

To: Neighborhood Association File

Re: Minutes of July 7, 2015 Meeting, 7:15 – 8:15 PM, Simpson-Hamline Methodist Church

Secretary: Cecelia Waldeck

Attendees: 10 Neighbors

Summary Minutes:

1. Minutes from the June 2, 2015 Meeting will be approved if no comments are received by July 14, 2015 (minutes were sent out on the Listserv last month)
2. Old Business:
 - a. Elisa described the summer of block party which was considered a success by many attending neighbors. Even though it rained, neighbors stuck around to chat. There was plenty of food, some from 14th Street restaurants, and attendees received plants from Annie's Hardware. Brandon Todd and his constituent services staff attended and promised to get the 4300 block of 15th Street re-paved. Thanks to all the neighbors who provided tables, chairs, food, grills and helped set-up and take-down tables, chairs, signs, and photos from previous block parties. Anyone with suggestions on improving the party next year should send an email to Cecelia (cwald4517@gmail.com) or Elisa.
 - b. Cecelia shared with attendees the latest summary of the neighborhood surveys (36 surveys submitted). We will continue to accept more surveys until the next meeting. Submit your survey to your block captain or drop it in the mail slot of 4517 – 15th Street NW. Brian plans to develop macro take-aways from the survey results to share at the next meeting. Anyone who wants a copy of the tabulated results should send an email to Cecelia (cwald4517@gmail.com).
3. Organizational Issues:
 - a. Neighbors discussed the loss of our non-profit association status with DCRA and how we could reinstate it. We decided to defer voting on whether we should reinstate the 16th Street Neighborhood Association until the meeting on September 1, 2015 for several reasons: i) we want to get good participation for this important vote to gauge whether there is sufficient neighborhood interest to sustain the association going forward (it will cost \$350+ to reinstate the organization); and ii) we want to vote for officers at the same meeting if a majority votes to reinstate the association. This vote will be taken in accordance with the bylaws of the past association.

Our next step is to inform neighbors of the votes planned for the September 1st meeting and encourage many to participate. Block captains will be requested to distribute notices about the meeting.

Volunteers: Nathan S. volunteered to look into how we can reclaim funds from the past Association;

- b. Block Captains: Cecelia distributed the latest list of block captain volunteers (We still need a block captain for 4300 15th St. NW, 4700 Piney Branch, and 1400 Varnum Street).

Susie C. volunteered to develop some materials that block captains can use to remind neighbors, particularly those who do not check the Listserv messages, of meetings and upcoming association events.

- c. We discussed setting up a separate group Listserv for block captains and other active association members to facilitate communications that may not be of great interest to everyone on the 16th NA Yahoo Listserv. Jason K. volunteered to set something up after conferring with Greg, our Listserv Moderator and Guru.
- d. Upcoming Newsletter: We discussed distributing a newsletter in the last two weeks of August that would inform recipients of the important organizational votes at the September meeting and provide other neighborhood information. The plan is to develop a draft of the newsletter that can be reviewed at the next meeting on August 4, 2015. Any neighbors who like to write or have ideas for articles for the newsletter should send an email to Cecelia (cwald4517@gmail.com) or Elisa. We would like to publish a newsletter in both English and Spanish. Ramsey was volunteered to help write the Spanish version.

4. New Business:

- a. Elisa described her discussion with Jackson of Brandon Todd's constituent services about the timing for repaving the 4300 block of 15th Street which is generally in the Fall of 2015. Elisa will ask DDOT for a commitment to a specific date. Although neighbors are concerned about the condition of some alleys and other nearby streets (1800 block of Allison NW), we decided to defer requesting improvements to these until the 4300 block is repaved.
- b. Cecelia provided an update on the BZA appeal for the planned 7-unit apartment building at 1521 Varnum street. The new hearing date is September 15, 2015. The appellant, John Stokes, is interested in having interested neighbors testify about the impact of the planned development on neighborhood conditions. Please contact John (if you are interested in getting involved). Nearby neighbors on Varnum and Weber are encouraged to help with this appeal because they may be most affected by the higher density and larger building.

5. Block Captains: Except for the streets identified below, block captains are assigned to blocks in the association footprint (Upshur to Decatur from the north and south; 14th to 16th Streets from the east to west). These block captains received instructions on contacting neighbors to encourage them to join the Listserv and attend the neighborhood block party. Additionally, block captains are collecting the addresses of neighbors who prefer paper communications from the Association and distributing surveys to guide the association's future activities.
6. We continue to seek block captain volunteers for the blocks on Crittendon Street NW, Decatur Street NW, Piney Branch Street NW, 4800 15th St NW, 4300 15th St NW, and 1400 Varnum Street. If you know a neighbor on these blocks who would be a good block captain, please let us know.
7. The Summer Block Party: We have obtained a permit to limit parking on the 4300 block of 15th St. NW, between Varnum and Webster Streets on Sunday, June 14, 2015. Advance notices of the parking restriction will be shared with neighbors on the block and Elisa will have the city notices of this parking restriction posted several days before the event.

The party is a "Meet and Greet" potluck where we will encourage neighbors to socialize and meet new neighbors. We will ask attendees to sign in and wear name tags (Elisa) at the party. There will be activities for children and, if a nearby field is mowed in time (Elisa), we will have soccer for older children (Carriellen). Some city officials will be invited – the Mayor (Craig C.), Brandon Todd (Craig C.), At-large Council members (Craig C.), Ward 4 ANC representatives (Elisa), and a police representative from 4D (Craig C.). At the party, you can sign-up for our Listserv (Jack and possibly Greg) and complete our neighborhood survey. The results of the surveys will be shared on the Listserv.

The Association will provide ice (Jack), water (Jack), and lemonade (Elisa) for drinks; plates and silverware (Elisa); cups (Cecelia); Napkins (Jack); tablecloths (Cecelia and Carriellen); a charcoal and a gas grill (Herbert) on which you can grill any items that you bring; grilling utensils (Cecelia); mustard, relish and ketchup (Carriellen); a birthday cake for 1915 homes (Cecelia); buns for grilled items (Cecelia); vegetarian food items (Elisa and attending Neighbors); other food items (Sandra, Craig, and attending Neighbors); and trash bags (Brian).

Infrastructure items: Cones for blocking the street (Beth); coolers (Carriellen, Susie, Elisa, and possibly Charlie and Kim); buckets for ice (Jack and Cecelia); basket for collecting donations for the association (Elisa); We need tables and chairs for the event and Elisa will reach out to the nearby Greek church to see if we can borrow some tables and chairs. If not, we will need to ask nearby neighbors attending the block party to provide tables and chairs. Please let Elisa (irwinleven@hotmail.com) or Cecelia (cwald4517@gmail.com) know

if you have access to tables and chairs that can be easily transported to the location of the party.

Local merchants have been invited to the summer block party and Susie and Cecelia will follow up with the restaurants to coordinate any food donations.

Clean-up: We will need volunteers for cleaning-up the block after the party.

Music: Jack can provide music but we need access to a music player. If anyone knows someone who can provide a player, please contact Cecelia or Elisa.

Volunteer organizers of the party may meet the day before the block party if needed to organize. We will begin setting up the infrastructure for the party at 2:30 PM.

8. Upcoming ANC Activities:

- a. At next Wednesday's ANC meeting, Ms. Melinda Bollinger of DCRA will make a thirty minute presentation. Additionally, the ANC will be organizing a longer community meeting with Ms. Bollinger in the near future. DCRA regulates building permits, abandoned properties, property maintenance (grass height), business permits, occupancy permits, building code compliance and many other local issues. We encourage you to attend these meetings with Ms. Bollinger.
- b. Joe Maloney who is the ANC representative for the neighbors on Crittendon and the streets north of Crittendon up to Kennedy Street plans to vacate his seat in August. We encourage neighbors on those streets to recommend a new representative to replace Joe. Joe has been a diligent ANC representative and many of us are grateful for his service to the neighborhood.

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Cecelia Waldeck
Co-Chair