



Board Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2024

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, Secretary Alex DeMasi, B. Michael McFarland, Alison Baker, Drew Rogers, Melissa Quearry, and Sarah Schlachter

Board members absent: Gaye Tillotson

Others present: Jim Anderson and Justin Hutman

The April 2, 2024 meeting was called to order at 6:59 p.m. by President Richard Murray. A quorum was present. Murray moved to approve the March 2024 Board Meeting Minutes; Alex DeMasi seconded. The March 2024 Board Meeting Minutes were approved.

Finance Committee: Murray reported that WPHA had approximately 2-3 new memberships this past month. The overall membership revenue looks good for midyear. Murray further reported that security expenses appear to be low. This is likely because KCPD did not pick up as many security patrol shifts. Murray will check in with KCPD regarding staffing for security patrol.

Alison Baker asked Murray if WPHA reached out to the individual who called back the party bus charge. Murray indicated that this individual disputed the charge, but canceled the dispute once she realized what the charge was for. Unfortunately, PayPal still charged WPHA \$40.

Amanda Rhodes asked Murray if the surrounding neighborhoods pay \$50/hour for off-duty KCPD patrol as well. Murray confirmed that \$50/hour is the going rate for neighborhood watch. The Plaza pays off-duty KCPD \$75/hour. The St. Patrick's Day parades in March likely resulted in fewer KCPD officers picking up off-duty shifts for security patrol.

Melissa Quearry asked Murray if WPHA receives timecards from off-duty KCPD who sign up for patrol. Murray confirmed that Gaye Tillotson receives timecards.

Murray advised that the Finance Committee has reached out to a new insurance provider. The Finance Committee is also getting new quotes for storage.

Security Committee: Jim Anderson and Quearry reported that recent security meetings did not reflect much activity in our neighborhood. Anderson indicated that the recent WABA Security Meeting was not well attended. Anderson and Murray attended the Central Patrol Meeting. Anderson confirmed that KCPD is putting down rumble strips to deter street racing.

Membership Committee: WPHA is currently in its midyear membership drive. Last Year But Unfortunately Not This (LYBUNT) letters went out last month. Murray confirmed that WPHA is in good shape in terms of membership numbers. WPHA can anticipate approximately 5-6 new memberships from the Spring Festival. This is generally the last big push for the year.

Beautification Committee: The two neighborhood islands were recently cleaned up. Sarah Schlacter is working with Waldo Greenhouse to see what we can put at the monument. Anderson reported that the islands need to be watered every 3 days or so.

Communications Committee: Murray confirmed that the total number of “opens” is going up, which is good. There are more members and non-members reviewing the email content that is being sent on a regular basis.

Events Committee: Spring Festival is this Saturday. Murray confirmed that the Events Committee has locked down most of its volunteers. Instead of a food truck, the Events Committee has lined up Papa Scott’s popcorn and cotton candy for snacks. The Committee is modifying how it is providing refreshments at the event in order to retain more profit. There will be a petting zoo, train, and carnival games. The Events Committee will meet at the storage facility on Friday to get items over to the church before Rock the Parkway. The Committee could use 1-2 more helping hands.

Murray confirmed that Nancy Bader has everything she needs for Harvesters Food Drive. Hy-Vee grocery bags will be distributed after the Spring Festival.

New Business:

Murray and Rhodes reported on the status of the Strengthening the Health of Neighborhoods program. This is a city-sponsored program focused on increasing overall public health. Murray and Rhodes will attend over the course of the program and will receive a stipend for their participation. Murray indicated that the first meeting was fairly informative. The Health Department put on a good presentation. UMKC presented on the safety in neighborhoods. Murray and Rhodes will attend two 4-hour meetings next month.

Murray attended the last KNAC meeting. The Fifth District Member At Large, Darrell Curis and Jim Reedy presented. Reedy advised that he will vote with the people on the Summit Street Initiation (Pennsylvania Street and Washington Street can vote). WPHA is aware of at least 4 individuals who voted no on the initiative. DaJuan Hindsman, Community Program Manager for Community Capital Fund also spoke at KNAC.

There was no additional new business.

Murray moved to adjourn; Rhodes seconded. The April 2, 2024, WPHA Board Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Meeting notes submitted by Alex DeMasi