

Minutes from IHLNA Board Meeting, September 1, 2022

Prepared by John Tomasino

Board members present: Marie-Claire Leman, Edward Reid, Jason Khan-Hohensee, Eli Wilkins-Malloy, and John Tomasino

Board members absent: Ashley Arrington, Doug Martin, Melissa Farley, Katie Clark, Laura Dearman, KC Smith, Charlotte Stuart-Tilley, and Ceci Michelotti

Other neighbors in attendance: Judith Rainbrook, Betsy Tabac, Edward Acoff, Jeanne Lebow, Liddie (last name unknown), Gordon Magill.

1. Approval of the Minutes: John will circulate over email.

2. Treasurer's Report: Marie-Claire provided the update and shared her screen showing the up-to-date accounting. Not much in the way of updates. Approximately \$15,000 available. Betsy mentioned the idea of us and N3 exploring whether our insurance rates might be reduced if we did sought out insurance together. Eli thought it might be challenging to combine based on different purposes. Marie-Claire questioned whether we have the appropriate type of policy for our organization.

3. Updates and neighbor concerns:

- Maintenance of overgrown city rights-of-way: John brought this issue up after seeing various Facebook posts about the overgrown rights-of-way. Two neighbors, Mickie and Walt Liddell spoke to several people with the city to request maintenance. Mickie cautioned the city that this was becoming a safety issue as there are areas where one can't see oncoming, turning traffic. She requested that they do more regular maintenance on the rights-of-way. Jeanne has a different take such as growing native plants to support native wildlife. She also suspects Leon County quietly sprays property for mosquitoes and wonders why that might be the cause of her seeing far fewer birds and insects. She attended a talk where someone promoted keeping an area in the front yards to promote native plants so the native wildlife can thrive in a corridor of sorts throughout the neighborhood. Edward Acoff voiced concern about overgrown limbs blocking one of the streetlights at the end of Nancy Dr., as well as some limbs on the ground that need to be removed. It is too dark to walk down there due to the lack of upkeep. Edward will attempt putting in a ticket with the DigiTally app regarding this situation.

John volunteered to contact the city to learn what the maintenance schedule and report back to the Board.

- Short terms rentals: Marie-Claire brought this issue after speaking with a neighbor who was concerned about potential noise and decrease in stock of moderate priced housing. Ramona said there is nothing in the city ordinances to prevent short-term rentals. Thus, noise complaints is one available avenue. The officers have discretion to address the noise if it can be heard from further than 100 feet. Another avenue is if there are structural issues and reports can be made to code enforcement. There is also a decrepit property on E. Indianhead 2005 that has been cited and interested neighbors can attend a public hearing on the code violations. There doesn't seem to be an avenue for the Board to become more involved in this issue other than spreading the word on the new noise ordinance.

- Winewood Property development: Will gave the update. Ramona alerted us to Winewood reappearing on the City's preapproval agenda. Winewood is the former state office buildings on Blairstone, which is also directly behind Wahalaw Court. There had previously been a proposal to turn the office buildings into apartments. There is a new proposal. Moore-Bass is the company going forward with this submission. There was mention of this being a gated community but there were no specifics on what that actually meant. They

are at the stage where they share their plans with various departments with the city. The plan is to not make any changes to the footprints of the buildings but to convert them into apartments. The ballpark figure is 340 apartments, comprised on 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments. It is being identified as a gated community but currently it is unclear if that means gated for just vehicle or does that include foot traffic. The preliminary plan is to destroy the parking structure just west of the pond and use that area to build a clubhouse and a pool. However, it was discovered that unless granted an exemption from current code, they wouldn't be allowed to do that. They will be required to do traffic studies as well. The goal is to have a meeting with them to discuss these issues in more detail.

- New items brought by neighbors, if any: None

4. Board Issues:

- ATN representation: John to contact Heidi as discussed at August Board meeting.

- Neighborhood Leadership Academy participation: Deadline is tomorrow to apply for this program. Jason is interested but is concerned with their lack of covid protocols.

- Newsletter update: Marie-Claire gave the update. Last Friday was the deadline for submissions. Linda Ogle volunteered to be our graphic designer. She is going to do it for this newsletter. She is excited to do this kind of work again. She's unsure if the newsletter schedule during other times of the year will fit in with her travel plans.

5. Discussion of up-coming events

- Next Fruit Tree planting session: John is now working on putting together the planting of the second half of the trees. More info to follow.

- Friends of Native Trees Committee event, Oct 25: This is a rescheduled event to be held on October 25, at 6 pm, in the clubhouse at Optimist Park. Gordan has arranged for the city's Urban Forester to come and talk to our neighborhood. Mindy Mohrman will be the speaker to discuss the Urban Forest Master Plan and it will discuss how we can maintain and grow our urban forest. Mindy is the city's Urban Forester. The event will be an hour and a half. There will be an article in the newsletter about the event and it will be advertised on Facebook. Marie-Claire volunteered to circulate the flyer attached to the next agenda.

- November Annual General Meeting on Thursday November 3, in person or via Zoom? The Board needs to decide whether the general meeting should be held in person or via Zoom. Marie-Claire has received some feedback that some folks are tired of Zoom so it might be a welcome change to hold it in person. Various ideas were discussed. Marie-Claire will send a Doodle Poll to find out when the Board members are available to meet with some options in addition to Thursday night at 7.

-Election Snack Table: 150 feet is the limit on how far away a snack table must be at the polling location. Two things would need to be organized: those who will staff the table and those who will provide goodies for the table. A Board member could be the person to coordinate this slate of volunteers.

- Halloween Party, October 29 (TBD): Charity headed up the Halloween Party last year. Thus far, no one has volunteered to organize the party. Marie-Claire proposes that we should ask on Facebook to see if any neighbors are interested in leading the event and offer Board support. It is a popular event so it would be great if someone can organize it.

-November Ponies: Usually held on a Sunday. This year, November 13 would be the best date. The volunteer doesn't have to do much more than show up with a check. The event is generally very appreciated. John will be the point person for coordinating with the vendor and bringing the check.

-Zoom versus In-Person Board meetings: In the past, the Board always met at Mary Louise Bachman's house. She was a wonderful host. Then, once covid hit, we switched to Zoom. Marie-Claire has heard that some neighbors have Zoom fatigue. Marie-Claire provided suggestions on how we could meet in the future, but most importantly, we need to decide where to hold the meetings and whether to rotate where they are held. It was also discussed that we could start alternating between Zoom and in-person. In the past, the Board met less frequently, such as to 2 to 3 times per year, so less burden on the host. We decided to continue discussing this with input from more Board members. John suggested meeting 6 times a year the clubhouse, taking advantage of the signs that are already made and providing a consistent time and place for interested neighbors to know where to go. Marie-Claire commented that the main problem with that was that it is an enclosed space.

6. Other business

7. Next meeting: October 6 (via zoom or in person?) We will do October via Zoom and work on the in person for the November meeting.