

**West End Association
Minutes for Annual Meeting: March 8, 2011**

Attendees:

George Bryan
Mark Lively
David Phillips (Board Member)
David Poythress
Stephanie Parker
Stan Hill (Board Member)
Dan & Cathy McLaughlin
Clare Fader (Board Member)
Brad Zabel
Kirstin Absher (Board Member)
Eric Elliott
John & Wanda Merschel
Brenda Penny
P.J. Lenihan
Jeff Smith
Jacob Wharton
Andrew Leslie (Board Member)
Kathy Stanley
Tracy Ste. Marie (Board Member)
Kathleen Ramich (Board Member)
Matt Chambers
Susan Morris
Kristi Johnson Marion

New Business:

George Bryan introduced the slate of nominated officers and their terms:
President: Mark Lively- 2011 and eligible for another term
Vice President: Susan Hatfield Morris - 2011-2012
Treasurer: Eric Elliott - 2011-2012
Secretary: Kristi Johnson Marion - 2011- 2012

Board:

David & Toni Phillips- re-elect for new term 2011-2012
Clare Fader - elect back to board

For information only (No vote required):

Tracy Ste. Marie 2010-2011
Daniel Yohannes 2010-2011
Stan Hill 2010-2011
Andrew Leslie 2010-2011
Meg Zulick 2010-2011

Kristin & Alton Absher 2010-2011

Eric Elliott moved that we suspend the rule that one must be a paying dues member to vote at this annual meeting. and Andrew Leslie seconded the motion. No one was opposed. The motion was made an acclamation and Wanda Merschel seconded. No one was opposed. A motion was made to accept the slate of officers. The vote was unanimous.

Mark Lively gave his contact information-

mlively@triad.rr.com
mlively@wfubmc.edu
(336) 725-7220 (h)
(336)716-2969 (w)
(336) 577-7501 (c)

There were no minutes from the previous meeting to review.

Treasurer's Report:

Matt Chambers stated that we have \$13,443 in our NewBridge checking account and \$14,063 in our money market account. It was asked if the P.O. Box 21054 was still in use because some dues checks had been returned. Matt said it is still in use. Matt said that we are current in all of our federal paperwork for nonprofit status.

Mark Lively asked Clare Fader how much the West End Tour of Homes raised. Clare Fader said approximately \$3300-\$3700. Matt will confirm the figure. Clare Fader said it was the best year yet, as all of the costs were covered by the \$300-\$400 in sponsorship raised.

Eric Elliott says that he will propose the new budget at the next meeting.

Mark Lively asked if we are insured as a board. Eric Elliot said no.

Website update:

Mark Lively asked Dave Phillips about the website. Dave said it is a GoDaddy account, which costs around \$13.99 per year and an additional \$30-\$40 per year for hosting. David Poythress and Mark Lively brought up the issue of possible confusion created by having multiple websites. Dave explained that the old site has so much information that he decided to keep it live, but has a link to the old site on the current site. Dave proposed that there be a website committee to help transfer the massive content from the old site to the new site.

Susan Morris noted that the listserve has an option for daily or weekly digest notification for those who prefer not to receive each individual email as they are sent. The address for the listserve is West_End_listserve.yahogroups.com

Meeting Dates:

At the February meeting David Poythress made a motion to move the monthly board/ association meeting to the first Tuesday of the month to better respond to issues in a more timely fashion. Eric Elliot said we should first ask the YMCA if the West End Room is available at that time before voting.

Susan Morris pointed out that we need one more board member, since Erika von Isenberg is no longer on the board. Clare Fader nominated Sarah Williamson. George Bryan read Sarah's credentials. Mark Lively made a motion to elect Sarah Williamson to the board. The motion was seconded and none opposed.

Old Business:

Mark Lively touched on traffic calming update and will bring the maps to the next meeting and give a more thorough account.

Clare Fader has a box of West End Association materials from her time as Vice President of the Association that she will pass to Mark Lively, who will attempt to scan them and put on the website.

Eric Elliot asked what is the status of the sculpture the WEA purchased at the West End ArtsFest to be erected in Grace Court Park. Kathy said the City has agreed to install the sculpture, but needs donations for the base. Eric said the Visitors Center has a new pool of funds to market arts events. Kathy was aware of this and plans to meet with them once she has bids for the base in hand.

Jake Wharton gave an update on the Brunson Elementary School closing. Brunson is now a magnet school for science, engineering and math with long range plans to demolish the building since it is against code to build on a flood plain, and an addition will be made to Cook School depending on the bond. At the School Board meeting last week, residents of the West End neighborhood attended to show their discontent over this plan and provided Jake Wharton with a large petition against the plan. The School Board agreed to appoint a board of five (5) people who are parents of Brunson students or rising kindergarteners. Jake said the committee is filling the fifth position and will meet with School Board officials to offer optional plans for a school available here in the neighborhood. David Poythress voiced his dismay that the School Board would only hear from parents of Brunson students, pointing out that often young parents come and go in the neighborhood and are not the only residents who should be heard on the issue, which also effects residents without children. Jake Wharton agreed and said that the committee of five will hold open meetings and hear speakers. Those meetings will be open to all concerned. Clare Fader emphasized the need to reach out and communicate with more downtown residents, as Brunson is their "home" school as well.

Mark Lively proposed that the next monthly meeting of the WEA will be an informational meeting and Jake Wharton will give an update on the committee's progress.

Jeff Smith asked why the brush along Peters Creek has not been cut back the last few years. A discussion followed theorizing that the brush serves as a vegetative buffer, protects the banks from erosion and that it is likely also a water quality issue.

Eric Elliott announced that the Hotel Zinzendorf Historic Landmark marker will soon be placed in front of the Leonard-Ryden-Burr Real Estate Offices.

David Poythress said that it is his understanding that the owners of the Summit Street property of recent debate is now seeking "back up" offers. He emphasized that the WEA should be diligent about insisting that any use of the property not jeopardize the location's pending landmark status.

Zach Elliott announced a work date for the West End community garden on Saturday, March 19th from 8:30-10:30. All are welcome to help. Bring gloves and garden tools. He passed out flyers for the event.

George Bryan and the WEA Board formally thank Timo Collins for stepping in during the void of leadership and for his support of the West End Association and the West End Homes Tour.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 7pm in the West End Room of the Central YMCA.

Mark Lively adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.