

GCHHDA GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

Sunday, February 11, 2007

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Committee Reports
5. FYI
 - a. City Liaison
 - b. Lot on 6 & Brown
6. Old Business -- Brunch 'n High Tea
7. New Business -- Budget Approval
8. Other
9. Adjourn

Meeting called to order 7:00 pm with 15 people present. Debbie McCracken introduced, and everybody introduced themselves.

Terry Genz moved to approve secretary's report, Bill Boom seconded, motion approved.

Financial report given by Cindy Farnum. Bill Boom moved to approve, Jeff Gomez seconded, motion approved.

Beautification report given by Jeff Gomez.

Gaines Street project; seeking more grants for planting.

Western Street step repairs, lights fixed by City. Need new ballasts, Bill Boom should be able to get them through his company, and may be able to save us some money. Looking for money to get railings repaired-- grants or alderman's beautification (Keith Meyer). Since land there is city property, makes sense to get Keith to find city money for repairs.

Harrison Street entry, looking into landscaping possibilities.

Will explore other cost estimates for mowing of park.

Plan to do leaf bags again this year.

Stamped concrete entryway to the gazebo from the park.

Events in park require additional \$50 insurance premium, will pass that on to anyone interested in using the park.

Communication report given by Bill Boom:

Rental licensing is going on to financial, and then on to City Council; City doesn't want to collect information about tenant problems, because freedom of information act could enable someone to find out addresses; subsidized housing project going forward out near Prairie Heights; Davenport seems to be extraordinarily attractive to the kind of population that utilize rent subsidies; concerns about opening of Thompson prison, and an influx of the families/friends/etc of prisoners.

Finance committee report given by PJ Slobojan:

Merchandise for sale; no changes to shirts/sweatshirts until we break even on current inventory; gifting program will be explored this year; Brunch/High Tea will be going forward, Tour currently on hiatus, unless someone comes forward who is really compelled to take it over and make a go of it.

City Liaison: several proposals for the job description; the committee on neighborhoods (Neighborhoods First) wants a "Neighborhood Liaison", and city administration has no problem with creating it; still evolving...

Lot at 6th and Brown; lot can't just be handed over to the Gold Coast; City will get first choice, if city doesn't want it, then it goes to auction. We have initiated conversation with city, suggesting that they take the lot, and give the GCHHDA stewardship of it;

County is preparing to move on the parking lot at Ripley and 5th; County has plans for signage similar to Harrison Street entry, and plan to incorporate historic lighting. They present to HPC at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Brunch/High Tea

Early Brunch and late afternoon High Tea at two different locations -- the Castle and Bill Boom's; Karen Anderson will be speaking at each event at each location; driving tour of neighborhood after each event; need LOTS of volunteer help; starting out with a targeted mailing to interested parties and we need to have names of people to solicit. March 18, trial run for High Tea with media invited;

New Business:

Board has worked out budget for the year: motion to change event expense to \$500 by Jeff Gomez, seconded by Steve B., motion carried. Approval of budget moved by Jeff Gomez, seconded by Bill Boom, motion carried.

Question about SMMID -- still underway, evolving away from revolving loan idea to straight grant money; looking at the first few years doing strictly community projects, and then possibly expanding to grants for individual homeowners; also investigating earmarking some funds for hardship cases.

Need volunteers for delivery of newsletters -- otherwise, it will not be delivered to anyone who is not a paid member.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Sara Bartholomew, Acting Secretary