



West End Neighborhood Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 21054
Winston-Salem, NC 27120

Minutes of the Meeting of January 24, 2023

Attendance: Peter Kramer, George Bryan, Justine Mitchell, Hunter McKay, Mark LeBrecque, Carmen Kiper, Dan McLaughlin, Lynne Linnett, Victoria Goral, Jessica Chandler

(Items needing action are marked with “*”)

Meeting called to order 6:03pm by Treasurer, Peter Kramer.

Members were welcomed and the Minutes for November 2022 were approved.

First order of business was whether to continue to add to the recordings of the Board Meetings on Zoom or to erase and continue to record so as not to incur any additional Zoom charges for storing of the recordings. Overwhelming decision to erase.

Planning for a Home Tour Recap Meeting: As had been planned, the Board and/or committee responsible for the Home Tour will have a Recap meeting on February 7th at 5:30PM. The Committee will review successes and challenges and how to record them for the next Home Tour two years from now. We will decide at the meeting if we need further analysis of who attended and how they paid.

Membership: Currently approximately 33 renewals for Households in 2023 and one business paid. George is pushing membership digitally now and the newsletter will remind folks and there will be an envelope inserted next month. Would like to send invoices to Businesses to pay and to refine the list of businesses advertised in our newsletter. Victoria mentioned there are new businesses we could solicit. We can also push inserts. There was general discussion on attracting new and younger members through socials and social media. Discussed WS Foundation grant to build community. Discussed Grace Court events. Need a social chair.

Annual Meeting: Annual Meeting will be occurring in February. Peter trying to determine the need for slots to be filled. Hunter, Clint, Peter and George are in first year of two years. Frank, Dan, Justine, Mark LaBrecque, and Carmen are completing terms as some of them were elected to complete terms of Board Members who left Board through moving or other activities. All these agreed to be nominated for another term. Jessica Chandler was introduced by Victoria as a neighbor interested in nomination. Jessica responded to a request for membership and those interested in nomination. She has a lengthy experience in marketing and events. (she provided a short bio). She was welcomed by the Board and Peter will check to see if Clint wants to continue as he has been pushed to attend meetings.

The key positions needed are President and Vice President and hopefully these positions would come from current Board members thereby freeing other slots. An alternative would be recruiting from folks that have been on the Board previously.

We will have a vote in February. Peter will lead a nomination committee of Victoria and George to present nominations and recruit. George will send Bylaws out so folks can see job descriptions there, but additional job descriptions are needed.

Island Plantings: Dan reported they are awaiting bulbs from City.

Neighborhood Watch: Mark LaBrecque reported on meeting with police and action of the Board on two items:

- 1) Two people are monitoring the neighborhood between 1-5AM and have asked for endorsement and perhaps support from Association.
- 2) The use of more cameras to monitor suspicious activity in neighborhood and these cameras would be shared with police when video is needed.

It was emphasized that petty car crime is not huge in our neighborhood, but we want to stay ahead.

Hunter suggested we did not want to endorse monitoring/vigilante efforts in neighborhood but should emphasize reporting any crime to Police and we need to push this. Peter suggested more advertisement of reporting. Mark analyzed that many of the break-ins occurred to renters who didn't necessarily report. Mark has not found the City-wide Neighborhood Watch meetings that helpful but will continue to report on them. Peter suggested more emphasis on our Neighborhood Watch Block Captains. Mark reported that he had sent out an email regarding their continued interest and had received minimal response but is willing to encourage more participation.

Finances: Peter reported that the Home Tour had netted over \$17,000. And West End is in good financial shape with a net revenue of \$17,335.87 for 2022 versus a loss of \$779.18 for 2021, as it was a year with no Home Tour.

Facebook: George reported we attract about 1 new person per day to our Facebook account but that about 3 per week are fake accounts or folks wanting to follow and post about unrelated topics. He proposed to add two questions to those that want to join our Facebook – 1) Do you live in the West End? 2) If you don't live in the West End, what is your interest in following our West End Facebook postings? These questions will eliminate Bots and allow the administrators more information on welcoming new neighbors. There was general consensus that this would be a good addition to our Facebook.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28PM

Respectfully Submitted,

George Bryan

Secretary.