

Present: Brian DeGroot, Hugh Bayer, Keith Powell, Antoinette Powell, Linda Muldoon, Jon Corelis, Peggy Samsa

Regrets: Donald Elston, Katrin Patience

1. Review last meetings notes – 01-17-16  
Publish as written with financials deleted
2. Committee Reports – (10 min)
  - a. News Letter – Antoinette said the information for the newsletter has to be in on time.  
▶ Action: Antoinette will request the information way ahead of time with no announced date of a deadline.

Antoinette gave Hugh Donald's check for the printing and the receipts for printing and postage. Antoinette said Donald could not hand-deliver some newsletters and asked if some can be mailed.

▶ Action: Antoinette will mail these 10

3. Old Business – (50 min)
  - a. Annual Dinner - Linda asked if we should spend the money and go to St. Joe's. Linda - the 10th anniversary we filled St. Joe's. Brian said the neighborhood turns over. Jon asked about the Paper Discovery Center. Keith said it was free the last time. Linda said there has to be someone there to open up especially if it's on a Sunday. Brian - do we have to have a dinner? He said we have to have an annual meeting. Keith - in the past it bonded people together, meeting representatives, etc. Brian - would the picnic suffice? Linda said no, there's something about being inside that lends itself to meeting and mingling. Keith - two years' running when it was icy cold and there was low turnout. Brian - should we concentrate our efforts on something that was successful i. e., the picnic. Linda - the purpose of the annual meeting is to meet people and hear from people. Brian - is bringing in politicians beneficial to us? Jon - it brings good will. Linda - this would be. Special year have the dedication of the park in conjunction with the annual a meeting. Jon agreed. Antoinette agreed. Linda asked how many attendees would be successful. Brian said the Board and spouses is 20. We'd like to double that or 30. Keith - how do we get people there?

Brian said that's the question. Linda said a dinner is the draw. Antoinette said we provide food for both the dinner and the picnic. She also said there was a ton of publicity for the picnic. Brian said it has to be beneficial for everyone involved. Keith - in the history this was forged out of adversity. Brian - there's a purpose and a rally. Brian - a lot of the people who've been here a long time don't come. Peggy said people aren't as social now and Antoinette agreed.

Jon - we should decide if the annual meeting should be combined with park dedication. Antoinette agreed - we know there will be a park dedication and we have to have an annual meeting, so combine them.

Antoinette said one of the purposes of the annual meeting is to elect officers. It doesn't have to be people sitting at tables listening to speeches.

Antoinette asked if there is a definition of members. Brian said our membership is the Board. The classes of members that are stated in the bylaws don't apply. Linda - the bylaws have to be amended. Jon asked if we are incorporated. Linda said yes we are. The reason we did it is to make sure it lasts beyond a group of people. Hugh asked if it really matters if our bylaws match what we're doing. Brian brought up the bylaws in the first few months he was president.

**Proposal: combine the park dedication with the annual meeting in spring**

**Vote was unanimous, yes.**

Brian asked if there is something planned. Is there a city plan? Linda - the city would like to be a part of it. Keith - Dean would probably like to recognize the work done. Linda suggested last fall, but the ground would not be dry by then. That's why May was chosen as a date.

Brian - we still going to shoot for a picnic in the fall. Antoinette suggested talking about it at the next meeting, BUT, with everyone having thought about it between now and then. Brian - getting a date, invitees, program, publicity, etc. and avoid May 14 and 15.

► Action: Keith will find out from Dean Gazza if there are any particularly good or bad dates in May (but not any 14 and 15) or early June.

Brian - this will be an agenda item for the next few meetings.

b. Face Book Posting by Board Members

Some on the Board have not posted yet. Antoinette said a few people joined since the latest newsletter went out.

c. Neighborhood Watch Program

Brian - we've received some emails from Patti about police items. Peggy - we need a captain on each block. Maybe at the park dedication we can get some volunteers. We have weird little blocks. Some are triangles. Brian - it doesn't have to be all blocks. Keith - people on are the Internet rather than knowing who their neighbors are. Antoinette - we're beating a dead horse. If people are interested they can get the police dept. emails. Linda asked what other neighborhoods have the neighborhood watch. Peggy doesn't think we need a formal program - we keep an eye on each other. Brian will let it die until a champion steps forward. There was agreement. Jon said there's a smart phone app that lets you monitor the police scanner.

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d. Vice President

Brian - Board of directors shall be 9 members, grouped into three groups of three, each group serving a staggered term. President, Vice, Secretary, Treasurer. Will someone step up and take the role? Do we need one? It would be nice to have someone participate a lot, fill in for meetings etc. Brian cannot attend. Brian - we should ask Donald if wants to be on the Board. Keith thought we asked him and he said no. That was not the others' recollection.

► Action: Brian will email Donald and ask if he would like to be on the Board

e. 2016 Budget

Hugh - we came close to the 2015 budget. Annual report to the state is \$10, website is free. Scholarship is still in the budget. Brian went over the other budget numbers. Keith - should we put in some for the park dedication.

Hugh asked if it's worth his time to look for a better return on the \$5000 CD. Board said no. Budget approved.

f. Pioneer Park – Walking Tour box – Brian

Brian did some more research. He asked Donald about weather etc., about brochure boxes. He showed a picture of a 4 x 9 plastic flyer box, with some modifications. Keith - Patti said she news a carpenter. Brian replied that maybe we should try it out because it's cheap. (\$30) Brian is hoping the city will take care of installing it. Hugh - seems like throwing a 4 X 4 in the ground and screwing the box in. Brian is hoping the city will at least supply the 4 x 4.

► Action: Brian will contact Dean Gazza.

g. Email to Downtown Alderperson's with newsletter and an invitation to receive newsletter quarterly

Brian asked Antoinette is she emailed all the Alderpersons. She said no, that Brian was going to do it.

► Action: Antoinette will go over the email list and tell Brian who got the electronic version already.

Linda said she spoke with Bill Siebers and asked him if he would be willing to come to a Board meeting.

h. Grant criteria information

Brian talked with Dave Kress about the Neighborhood boundaries making a difference in whether we are eligible for a grant now. Brian went over the previous grant attempts: waterfront land and Pioneer Park. Linda - Joe Martin was asking about the continuation of the stairs from Elm to Water. Keith - asked about the

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plan from the consultants. Linda said Joe was asking about places people can walk from to get to Water. Linda said the City has to do something with the Elm stairs. Brian says no.

4. City Report – Patti – (5-15 min) – skipped
5. County Report – Katrin (5-15 min) – skipped
6. New Business – (10 min)  
Linda - March 7 is the next Park & Rec meeting to discuss the naming of the park on the Water. Brian said that resolution is dying. Linda said that is not the impression she got from the Council meeting.  
▶ Action: Antoinette will find out when the meeting is
7. Treasurer’s Report – (2 min)
8. New Items for Website Calendar – (2 min)  
Antoinette said she is including Hearthstone events on the OTW calendar
9. Next Meeting – (2 min)  
Sunday, April 3 7:00 Brian’s house

Meeting adjourned at 9:00

Respectfully submitted,  
Antoinette Powell, Secretary