

MINUTES OF THE
MARQUETTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
BOARD
WIL MAR COMMUNITY CENTER
Thursday, March 19, 2009

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES: Julie Spears, David Hecht, Mariah Miller, Troy Pickl, Anne Walker, John Coleman, Scott Thornton, Jon Gramling (attended for the Treasurer's Report), and Sara Ishado

GUESTS: Christina Steele, Twink Jan-McMahon, Deb Hanrahan (became board member after Board Vancancy Vote), Bob Stoffs, Marianne Morton, Peng Her, Brian Cheney, Marsha Rummel, Peter Wolffe, and Jim Montgomery

1. WELCOME

Introductions were made by Scott Thornton, president of MNA, and welcomed those present at 7:00 p.m.

2. February Minutes Approval

No minutes to approve.

3. Peng Her—EINPC Director

Peng Her introduced himself as the new Executive Director of EINPC. He said his role is to help facilitate things between neighborhoods. He asked that MNA help by providing up to 4 representatives on the EINPC's Eastside Community Council (ECC). These individuals do not need to be MNA board members to be on the ECC. Peng said he has an open door policy to meet with anyone interested in discussing EINPC's role further. Julie Spears suggested EINPC focus more on acting upon only a couple of items, instead of trying to cover multiple issue.

4. Garver Arts Incubator

Marianne Morton presented on the Arts Incubator proposal and referendum. The proposal is to convert the space into 40 working art studios. The function would resemble that of the Alexandria, VA Torpedo Factory. Due to the Shoreline Ordinance, the proposal to change the space must undergo a referendum approval before it can go any further. Marianne explained that it will be a green building. She asked everyone to vote Yes on the April 7th referendum. If the referendum is approved, then the specific details for the plan will be open for public input. Parking was raised as a potential concern for the plan.

5. Treasurer's Report

Jon Gramling presented the January and February Balance Sheet and Income Statements.

MOTION: Julie Spears moved, seconded by David Hecht that we approve the January and February Treasurer's Report. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Jon discussed the 501(c)(3) response from the IRS. There were seven questions posed by the reviewer needing more clarification. The main issue was the charitable nature of the festivals and if we do any lobbying at city hall. Jon wrote a response and sent it to David Sparer to review. Jon will send the draft letter to the reviewer on Monday and then follow up with a call. The final draft is due March 30.

6. MG&E Native Plantings

Bob Stoffs and Jim Montgomery presented the plans MG&E has to do native plantings along the bike path between Ingersoll and Blair. The plantings would go between the bike path and the railroad tracks. There are two proposed phases. The plantings would be maintained by MG&E. An open house to discuss the plantings will take place on March 30, from 5-8p.m at the MG&E Corporate office.

7. Fill Board Vacancy

Carol Hoyer's seat on the board is vacant. Deb Hanrahan was nominated for the seat. Scott Thornton appointed Deb Hanrahan to the Board.

MOTION: John Coleman moved, seconded by Anne Walker to approve the President's appointment of Deb Hanrahan to the board. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

8. Values Committee

Scott Thornton discussed finding the original application for the Peat Piper Scholarship. He will schedule a meeting to work on disseminating the application and reviewing the applicants. Also, he will make sure the meeting covers the neighborhood enhancement scholarship.

9. Preservation and Development Committee

John Coleman reported on the Urban Design meeting that discussed the project on S Thornton, Jenifer, and Cantwell Court. The developer wanted to propose another project in that space. John drafted a letter to be sent to the developer to urge him to finish the first project before proceeding to another one. One issue with the current project is the developer would like to cover the original wood siding with vinyl. Also, there was a request to have another neighborhood meeting about this project before it gets referred for further consideration.

MOTION: Julie Spears moved, seconded by Anne Walker to approve the letter drafted by John Coleman with additional edit of keeping the existing siding. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Marsha Rummel will coordinate the meetings between the Plan B owners and neighborhood group.

10. Membership/Traffic Committee

The traffic committee will go ahead with the plan presented at the MNA Traffic Neighborhood Meeting. Will also consider the renovation of Division Street and how traffic can be slowed down. Also, the Baldwin and Rutledge intersection will be examined too. The Board supported the Traffic Committees decision to keep the "No right turn on red" sign on Baldwin/Willy St intersection. The committee will write a letter and send it to Marsha Rummel.

Officer Brian Cheney commented on the issue of parents dropping off children at the Thornton and Willy St intersection. He was there in the afternoon and did not notice anything, but will look at it again. There may be a study that could determine if an additional crossing guard is needed.

11. Alder's Report

The public meeting about Central Park is April 14, at 6:30, at WilMar. A reception for Research Park will be held on April 2, from 3-6p.m. The downtown plan meeting is on March 24, from 6:30 p.m. in LL110. The Farmer's Market may move from Central park. Another potential location is WilMar. The #38 bus is looking to pilot skipping every other stop to speed it up.

12. Adjourn

MOTION: John Coleman, seconded by Anne Walker, to adjourn meeting. Passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Submitted Respectfully By,

Sara Ishado