Heritage Hill Association Board Meeting
October 16, 2019 Minutes

In Attendance: Lisa Baars, Wes Beck, Suzanne DeHaan, Kate Diedrich, Michele Giordano, Wayne Norlin, James Scozzori, Erin Shupe and John Walendowski

Absent: Wendy VerHage Falb, Sarah Green, Chris Grygiel, Nikki Hoort and Nathan Slauer

Staff: Amanda Cormier, Barbara Draughon

Public: Jan Earl, former Executive Director

1. Call to Order – 7:00 p.m.

2. Ice-Breaker: Tell us about a new restaurant you’ve visited.

3. Call for New Business – Lisa issued a welcome to Amanda and Barbara in their new staff roles.

4. Minutes – Minutes of the August 2019 meeting were approved as presented.

5. Correspondence Files - Circulated among board members.

6. Public Comment: None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

8. Treasurers Report – Erin S. reported that the Finance Committee will meet before the November board meeting to approve the budget.

9. Staff Reports: Written reports were submitted. No further comments.

10. Committee/Board information groups:

   • Administrative:
     
     Board Nominations: Wes B. invited board members to look at their networks for candidates to nominate to the board. James shared that he has spoken to 2 neighbors who might be interested. He will continue to cultivate them. Wayne N. inquired about the status of his own term. Jan E. reminded him that he was appointed to a 2-year term that is coming to a close and now he is up for his 3-year elected term which requires that he submit a bio for himself to the staff. Kate D. asked about the upcoming vacancies and Jan noted that Lisa will be stepping off while Chris G. and James S. are each up for re-election.

   • Fundraising:
     
     Home Tour: Suzanne D. reported that she has begun to reach out to homeowners for their participation. Amanda C. and Barbara D. are reviewing the sponsorship list.
     
     Pledge Drive: Amanda C. reported that the first letter has been sent and that the response seems positive.

   • Community Engagement:
     
     Membership/Hospitality: Lisa B. reminded the group that the next event is the Annual Meeting / Holiday Potluck which is set for December 10 at GRCC. Amanda C. reported that Santa is secured. There was discussion around the need to secure Todd H. for bartending and reach out to Kameel about his inclination to renew his contribution to the event. Erin S. reported that she has started to secure some items for the drawing and asked the board to seek donations of gift cards or other items, as well. Erin suggested approaching local restaurants with a large aluminum foil baking dish and asking them to consider “filling it up” for the annual meeting as a means to secure some items for the potluck portion of the event. Some discussion ensued about which restaurants and various methods for soliciting them. Staff agreed to review past issues of the Herald for lists of past food donors. Jan E. reminded the group that this is a very successful way to acquire potluck items; however, it is labor intensive as we need to make the rounds that afternoon to pick up all the donated food items.
• **Land Use:**
  Wayne N. attended the meeting at Pleasant Park on October 15 hosted by the Parks Department to review 3 draft plans for improvements. The one that received the most votes from attendees included the addition of “shade sails” over the playground. The other 2 plans that were not as widely accepted included adding more concrete surface area to incorporate more picnic seating and adding a swing set near the SE corner of the playground. The department also shared other ideas including a rain garden, fencing along Madison, a new drinking fountain to include a low-bowl for dogs, planting 2 new trees, signage describing the park’s origination and a pergola. Each came with hefty price tags. There was a brief discussion surrounding the addition of a 4-way stop at Madison and Pleasant. Wayne will retrieve the petition from Tony Davis.

**Mercy Health:** Amanda C. reported that members of the staff, board and a selection of neighbors were invited to and attended a meeting called by Dr. Yong Kim, CEO of Mercy Health/Saint Mary’s. Dr. Kim was accompanied by Michelle Rabideau, VP of Mercy Health Foundation. Dr. Kim shared with the group that the hospital is looking to modernize how it provides care and is considering building a one-stop-shop, of sorts. They envision a place where one can take care of 90% of their medical needs in one building and on one day. The facility would be flexible and “modular” so as to accommodate the changing service needs of their patients. They are looking to place this at the NW corner of Cherry and Lafayette which would mean removing the current white, mid-century medical building. Dr. Kim noted that the hospital would also want to add a parking structure at Jefferson. Various attendees described to Dr. Kim that the City will push back on parking structures at the street level and encourage a more pedestrian-friendly experience. Mark Miller described a recent conversation with the DGRI about parking options, including widening Cherry St. and/or offering valet parking. All come with compromises to be considered during the planning stage. Dr. Kim emphasized that the timeline is unclear, as the idea is in its infancy stage and he wanted to be sure to engage the community at the onset. Plans and conversations will continue.

**GRCC Tech Building:** Wayne reported that he has noticed that, as the structures are being constructed, there seem to be significant variances from the presented plan including location of a retaining wall, a cooling tower and air handling equipment. GRCC representatives insist the construction is as planned and presented to the community with no changes. Wes and Wayne concluded that though the communication lines are open between GRCC and HH, the onus is on HH to stay on top of the project.

**Proposed Bed & Breakfast:** Wayne N. reported that the HH response to the application for a 3-room B&B at 611 Madison SE has been sent. The letter indicates approval with an exception to their parking plan which isn’t sufficient to keep all guest parking off the street.

**Other:** Lisa B. observed that the 4-way stop signs at Union and Lyon are now permanent.

**11. New Business:** Kate asked if new neighbor “welcome packets” were available and Jan noted that they are easily created with materials on-hand in the office. John W. inquired about sidewalks “repaired” with tar. Jan replied that those are temporary fixes by the city which will soon be replaced with new sidewalk squares. Amanda encouraged citizens to report such issues via 3-1-1.

**12. Old Business:** None

**13. Public Comment:** None

**14. Meeting Adjourned** at 7:59pm.

Submitted respectfully by Barbara Draughon