

Westside Neighborhood Association

Board Meeting Minutes May 3, 2017 - 6:00 PM - Letts Community Center

In Attendance: Cassandra Nelson, Elizabeth Battiste, Emily DeRushia, Merry Rosenberg, Emily Bergquist, Emily Stevens, Danielle Casavant, and Emily Johnson

Excused: Rob Mathis, John Addis, Amy Campbell

Absent: Mohammed Khan, Jason Gabriel

Call to Order: Emily De Rushia called to order at 6:06 pm

Approval of Agenda: Bergquist moved, seconded by Johnson to approve the Agenda as presented. **APPROVED**

Approval of Minutes – Rosenberg moved, seconded by Battiste to approve the Minutes of the May 3, 2017 Board Meeting as presented. **APPROVED**

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer's Report** - Current balance \$13,739.98 savings and \$796.92 (minus almost \$300 for the Food Bank that hasn't yet cleared).
- **Community Engagement**
 - **Schools** - We received two thank you notes for our donation to the teacher appreciation event at Sexton.
- **Neighborhood Improvement**
 - **Community Survey** – Johnson suggested that there be consistent language about WNA, your neighborhood, etc. Battiste suggested a warmer introduction and is willing to suggest some language. Rosenberg suggested adding an area to add activities they'd be interested in. Battiste suggested involving non board members in the survey. Evenings, Saturday morning and afternoon, Sunday afternoon shifts. Possibly getting a list from Andy Schor for addresses/residents.
 - **Inclusion Training** - DeRushia met with Antionette and Jill Griffin, independent consultants, to help us figure out how to better engage and create healthy dialogue with neighbors. They presented a plan to

assist with this including board training and plans to help us engage with neighbors. The board wanted to know what they could specifically teach us as a neighborhood association; would it be worth our while; and what do they think about engaging more neighbors in an open dialogue/forum.

- **Events**

- **Garage Sale** – Garage sale takes place this Saturday. Battiste encouraged board members to invite friends. Advertising is done in Lansing City Pulse and LSJ. Yardsale.com and Craigslist ads will go up tonight. Rosenberg moved to approve up to \$100 for advertising costs for the yard sale, seconded by Nelson. **APPROVED**
- **Voter Education Forum** - Old Oakland invited our neighborhood to their Ice Cream Social with the candidates. Pizza and politics will happen after the primary. Battiste and Stevens will work together to see if Letts gym is available. The date is Wednesday, September 27.
- **Jazz in the Park** - About 150 people attended. Board members who attended said that we should host it again.
- **Summer Picnic** - Casavant, Kimberlyn Fauson and Nelson will get together next week to do the planning.
- **Fall Fundraiser** - Bergquist has started investigating venues, including the Loft, Cadillac Room, LBC Stockhouse and the Radisson. Looking at first 1st or 8th of October. Stevens will look into Loft. Casavant will look into LBC. DeRushia will look into Cadillac Room. Bergquist will look into the View at the ballpark.
- **Neighborhood Night Out** - Nelson and Stevens are working on the planning.

- **Crime and Safety**

- Neighborhood Walk is on Tuesday, June 27 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. Stevens gave permission to use Letts popcorn machine. Nelson will look into history of some of the houses for which there isn't currently information.

- **New Business**

- Stevens asked for the WNA to purchase two computers for the new Letts Community Center Computer Room that will have open computer time, lessons for seniors, etc. Working with Closing the Digital Gap for the classes. Letts Advisory Board is paying for six computers. Johnson moved, Battiste seconded to purchase two computers for a total of no more \$1,500. **APPROVED.**

Adjourned at 7:13 PM