

Westside Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

February 1, 2017 ▪ 6:00 PM

Letts Community Center

In Attendance: Rosemary Goodno, Danielle Casavant, Elizabeth Battiste, Emily DeRushia, Veronica Gracia-Wing, John Addis, Merry Rosenberg, Emily Bergquist, Emily Johnson, Cassandra Nelson, Jason Gabriel

Excused: Emily Stevens, Lindsay Tarrant, Rob Mathis

Absent: Mohammed Khan

Call to Order: DeRushia called to order at 6:10 PM

Approval of Agenda: Battiste moved, to approve, seconded by Goodno. **APPROVED**

Introduction of Board Members: Each board member present introduced themselves, where they live and a fun fact.

Introduction of Guests: Mitch Shapiro neighbor on West St. Background in communication business practices and policies, more recently on digital divide and the homework gap. Kids increasingly get homework assignments that require internet access. Many kids don't access which puts them at a disadvantage to other students, furthering the socio-economic divide. Goodno will be the contact on the board for Mitch. Rosenberg will be the Sexton school liaison.

Approval of Minutes: Rosenberg moved, Bergquist seconded, to approve January 2017 electronic board meeting minutes. **APPROVED**

Committee Reports

- Treasurer's Report - Balance \$13,974.19 in savings and \$2,166.27 in checking account. Two checks in last period to the Food Pantry. Averaging \$100 per month for the delivery charge.

Old Business & New Business

- Community Engagement - Survey to get better information led by DeRushia
 - Schools - Rosenberg
 - Government - Battiste
 - Neighborhood diversity and inclusion - DeRushia; Gabriel
- Communications
 - Newsletter - Addis; DeRushia; Bergquist. The board accepted the resignation of Gracia-Wing. Gracia-Wing will help train board members on the newsletter process.
 - Social Media (Facebook admin, new regulations) - Casavant, Goodno, Bergquist
 - Website/Board Email - DeRushia
 - E-mail List for neighbors (how to keep it up to date, how best to utilize the list) - put on survey
- Neighborhood Improvement
 - Past projects - Johnson - long term planning for neighborhood
 - Proposed future projects:
 - Jason: Open air Placemaking Initiatives, proposed triangle park sculptures, and a Camaro Corners signature large- form Transformers Bumblebee statue (in

- partnership with City of Lansing, Hasbro and GM) -- Jason
 - Open discussion, suggestions
- Events
 - Westside Wednesdays - Bergquist
 - Yard Sale/Garage Sale - Battiste look into
 - Think about for March:
 - Summer Picnic, July 19th
 - Neighborhood Night Out/Family Fun Night - dependent on grants, table until March
 - Annual Fundraiser - dark year? new approach?
- Grants - Nelson
- Crime and Safety - unsure about Mitzi Allen