

HPWNA Board Meeting -- Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2014
Minutes

1. Call to Order – 8:05 p.m.

In attendance: Gretchen Helmreich, John Friedmann, Libby Karier, Mark Mullen,
Erin Engstrom, Kathryn Pensack, Jonathan Sweeney

2.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from Sept. 10, 2014, meeting approved with 2 amendments.

3.

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Sept. 30, 2014: \$1,294.35.

One outstanding deposit of \$45 (from the tournament at the block party)

No outstanding payments

4.

Meetings Attended

a. CAPS – Beat 1724

No meeting in September. The next meeting is Oct. 14.

As reported last month, there is an increase in tagging because of a power struggle among factions of the Latin Kings. We are now considered a hotspot and therefore the tagging is being removed within hours of its being reported.

There are lots of reports of auto thefts and vandalism; lots of break

b. 33rd Ward TAC (Transportation Advisory Committee)

No report; no board member attended the meeting.

c. HPAC (Horner Park Advisory Council)

- **DOG FRIENDLY AREA** The committee had another meeting with the Parks District downtown. The district is taking a hard line on what the park can/cannot have as far as size (they want it much smaller than proposed); as far as ground covering (asphalt or cobblestone; no grass); etc. The head of the committee is still trying to get approval for the park as originally proposed, but it doesn't look promising.

- **RIVERFRONT PROJECT** Work is beginning on the oak savannah (south end of the park) section of the project. Fence poles were installed. The walkway on the river is completed. The membrane is being removed and the herbicide applications are scheduled to begin.

- Tom, the park supervisor, is looking for support to obtain inflatable batting cages for the park's baseball clinics. To purchase 4 such cages would cost a total of \$26,000. (There is a free baseball clinic slated for Oct. 12).
- **Farmers Market** There are 3 weeks left of this great inaugural season.
- **Pumpkin Patch** The park's annual event will be Oct. 25.

d. Bateman LSC

- There is no timeline for selecting a new principal.
- We had a great turnout for the tour of the school (which was held immediately before this board meeting).

e. NRC (North River Commission)

- The commission is in the process of interviewing executive director candidates. They need to make a decision by November because a grant is at stake.
- There was an education forum held Oct. 7; not a great turnout, but good presentations from the head of local school councils at the school board and from the principal of Blair.

5. Committees

a. Social

- **TGIF** at the Ryans was great. The garage worked in the cooler weather. Gretchen said she would put a note out to the group as a whole to find out if there's interest in having a TGIF in November.

- **Holiday Party**

Templestowe is happy to host us. It will be Dec. 7 from 3-6 p.m. (should work out well in regards to conflicting sporting events). We will keep it simple this time; just the potluck; no raffle or contest. Gretchen will check with Templestowe owners to make sure kids will be welcome.

b. Beautification

- September's cleanup went well. Oct. 11 we will go back to Sacramento. John reported California had just had a street cleaning so didn't really need a neighborhood pickup.
- Nov. 8 we'll do a planter cleanup, cleaning out the detritus in the planters on Montrose and planting some spring bulbs. (Libby is to obtain the bulbs).

c. Forward Progress

- **Vision Board** The board voted on 2 pictures to use as the base for the vision boards. With that decision done, Gretchen and Mark Jones will meet for the next step.
board will meet with them.
- Gretchen is still in touch with Chicago Market, urging them to locate in our area. No word yet on where they'll be opening.

- More theaters apparently are interested in opening in our area. And Windy City Playhouse has agreed to give HPWNA members a discount on membership for the first season. Details are still being worked out.
- Goose Island. Lost its lease and the board decided Gretchen should reach out to them about relocating in our area.

D. Communication

- We've gotten good feedback on the launch. We need more content on the homepage, but rather than double-up on the content already listed on the right-rail from Facebook and other feeds, it was suggested we use the space to promote the closest upcoming meetings ... and give a brief explanation of what they are. So, for example, not just "CAPS meeting Oct. 14," but also an explanation of what happens at CAPS and what it is. We also need a 'who to contact' page. Lib said she would resurrect the old data from the Welcome Packet.
- Newsletter. It's getting kind of stale. We need a new foto of the neighborhood and other information. Kathryn suggested the idea of a dog-sitting matching service (on the website? On Wiggiio); John said he would write up something on the riverfront project.

g. Other

- Ald. Mell held a town hall meeting. It really was more of a Streets & San. Information meeting. Not a broader 33rd Ward meeting.
- There will be a candidates forum in February, just before the election.
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7. Old Business

- a. Letter supporting solar panels on the Albany Park library. Kathryn asked if it had been sent (Gretchen couldn't remember) and said she would like to see a copy of the letter.

8. New Business

None

9. Adjourn – 8:59 p.m.

Next meeting is Nov. 12, 2014.