was placed to approve the amended agenda, seconded and unanimously approved.

First item on the agenda is the review and approval of the meeting minutes from the April 18, 2017 meeting. One change was made on these minutes but after a motion and a second were unanimously approved.

Ron presented a handout of the current Treasury report. After a couple of modifications most notably the \$100.00 to each of the NET team members in the Grant Park team, which came to 13 members or \$1,300.00, \$110.00 for Cantel Sweeping the final balance is currently \$7603.07.

Of note was a commitment that had been discussed at the April meeting and approved to donate an item to the Beverly Cleary auction. Jane Comeault purchased the item and donated from GPNA. This item came to \$39.95.

Our guest speaker for tonight's meeting is Anne Marie Heistand who comes to us from the "Yes! For healthy kids and education" organization. Ms. Heistand gave a wonderful overview of this group's mission and plans to get support from the citizens and neighborhood groups to support legislation within Multnomah county for a tax of 1.5 cent/ounce of sugar sweetened liquids. This tax would be placed on the distributors not at the retail level. 50% of the money raise would go towards early learning efforts and the other 50% would go to public health education. There was a question and answer series from the group and Ms. Heistand will follow up with the board members with more information via email of the study information, other cities and county roll outs and more. This healthy idea is backed by a number of organizations including the American Heart Assoc, the American Dental Assoc just to name a few. The primary opposition is the American Beverage Association with a sub group under the name of "Move Forward". In addition the teamsters are opposing this plan.

Grant Park Church has made a formal request for a \$500.00 grant to improve the parking lot. The plan is to put down better striping and at least two handicapped parking spaces. A motion was made to approve this grant, seconded and approved by all board members except Stacey who abstained from the vote due to her connection as a Grant Park Church member.

There was limited information on the Clean Up but both Mary Cal and Stacey felt that it was a success. It's unclear what the final profit was from the event as this would need to come from the Coalition on

NE Neighborhood (CNN) or Ronda. Mary Cal did have about ~\$192.00 of receipts associated with some Clean Up expenses and Ron will reimburse her.

Stacey was up next with a great overview of her role and the focus of the Public Safety Activity Committee or PSAC. This is a dedicated group of neighbors, a police officer and a district attorney who meet monthly to discuss and brainstorm on neighborhood crime prevention and livability issues. The meetings will be changed to every other month starting in August. Stacey also had a couple of great flyers for other upcoming events. National Night out will be the first Tuesday in August, a women's free self defense class and crime prevention resources to name just a few.

Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) report: last month several of the new and old NET members met up with some of the GPNA board members at a local watering hole. This meeting was the first of what the GPNA hopes will lead to a strong and robust relationship.

The NET group will hopefully become a more integrated part of the GPNA team and share information via newsletter, attendance to some of the GPNA meetings and overall neighborhood emergency planning going forward.

Ken wanted to bring up a minor but important change to the bylaws. We needed to change the working in the bylaws to reflect our coalition change from NECN to CNN. This change needs to be noted in these minutes before a vote can take place and the second notice can be voted on.

New business: it came to light to the group that there has been some difficulties and frustrations with the process that the newsletter undergoes. There is concern that now that Kate Davenport has a full time position the timeline, communications and finishing of the newsletter may be overwhelming to her. So a subcommittee was roughly discussed and may include Ron, Ken and Mary Cal. A motion was made that this subcommittee will be empowered to fully negotiate the manner in which the newsletter is processed and produced going forward. A motion was placed, seconded and approved.

A motion was also made to have this group purchase some gift for Marianne Lynde (?) the newsletter coordinator. It too was seconded and approved.

Speaking of gifts Earnie Smith was called into the meeting room where a gift to show our appreciation was presented to Earnie for his outstanding services to the GPNA.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm

Minutes taken by Mary Cal Hanson, GPNA secretary.