

West Kessler Neighborhood Association Minutes: January 17, 2012

Call to Order:

Lynn LaCaze

- Call to order at 7:05

Vote:

Lynn LaCaze

- David Cooper nomination to the position of WKNA Secretary by Lynn, seconded by Ron. Passed: unanimous.

Attendance:

David Cooper

- President Lynn LaCaze
- Vice President Mandy Aguilar
- Secretary David Cooper
- Treasurer Victor Aguilar
- Social Committee Tray LaCaze
- Beautification Maria Yancey
- Crime Watch Nynva Wright
- Historian Ron Forwark
- NOCCUP Bonnie Roberds
- Green Leader Danny Rodriguez
- Kurt Johnson, Alejandra & Diego Rodriguez

Minutes:

David Cooper

- No minutes from November and no meeting in December.
- Lynn presented the new Board Member roster.

Treasurer's Report:

Kurt Johnson/Victor Aguilar

- Kurt presented the books from 2011.
- One outstanding 2011 Holiday Party reimbursement.
- Recommended buying more candy canes.
- Dues for Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce (OCCC) are due.
- The "Other" line item in the 2012 budget was for welcome, condolences, etc.
- The electricity bill estimated at \$350 per year for the Stevens Woods Court island (metered as 905 Stevens Woods Court) will be transferred to the new Treasurer. Discussion on whether this is covered by the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OCCCL) grant. The grant proposal will be checked.
- Authorized signatures to be changed to Victor and Lynn 1/21/2012.
- Samples of dues request letters were given to Victor. Will also request directory updates. Maria recommended a return envelope be included and a median amount be mentioned. Lynn suggested the positive incentive of listing those that have paid dues in newsletters. Due date to get the letter out 2/1/2012, with responses requested by 2/29/2012.

Social Committee:

Tray LaCaze

- Suggested Zen Sushi or 303 Bar & Grill for February Neighborhood Night Out (NNO). Decision to go with 303 as it is new. NNO will be Tuesday 2/7/2012 to avoid Valentines Day.
- David highlighted the success of the January NNO at Oddfellows.
- Dates for other annual events to be decided later.

Green Committee:**Danny Rodriguez**

- Requested neighborhood support of bike lanes, citing where locally a cyclist had been hit by a car.
- Discussion on drought warnings and only to water yards twice weekly. Suggestion to notify home owners of broken sprinklers and that City of Dallas has a service to review sprinkler systems.
- 5K fun run for opening of the Calatrava designed Margaret Hunt Hill bridge, the week-end of March 2 through 4. Be green and be fit.

Beautification Committee:**Maria Yancey**

- Recommendation to include seasonal plantings into the 3 public areas.
- Proposed budget \$300 based on past years
- Newsletter article: opportunity for neighbors to share plants for neighborhood gardens i.e. iris need to be divided regularly.
- In response to a question from Maria, Ron stated the cactus and crepe myrtle in Tenna Loma gardens were drought tolerant.
- The neighborhood sign "Rock" is now watered by the golf course sprinklers providing expanded planting opportunities with more consistent watering.
- Yard of the month at Allen and Angel's, 803 N. Oak Cliff Blvd.
- Yard of the Month can be awarded all 12 months of the year, a Beautification Committee decision.
- Maria to seek more involvement from Kessler Woods
- As providing electricity to the "Rock" would be difficult/expensive Lynn to research solar lighting options with the intent they be concreted in.

Conservation League:**David in Jacques Groth's absence**

- David to be secondary neighborhood association representative.
- New Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCCL) executives:
 - President: Phil Levin
 - Executive VP: Michele Cox
- David gave Lynn's contact information to the new OOCCL President for question on Low Income Housing understood to be planned for Steven's Forest Drive.
- Upcoming grant applications due in May, Mandy has experience and offered to assist with grant request(s). Ron suggested sidewalks and security cameras for grant options.
- Payment from OOCCL for work completed from the last two grant requests to be completed by Mariam. Request for reimbursement for 2010 web site grant needs to be with OOCCL by May 2012 and 2011 Stevens Woods Court island beautification request for reimbursement needs to go to OOCCL by May 2013.

Crime Watch & NOCCUP:**Nynva Wright & Bonnie Roberds**

- NOCUPP meeting earlier this evening. Bonnie will get a tutorial 1/28 on the processes and neighborhood requirements for NOCCUP and how to navigate the computer programs. Attendance at the meetings is a requirement. Annual fees remain \$365 per household.
- Stevens Woods camera continues to run from Nynva's, the initial set-up was paid by neighbors (rather than WKNA) and nominal ongoing cost is covered by Nynva.

Oak Cliff Chamber of Commerce:**Bob Stimson (absent)**

- Bob hosting event at Hitt Auditorium this evening, Kirby Warnock attending and will report.

- Agreement for Neighborhood Association to keep OCCC membership

General/Old Business: All

- Electricity up and running at Steven Woods Court island, invoicing to be changed to Victor as Neighborhood Association Treasurer.
- Discussion on "Sunshine Committee" versus Block Captains. Request Block Captains provide new neighbors with current Directory and a Letter of Welcome describing the Neighborhood Association, neighborhood events, trash pick-up dates, etc. and get directory update information.
- Earl Stewart is Head Block Captain. Need to ensure Block Captains have additional directories and copies of the introductory letter.
- Donna Cotter updated and re-typed the West Kessler Neighborhood Association (WKNA) by-laws. Copies given for review, to be voted on in future meeting.

General/New Business: All

- Non-profit 501(c)3 pros and cons to be discussed at the next meeting.
- Spring Yard Sale: City permits are required for each home. All at one location is an option reducing the permits required but would require separation of funds. In the past WKNA has requested an honorary 10% of profits from participating homeowners to cover the cost of coordination and advertising. Suggestion to coordinate with Winnetka Heights and/or Stevens Part Estates and publicize in local newspapers. Lynn to take an email poll to gauge neighborhood interest.
- Ron Forwark presented Neighborhood President Lynn with a resplendent tiara of dazzling faux metallic plastic and gaudy beads.
- Agreement to bring Ron on as neighborhood Historian and Archivist.

Media: Mandy, Tray, and Mariam

- Lynn to forward instructions to Tray and Mandy on how to perform calendar updates.
- Ron will assist with Photos for the site.
- Newsletter will be produced quarterly and a link to the site emailed to the neighborhood distribution.
- An online calendar will be maintained and events will be publicized using evites.
- Newsletter content to be provided by Committees by mid March with publication scheduled for the end of March.
- IContact for web-hosting is no longer required so will not be renewed. Billing currently goes to Kurt's credit card.
- Expenses for domain name and web site requirements will continue.
- Vicky Gouge, the site Web Master, is to host a web training class.
- The four WKNA officers to have the email and password for the neighborhood gmail account.
- Monthly meetings to be moved to the last Tuesday of each month as second Tuesday is a conflict for several board participants.

Next Meeting: 7:00 PM Tuesday February 28, 2012 at Mandy & Victor's, 811 N. Oak Cliff Blvd.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM