

**Heritage Hill Association Board Meeting  
November 15, 2017 Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Peter Albertini, Lisa Baars, Wes Beck, Suzanne DeHaan, Kate Diedrich, Teresa Dittmer, Michele Giordano, Todd Hoort, Ryan Huizenga, Mark Hutchison, Mary McCarthy-Fuller, Wayne Norlin, Jim Payne, Erin Shupe

**Absent:** Charles Roelofs

**Staff:** Jan Earl, Tansy Harris

**Public:** GRFD's Lt. Scott Stevenson, and 2018 HHA Board candidates Chris Grygiel from Mercy Health and Nathan Slauer

**1. Call to Order:** 7:03 pm

Lt. Scott Stevenson was permitted to speak at this point due to being on duty with the chance he may be called out at any time. Spoke on the residential smoke alarm program (in effect since 2009), awards the GRFD has garnered for a rescue/lifesaving vehicle they have for responding to highway accidents, as well as their many community outreach programs. Also, he said, they are trying to visit all of the neighborhood organizations in an effort to keep a line of communication open.

**2. Call for New Business** – No new business.

**3. Minutes** – Minutes of the October meeting were approved as written.

**4. Correspondence Files** circulating among board members.

**5. Michigan Street Corridor improvement:** Rachel Lee, was unable to attend.

**6. Public Comment:** Both Board candidates introduced themselves (Chris and Nathan), explaining they were there to observe the meeting.

**Action Items:**

7. Maria Zache Starkey's leave of absence request is approved unanimously by the board.

8. Sign-up sheet for volunteers for upcoming Annual Meeting/Potluck Dinner circulated to fill "must-have" positions.

**Information Items**

**9. Treasurers Report** – Nothing to discuss now. 2018 budget will be discussed during executive session following regular meeting so will not be available for these written minutes.

**10. Staff Reports:**

In addition to her printed report, Jan talked briefly about the Antisdell parking dilemma and those neighbors' cooperation in making difficulties of the street work for them. Also spoke about the pending sale of 402 – 430 Madison SE home and lots. Not much is known yet, but neighbors will be brought up to speed once intentions are revealed. Jan mentioned an ongoing plan to redevelop the Association's website and some plans for the Association's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018. And finally, Jan is exploring the possibility of a pilot program for Heritage Hill that would have the City enforce Odd/Even Seasonal Parking Law only when necessary for snow removal. This would increase much needed on-street parking throughout the winter.

A couple of things Tansy highlighted from her report include a mention of the opening of the new Dollar General store – pretty well received by neighbors, as well as the city's new proposals to increase the availability of affordable housing.

**11. Committee/Liaison Reports:**

**Community Engagement:** Todd H. said nothing else to report since Potluck business

was taken care of.

Land Use: Wes B. talked briefly about the city's affordable housing proposals and the HPC Historic District survey update (all public hearings on this have been pushed into 2018). He then yielded the floor to Craig Nobbelin who spoke on the City's affordable housing proposals. He went through a summary of several meetings he attended. Of the 11 proposals, he said, the city seems poised to make changes to the zoning ordinances which would include three of the proposals: 1. Allow accessory dwelling units by right; 2. Permit non-condo, zero lot-line units; and 3. Provide incentives for small-scale development. Craig remarked it seemed as though the city was rushing through this process without a lot of public input and was very worried the results may not be what the city wants, but more importantly, could cause harm to the current make-up of Heritage Hill. Hopefully more will come of this later as it seems the decision will be postponed to a later date beyond the initially determined date of December 14.

Administration: Jim P. reported on two committees formed at the latest finance committee meeting. The two committees – one for Home Tour and one for all other fund-raising events – would explore new and/or enhance current fund-raising efforts to provide clearer focus regarding those efforts as they relate to the goals of the neighborhood. Also talked about an upcoming liaison meeting with Mercy Health and that the slate of nominees for the next board election was set. Finally, the 2018 operating budget will be discussed in executive session following this meeting.

Fundraising: Kate D. reporting - Home Tour 2018 – five homes have all are now committed. Still looking for two to three more and asking for suggestions. Pledge drive going well and 300 letters set to go out for end of year donations. A major sponsor – Grand River Builders – is already on board for the 2018 Home Tour. And Texas Hold'em events continue to do well . . .four are scheduled for 2018.

12. **New Business** – none.

13. **Old Business** – Talked about perhaps conveying the need for Texas Hold'em volunteers at the Annual Meeting.

14. **No Public comment.**

15. **Executive Session: 2018 HHA Budget:** The budget was passed as presented by the HHA Finance committee.

Submitted by Tom Truesdale