

MID-NORTH BOARD MEETING: MARCH 15, 2010 6:30 PM

In Attendance: Ed Burnes, David Chernoff, Marco LaCava, Harriet NewDelman, Margot Fenech, Marie Hassel, Melissa Macek, Nada Riley, Sue Saunders, Hillary Thieling

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Five people attended the meeting, including a neighborhood artist and the business owner of a new restaurant on Armitage, "Vintage 338". The artist, Ruth, discussed her sculptures that had been selected in the past for the Lincoln Park Sculpture Exhibit, and mentioned she has a Bronze opening in May at Oakton College. The new business owner discussed the menu, light spreads with wines, and said they were awaiting their license and would be opening in a couple of weeks. There was some discussion about Lincoln Park Hospital regarding the closing of the parking garage and construction of the fence, but nothing else has transpired with the site.

CALL TO ORDER: Nada called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. Sue moved to adopt the agenda, Margot seconded and all were in favor.

MINUTES: David moved that the January minutes be approved. Harriet seconded and the Board approved the minutes with a vote of seven for, and three abstentions, (Ed, Melissa and Marie) with one correction amending the number of members to 285. David then moved to approve the February minutes, Harriet seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a vote of eight members for, and two abstaining (Sue and Marie).

TREASURER'S REPORT: No Report

PLANNING COMMITTEE: David stated that the Lincoln Park Hospital garage had closed today, March 15, noting that a fence had been put up a couple of weeks ago. He indicated that Vi Daley had said it had complied with any regulations, and that there was nothing wrong with it. Ed stated that Vi had sent the developer a letter regarding this before they erected the fence and closed the garage, but the developer had proceeded with their plan anyway. There is also a trailer there with a sign stating it is for medical supplies for Haiti. Nada will follow up on this.

BUDGET: Melissa, Harriet, Nada, and Hillary met to work on the budget for MNA. Marco will complete it. All standing committees are being asked to submit budget requests so dollars can be allocated to their committees. The budget will be presented at the April meeting.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: There were 4 new members since the last meeting. Margot is analyzing the membership to see where it is coming from. She will be targeting businesses and homeowners. A new business owner in Lincoln Park is present at the meeting tonight.

WEBSITE: Hillary needs all biographies from all board members as she has only received a few. These and any articles should be sent to Hthieling@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER: Hillary stated that the goal is to publish the newsletter monthly. It will be posted on the website and emailed to the membership. They are putting together a template so the format will be the same each month. A business corner will also be included. Hillary and Marie will call on the businesses in the Mid-North area. They will offer a business card ad for the MNA bag, and a feature spot in the newsletter four times a year. Businesses can also give business coupons out, and host MNA events. She will write up a proposal describing the benefits of being a business member and offer links on our website.

SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS: Nada reported that Lincoln School's Greenhouse construction is under way. She also stated that the LP High School is continuing their search for a new principal. The final three candidates will be announced to the community. Children's Memorial is holding an event on March 23 at 6:30 pm on 'Greening'.

COMMUNITY EVENTS: No Report

PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT: Ed has received no suggested projects to bring forward to Vi as of yet. One item was mentioned, the structure of the underpass. Everyone needs to get Ed a list of potholes, graffiti, light posts, etc. within a two block radius that need to be repaired. Send to Ed's email: Edburnes@octnet.

OLD BUSINESS: David distributed a draft of the MNA Conflict of Interest and asked that everyone read it and forward comments to him before the next board meeting.

FESTIVAL: Nada discussed scheduling the Festival Volunteer Party. She stated that Bobby Burleson would be hosting it again on Wednesday, April 21, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Kelsey's. The new neighborhood business on Armitage, Vintage, is also willing to host a future MNA event.

GREEN SCENE: No Report

SSA: Hillary reported that she had attended the last Clark Street SSA meeting, and stated that the director had agreed to come and give Mid-North an overview on Special Services, possibly at the next board meeting. Nada asked Hillary to follow up with him and get it scheduled. Hillary also reported that more bike racks were being added from Armitage to Diversey, that bikes had been purchased for the police, and that more street-scapes were being added. The SSA also plans to continue their events in 2010 as they have been very successful.

NEW BUSINESS: Nada mentioned that the "Inside Booster" had written an article with an invalid headline and information, and that she had responded to it and copied Vi Daley.

David motioned to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:35 PM.

The next meeting will be April 19 at Saint Paul's.