

## **Westside Neighborhood Association Board Meeting**

August 2, 2017 - 6:00 PM

Letts Community Center

### **Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Cassandra Nelson, Elizabeth Battiste, Emily DeRushia, Merry Rosenberg, Emily Bergquist, John Addis, Jason Gabriel

**Excused:** Emily Stevens, Emily Johnson

**Absent:** Mohammed Khan, Rob Mathis, Amy Campbell

**Neighbors:** Ryan and Jamie

**Call to Order** – DeRushia called to order at 6:08 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda** – Bergquist requested to add the Secretary discussion to the agenda;

**Introduction of Guests** (if any present) – Ryan and Jamie from Ionia and Lahoma

**Approval of June 2017 Minutes** – Rosenberg moved, DeRushia second, Passed 7-0

### **Committee Reports**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Wrote a check to the Food Bank for about \$240, Letts still owes money for the grant, moved some money from checking account to savings account
  - Checking: About \$400
  - Savings: \$13,241.11
  - Merry will look for the additional card, may need Emily Stevens to co-sign to get a new one

### **Old Business**

- **Community Engagement**
  - **Survey/signs:** DeRushia handed some out at the picnic and they were distributed at the Crime & Safety Meeting, DeRushia will put out the survey next week
    - Rosenberg will get the signs from the storage unit and have them in her car on Election Day (Tuesday); Bergquist and Battiste will be doing signs and surveys from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
    - Signs & surveys will be available at Westside Wednesday – Bergquist leading
  - **Sales on Facebook**
    - Not supposed to have people sell things on Facebook because it is not the purpose of the group
    - Some people have mixed feelings about it
    - Bergquist reiterated that we should encourage folks to post about sales and items in the other group
    - Garage sales, lemonade stands and freebies will be allowed to stay, administrators will message the person or comment on items for sale to

encourage them to post in a more appropriate group

- Communications

- Summer newsletter

- A few items have been submitted so we're ok to start laying it out, might be just a bit shorter than the last couple of newsletters
    - We have: Neighborhood Interview with Melik, Westside crossword, computer, picnic, Racer Trust, Dog Spotlight, and GLHC
    - Waiting on Mitzi for Crime & Safety Spotlight
    - Elizabeth: How to care for hurt animals
    - Ads: Please submit ads by Friday

- Neighborhood Improvement

- Camaro Corners: Asked a couple of people if they were interested in moving forward with the conversation, a few people were interested and put together a promo video

- Curt Halls is a producer in the area and knows some GM higher ups
    - They have other Bumble Bee statues in other places, some that travel
    - Need sign off from GM and ideas on funding sources
    - **Bergquist moved to support** pursuing the Bumblebee Statue at the corner of MLK and St. Joseph (Camaro Corners)
      - Seconded by Nelson, Passed 6-1, Battiste voting no

- Events

- Fundraiser

- Bergquist would not like to have a dark year, but realizes it may have to be later
    - Cadillac Room is a great space – willing to rent and provide staff for \$350
    - Would contract for catering and bartending
      - Could also apply for temporary liquor license through our nonprofit
    - Hecksels volunteered to take charge on the auction again
      - Maybe scaled down version, focusing on return on investment
    - Dates Available: Sunday, November 12 or 19
      - **Battiste moved to set the date for Sunday, November 12; Addis seconds; Passes 7-0**
      - **Nelson moved to approve \$350 to secure the Cadillac Room; DeRushia seconds; Passes 7-0**

- Candidate night

- Battiste is waiting to hear back from Stevens on location
    - Set for Wednesday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m.

- Grants

- Nelson submitted report from the picnic
  - Nelson is working with Stevens on the movie night & Westside Fall Carnival

- Crime and Safety

- Ryan went to the last meeting
  - They spoke mostly about dogs; pre-raid
  - People were trying to continue to find the balance between neighbor accountability and people being able to have ways to engage each other about nuisances
  - There is something available that you can put an ordinance in a city envelope to drop off at their neighbor's house about ordinances
  - Someone raised an idea of having a "Welcome Package" with positive things, what you should be aware of, resources, rules, etc.

**New Business**

- Secretary Discussion
  - We will have a discussion on this item next time
  - Please touch base with DeRushia if you are interested or have any ideas