

## **West End Association Minutes April 12, 2011 Meeting:**

### Attendees:

Russ Dubois (guest speaker, Architect, Creative Corridors Coalition)

Jeff Faullin (guest speaker, Principal, Brunson Elementary)

Mark Lively (President)

Susan Morris (Vice President)

Eric Elliott (Treasurer)

Kristi Johnson Marion (Secretary)

Tracy Ste. Marie (Board Member)

Clare Fader (Board Member)

Andrew Leslie (Board Member)

Dan & Cathy McLaughlin

Stan Hill (Board Member)

Alton Absher (Board Member)

David Phillips (Board Member)

Sarah Williamson (Board Member)

Kathleen Ramich (Board Member)

David Poythress (Board Member)

Kathy Stanley

Jeff Smith

Mary Reardon

Jeff Harbinson

Alexandra Gebhard - visitor, Duke University

### New Business-

Guest speaker Russ DuBois, Architect from the Creative Corridors Coalition spoke at the meeting about their hopes to create more aesthetic roadways and bridges in our community with public input. DuBois administered a survey to attendees about their interests for such a project and collected email addresses to send updates about future Creative Corridors Coalition meetings.

Guest speaker Jeff Faullin, Principal of Brunson Elementary stated that he is excited about the community interest being expressed over the future of Brunson Elementary. He addressed concerns from Mary Reardon and others and stated that the committee is still exploring options and meets again this Thursday, April 14, 2011. For the 2011-2012 school year, Brunson Elementary WILL be accepting any incoming kindergartener from the Brunson Elementary residential zone. Eric Elliott disputes the decision by school board officials that only parents can be on the committee exploring options for Brunson (as David Poythress had also expressed at the previous meeting). Eric Elliott suggested that the West End

Association might consider investing in a spec. for building on the current site with the flood plane in mind. President Mark Lively asked what the West End community can do to support Brunson Elementary. It was noted that the West End currently has three representatives on the committee, including Clare Fader, Jacob Wharton and Daniel Johannes. Eric Elliott pointed out that the West End Association used to meet at the school for its meetings and Mark Lively asked Jeff Faullin if we could occasionally meet there. Faullin agreed. Clare Fader asked Faullin if he would write an article about the situation for the West End newsletter, to which he said yes. Stan Hill commended Faullin on his excellent educational leadership at Brunson Elementary.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Eric Elliott said that our federal tax-exempt status is in question because the IRS says in 1993 someone supposedly checked a box that said our association was dissolving. He is working to resolve the issue, gathering documentation from several years to prove we did not, in fact, dissolve; and IRS anticipates that the issue can be resolved with filing appropriate paperwork. Record keeping and financial procedures has not been consistent of late, and so Eric proposed a separate meeting of just the Board to discuss minute details of our accounts and records.

#### Old Business-

##### Website update:

David Phillips is forming a Website Committee as proposed earlier to help with the transfer of information from the old West End website to the new, so that the old site can be shut down to avoid confusion. Susan Morris has joined him in this effort and he is confirming other volunteers.

##### West End ArtsFest:

Sarah Williamson, Chairperson of the West End ArtsFest gave an update on ArtsFest 2011. The ArtsFest 2011 Committee had its first meeting two weeks ago. After debating concerns of whether to give ArtsFest an outright donation or a line of credit to be repaid, Eric Elliott made a motion that voting rules requiring paid members only be allowed to vote be suspended for the time being. The motion was seconded and passed. Mark Lively made the motion that the WEA make a gift to the West End ArtsFest in the amount of \$1,500 in advance of the event with the expectation that the WEA will likely be repaid if the event generates a profit. Sarah Williamson seconded. All in the room voted. None opposed.

On the issue of the West End ArtsFest using the WEA PayPal account and be a holding company for ArtsFest, Andrew Lively moved and Alton Absher seconded. All in the room voted. None opposed, although David Poythress abstained.

Eric Elliott again proposed that the Association consider meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Mark Lively said the board would deal with the meeting change proposal via email.

Eric Elliott noted that the W-S Parks & Rec. did not file a certificate of appropriateness for the newly installed playground.

David Poythress noted that the new bridge that Parks & Rec. was about to install at Hanes Park was rejected by the HRC.

Mark Lively agreed with the Board that we should have a police officer at our next meeting to address the current rash of car and home break-ins in the neighborhood.

At 8:35pm Mark Lively made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Clare Fader seconded.