

**Board minutes**  
**July 21, 2021**

Call to Order 7:05

In attendance: Richard App, Wes Beck, Suzanne De Haan, Amy DeMott, Kate Diedrich, Wendy VerHage Falb, Jeffrey Fawcett, Carolyn Ferrari, Sarah Green, Laura Joyce, Jeff Martin, James Scozzari, Scott Opperman

Absent: Wayne Norlin, John Walendowski

Staff: Amanda Cormier, Barbara Draughon

Wendy called the meeting to order.

Wendy requested a motion to approve the June minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.

Wendy invited staff to provide a brief update on the Annual Meeting plans. Barbara reminded the board that attendance to the GRCC conference space on a Wednesday night has been waning over the past few years and that there was only one “Santa-aged” child in attendance at the 2019 Annual Meeting. With COVID derailing any in-person event for the 2020 meeting, HHA took it on-line which yielded fewer than 2 dozen attendees (including board members). Barbara reported that staff and the Community Engagement committee were exploring new venues and formats (assuming COVID vaccinations continued in a positive trajectory to allow for in-person again) to try to revive interest in attendance by a diverse representation of neighbors. Amanda had suggested exploring a pancake breakfast on a Saturday morning (as done by the Creston Neighborhood) or simply a new location that is fresher. In response, Scott quickly offered Mercy Health as host of an adult reception at The Commons on the traditional 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in December. [Mercy would sponsor the food; attendees would need to cover any alcoholic beverages.] This would attract a voting-age group (since this meeting’s centerpiece is the annual elections) while supporting a local business and bringing a new fresh approach to the Annual Meeting. All board members and staff responded with enthusiasm to the idea and agreed to accept the offer posed by Mercy Health. Barbara will work with Scott on next steps for securing The Commons and support from Mercy Health.

Wendy called upon Scott to proceed with the final session of long range planning.