



Board Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2026

Waldo Area Business Assoc.

7222 Wornall Rd, KCMO 64114

Also held via G-Suite Conference Call

- **Board Members Present:** President Richard Murray, Vice President Amanda Rhodes, Treasurer Gaye Tillotson, B. Michael McFarland, Alison Baker, Melissa Quearry
- **Board Members Absent:** Secretary Sarah Schlachter, Justin Hutman
- The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm
- In the absence of Secretary Schlachter, notes will be taken instead of minutes.
- It was noted that Andy Hyland's attendance had been omitted from the "Board Members Present" section and that "KCPD Metro Patrol" had been listed as "Main Patrol". Quearry motioned to approve the minutes with the corrections, Rhodes seconded, and the minutes passed unanimously.
- **Biz Committee:** Murray reported on finances and STRONG Grant funds receipt as Tillotson's microphone system was not functioning. Rhodes reported that WPHA Investment Advisor suggested the organization move into a new fund with a broader mix. Rhodes will send information prior to September meeting as Treasury Bill matures in middle of September to evaluate taking Advisor's recommendation.
- **Security:** Quearry reported July 30 Metro Patrol meeting. Barnes is no longer major there. New major coordinated FIFA. Quearry reported crime statistics that are down. KCPD reported on changes at Swope Park to attempt to control issues related to street racing. KCPD is looking at those as a test to implement in other areas of KC.
- **Membership:** Murray reported that Membership mailer for 2027 fiscal year will go out in September by Almar Printing.
- **Beautification:** Murray asked members to see the report included by Schlachter in the board packet. He called out the specific request for support of the annual Mums Sale coming in early September. When Schlachter returns, she will solicit volunteers to support the event and introducing changes to implement this year. The most support will be needed for unloading and placing 100+ mums in the morning. Hyland, Quearry, Rhodes have all volunteered.
- **Communications:** McFarland asked members to see the report included in the Board packet. The upgrades to the website being done by Hutman were reported out on.
- **Events:** Murray reported on Thirsty Thursday/Summer Social in July. McFarland requested support for the event as he will be out of town. Murray will be able to support the event. Rhodes will be present but cannot commit to a 4:30pm start time. McFarland requested that board members spread the word about the event to increase August participation as it looks good for the STRONG grant to have increasing attendance each month.

- Neighborhood Night Out: Murray reported that tents, tables, chairs, etc. have been secured by Utleigh, a volunteer working with the event. Food needs to be coordinated; McFarland will discuss with Thurman, a previous volunteer who supplied food in the past. Rhodes suggested that if there were a year to switch food operations, this might be the year due to our increase in STRONG funding. Murray suggested a female-owned business that is utilized by CCSF for STRONG monthly meetings. McFarland will recommend Thurman, if she will volunteer, call the taco truck and several other vendors to get pricing. This represents another need for board members or other volunteers to step up as Thurman is no longer a resident of Ward Parkway Homes.
- Murray requested if any board member has “swag” they have received from other events that is unopened, please reach out.
- Murray requested that the Events Committee meet in the coming week. He will send out an email requesting a date and time.
- STRONG: Rhodes reported that we received the first 50% of our grant allocation of \$12,000. She reported that the University Health System delivered a presentation on Trauma Informed Care for the July monthly meeting.
- Election for 2027: Murray will reach out to resident J. Wittman to see if she will chair the election as the previous person who handled the election, N. Bader, no longer lives in Ward Parkway Homes.
- Bingham Project: Tom McGee did not attend the meeting to discuss the project. Please see the slides in your packet related to the KC School District project.
- Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 1. Murray reported the agenda is likely to be a full one as it will include Membership, Neighborhood Night Out, the Budget for FY2027, and more.
- Rhodes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:32pm. The motion was seconded Hyland. Motion carried.

Submitted by Andy Hyland, Member, Board of Directors