

Minutes from IHLNA Board Meeting, June 6, 2024

Prepared by John Tomasino

Board members present:

Melissa Farley, Marie-Claire Leman, Gordon Magill, Ceci Michelotti, Edward Reid, John Tomasino, Katie Clark

Board members absent

Doug Martin, Charlotte Stuart-Tilley, Eli Wilkins-Malloy, KC Smith, Ashley Arrington, Jason Hohensee,

Others in attendance:

Zack Stokes, Gary Pelletier, Nancy Gines, Betsy Tabac, Kristin Power-Blaiklock

1. Welcome and approval of agenda

2. Approval of minutes:

Edward provided some corrections. All members present voted to approve the minutes.

3. Financial Update

No material changes from last meeting.

4. Updates and neighbor concerns

-Magnolia Project update (road closure take 2)

Project starting up again. Marie-Claire meeting with the project contacts about the traffic flow. Edward pointed out the distance between the signage on Jim Lee and Orange is

problematic. Maybe the detour sign should be in the middle of the road, allowing the cars to turn around the sign. So we still need to work more on that intersection to help divert traffic away from Jim Lee.

On the north end of Magnolia, and also by Lucky Goat, when one goes around the signage, the right-of-way isn't clear so it could be dangerous as people drive around the sign. We need to work on improving safety while also not encouraging drivers to cut through our neighborhood.

-Neighborhood Street Names

Mayor and City staff met with representatives from the Muskogee tribe to discuss tighter integration between our city and their town in Oklahoma. Lively discussion on Facebook about the need for accurate representation. No Board action needed.

-Post-Tornado needs in the community

Zach Stokes and Gary Pelletier, from Red Cross, joined our meeting to discuss their outreach efforts in our neighborhood and how we could assist. They have a list of residences that sustained major damage and are seeking our assistance on reaching out to those residents. They will get the list to Ceci for her to share with the Board. The Board agreed to do whatever we can to get the word out to the impacted neighbors. They also plan on being at Optimist Park this upcoming Saturday and Sunday (June 8th and 9th). They are also going to drop off flyers that we volunteered to hand deliver if need be.

-New items brought by neighbors, if any

Marie-Claire introduced Nancy Gines, the new president of Neighbor to Neighbor in the Nenes.

5. Board issues

-Insurance Update

John is still waiting for a quote for Directors and Officers insurance. Will update the group once that quote is received.

6. Upcoming Events

-4th of July

Kristin is excited to lead the event again this year. She did find a good water slide vendor so we will have the combination water slide bouncy house. There was discussion about whether we should apply for the grant for this event. If we served hot

dogs and burgers, then we would have the volunteer matching hours, for sure, for the grant. Marie-Claire will reach out to Eli to see if he, and/or the grill, is available for the event. (Eli is available, for at least part of the event. Marie-Claire will email looking for other volunteers to assist with the grill.)

-Applying to Vibrant Neighborhood Grant for upcoming event

This cycle of the Vibrant Grant would require an application by September 1st. That means the last event to apply for would be the 4th of July event. There aren't a lot of costs associated with this event but we could possibly apply for the reimbursement of the Nene Fest grill. The City grant person also advised that we should carefully time when and what we apply for, as it is uncommon for them to reward the same neighborhood two times in a row. The event grant is limited to a maximum of \$750 whereas the other types of grants are up to \$2500. To be discussed further in the future.

7. Other Business

We usually don't hold a meeting in July so plan on the next meeting on Thursday, August 1st.