

Minutes of IHLNA board meeting Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7-8:30 pm

Board members present: Ashley Arrington, Marie-Claire Leman, Marney Richards, Ramona Abernathy-Paine, Edward Reid, John Tomasino, William Hill, KC Smith, Charity Myers, Doug Martin

Regrets: Rhonda Cooper, Joe Gabriel

Other neighbors present: Betsy Tabac, Tony Biblo, Geoff Brown, Gordon MaGill

1- Introductions: How we want to help on the board and what ability we have to offer

William Hill: He moved to the neighborhood in 2018. He has no desire for a leadership position. He is interested in serving on the board to help formulate and execute ideas.

Ashley: She has been involved for 4 years and was wooed into being treasurer, a position she occupied for this time. She is happy to pass it on and knows that Rhonda is interested in that position. Ashley wants to continue working on traffic calming.

MCL: She might be interested in continuing in the role of secretary. She would consider being corresponding secretary if someone else wanted to be the recording secretary. She has been monitoring the email account, responding to emails, uploading minutes and other documents to the website, etc.

Charity: She has been doing the design for Nene Fest and newsletter as well as various neighborhood signs. She wants to do anything as long as it is not web based. For Nene Fest 2021 (and following) she would like to help with graphics in general, as well as any fundraising efforts such as the race for Hartsfield. If we need more entrance signs she would be interested in helping with that. She would like to help generate ideas for fundraising to support Neighbor to Neighbor (N3) and see a percentage (maybe 20%) of the proceeds of Nene Fest be dedicated to N3. (Ashley mentioned later that we don't really make money with Nene Fest.)

KC: She works on the newsletter with Charity and other volunteers.

John: He has no overriding interest but is available to do things and would be willing to take minutes if that was needed. He wants to stop sitting on the side-lines.

Doug: He has been involved in the South Magnolia multi-use trail project. He is here to help out with the festivals and whatever our neighborhood has going on. He can help with issues at the city or county.

Edward: He is good at system analysis. He is trying to get volunteers to help enhance our website.

Marney: She has been on the board for a few years; she was VP with Grant and now co-president with Ramona. She is interested in working with people on different committees, helping with agendas, setting up meetings, conducting meetings.

Joe: (Marney reported this in his absence) His main interest is promoting gardening in the neighborhood.

Ramona: She has been president, treasurer and secretary in the past. She wants to build the communications among neighbors, and between neighbors and outside entities, so that everyone knows what is going on.

Rhonda: (Marney reported in her absence) She wants to be treasurer.

2- Board Structure: How do we want to set up the board and what committees do we need

- gardening/plant committee – Joe might be interested in leading this.
- website committee – Edward is leading this.
- newsletter – KC and Charity
- representatives to outside entities
- others...

We also want to fill these board positions:

President:

Vice-president or co-president:

Treasurer: Rhonda

Secretary: (maybe dividing this one between corresponding and recording)

William asked if the by-laws require officer positions. Yes, either co-presidents or vp/president, secretary and treasurer.

William suggested that we open the floor to nominations.

Doug suggested that we receive self-nominations first.

Ramona was nominated for President.

William proposed that we close nomination with said name.

Someone asked what the length of the terms is. Answer: two-year terms starting in January.

Geoff proposed the president-elect model so that the incoming president would know how to take over. An outgoing president could be encouraged to stick around as a board member after their term as President. We could add the roles of “President-elect” and “Past-President” for better continuity. Ramona said it was not the time to consider this but it could perhaps be considered at a later date.

William suggested that we open the floor to nominations for VP.

Ramona nominated Marney; John seconded.

Marney said she was willing to serve after we have a conversation about the role of VP so that she can know what is involved.

William moved to close nominations.

KC proposed that a vice-president could follow up and oversee the work of committees that the board establishes. MC said she wanted to see more positions with defined roles. William suggested that we work on defining roles before we proceed with elections to those positions. Marney explained that this was the goal of this meeting because, in the past, too many responsibilities were left to the president.

Charity said that she would like to see the roles be very clear, and agreed we should expand roles so that work is spread out so that we have more people doing fewer things.

Ramona proposed that Rhonda could be treasurer, John could be the recording secretary, and MC/Marney/Ramona could meet to further define other roles before the next board meeting. John said he was happy to help and start as recording secretary.

Everyone agreed that we have to be more transparent about representations to city-wide groups and internal/external committees.

3- Treasurer Report:

Notes:

- we didn't quite break even with Nenefest merchandise (sold in absence of fest)
- no CONA membership
- part of the difference in ad revenue is due to some paying for a few at once
- website domain renewal expense has not been submitted
- the Newsletter competition fee was a new, one-time, expense
- our balance has always been around \$7000 to \$10000

Because the question arose earlier in the meeting, Ashley explained that in the past we have not made money on Nene Fest – we break even or, at most, make around \$200. Separately, the proceeds of the 5K race come through our account but the race is a fundraiser for Hartsfield.

The grant from SCF has been received and will be deposited soon in our account.

2020 IHLNA Financial Statement

revenue		
	Nene Merchandise	\$2,029.06
	Membership Dues	\$3,055.00
	Ads - Spring Newsltr	\$695.00
	Ads - Fall Newsltr	\$385.00
	Neighborhood sign donations	\$0.00
Total Revenue		\$6,164.06
Expenses		
	Nene Merch/Fest	\$2,923.79
	CONA Membership Renewal	\$0.00
	Spring Newsletters/Copies	\$571.42
	Membership flyers/copies	\$174.15
	Insurance	\$418.00
	Sunbiz Annual Report Fee	\$61.25
	Fall Newsletters/Copies	\$596.50
	Ponies/Petting zoo - Potluck	\$0.00
	Band Halloween	\$0.00
	Pay Pal Fees	\$73.85
	Website Domain Renewal	
	NUSA Newsletter Competition Fee	\$65.00
	Check Order	\$32.01
Total Expenses		\$4,915.97
Current Cash Balance	December 5, 2020	\$10,069.84

4- Website update

Edward shared that we have 4 volunteers willing to help. The website committee has had one meeting but has not yet moved things forward. Edward will make a list of the priorities and might call for another website committee meeting to go over this list.

Charity can provide the names of fonts and colors to keep the look of the site consistent; she can also give us graphics for the site.

KC encouraged Edward to write an article about the website for the Newsletter to direct people to visit and use the website more.

5- Board internal communication

Ramona suggested that we come up with a good way to communicate and share information internally. Edward suggested that we find a plug in for WordPress (our site is hosted by WordPress). MC suggested Slack for the future, though she understands that people don't want one more app to keep up with. For now, the board agreed to continue using email and look into eventually using something through WordPress. John volunteered to research options that might work for our group.

6- Other business

These issues were postponed to the next meeting:

- bike rack
- lights at Optimist Park
- feral cat situation
- Facebook
- Neighbor to Neighbor in the Nenes
- South City Foundation
- other representations to city entities

Tony mentioned that he is interested in setting up a tool bank or tool library. He would like to know if some nearby neighborhoods already have one that could be donated to or whether we want to set one up. He will look into this and bring it back to the board.

Someone mentioned that the street sign at the corner of Chuli and Chinnapakin is missing and has been replaced by a homemade one. Marney mentioned that it can be reported on Tal Gov for a repair.

Next board meeting:

Wednesday, January 6 at 7pm, via Zoom