

# Minutes from IHLNA Board Meeting, August 1, 2024

## Prepared by John Tomasino

### Board members present:

Melissa Farley, Marie-Claire Leman, Gordon Magill, Ceci Michelotti, Edward Reid, KC Smith, John Tomasino, Eli Wilkins-Malloy

### Board members absent

Doug Martin, Charlotte Stuart-Tilley, Jason Hohensee, Katie Clark, Ashley Arrington

### Others in attendance:

Betsy Tabac, Shelly Hatton

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## 1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda

## 2. Financial Update

Melissa provided the update, which was that there were no material updates. Please see the attached financial statement.

## 3. Updates and neighbor concerns

-Magnolia Project update (traffic calming below)

-Post-tornado ideas for the community

- John provides background information on post-tornado ideas and.
- John communicated with the neighborhood liaison about tree removal and restoration.
- The neighborhood will coordinate with the parks division for native tree planting on an Arbor Day or Earth Day event.

- Shelly suggests recognizing emergency responders with a plaque under \$100 and sharing information on native plant replanting in articles and newsletters.
- Shelly suggests holding a half-day meeting with a Meteorology Department speaker to address questions about the tornado.
- John wants to invite professors from a Midwestern college to discuss the tornado that hit their neighborhood, as the news media hasn't provided adequate answers.
- Shelly suggests moving the annual meeting to an earlier date, such as end of October, to accommodate a topic-based meeting with guest speakers from the University's Earth, Wind, and Fire Department.
- Gordon suggests a bonfire gathering for people to share tornado trauma. [This has been discussed in meeting and date of Sunday, October 20, from 6:45 - 8 P.M. was agreed upon. Shelly has written Optimist article about this gathering. Folks invited to bring a candle(s), blankets, chairs, musical instruments. Candles will bypass any fire restrictions at Optimist Park.]
- Gordon agrees and suggests encouraging people to make "I" statements to share their feelings without passing the buck.
- Group discusses alternative trauma processing method involving sharing and catharsis.

-New items brought by neighbors, if any

#### 4. Board issues

-Newsletter plans

- Marie-Claire outlines newsletter production schedule, including call for articles and distribution timeline.
- Marie-Claire proposes guidelines for newsletter,.

-Insurance update

- John Tomasino updates the board on event insurance requirements for Nene Fest, mentioning the city requires it and the board may not need officer and directors insurance.
- Marie-Claire and John discuss the need for event-specific insurance policy for Nene Fest, considering race requirements and coverage.
- Board members discuss insurance options for protecting themselves and the neighborhood association.

- Neighborhood association discusses potential legal issues and insurance coverage for community projects.
- Traffic calming in the neighborhood
- Residents frustrated by unexpected traffic patterns due to detour management.
  - Traffic congestion reported on Chocksacka and surrounding streets due to construction. Residents expressed concern about speeding and safety on local roads due to the construction project.
- Marie-Claire expresses concern that they haven't received many responses to the form, despite sharing it with the neighborhood association.
  - Marie-Claire and Gordon discuss traffic data collection locations for the Magnolia project.
  - Residents agree that traffic is a serious issue, with some citing the death of a cat as an example of the dangers of speeding cars in the area.
  - Marie-Claire suggests using chicanes or speed bumps to slow down traffic.
- Applying to Vibrant Neighborhood Grant  
Skipped discussion due to time.

## 5. Potential Neighborhood Events

-4<sup>th</sup> of July - recap

- Fifteen to twenty people attended. Nicely decorated bikes. The Board is again thankful for Kristin organizing and hosting the event.

-Halloween Party

- Marie-Claire suggests hosting a Halloween party and is seeking input from last year's organizers. .
- Neighborhood event planning includes band, food, decorations,.

-Election snack table

- Marie-Claire wonders if board should host election table in August, despite lower voter turnout potential. The Board decides not to.
- Board agrees to host November election Snack table and Marie-Claire will reach out to past volunteers for help..

-Annual Neighborhood Meeting, Fall Yard Sale (or Spring), and Nene Fest Date Selection

- Neighborhood considers earlier spring yard sale to avoid conflict with other events.

- Marie-Claire Leman and John discuss potential dates for a festival and race, considering Easter weekend and conflicting events. The Board settles on last Saturday in April (April 26) because it only conflicts with Chain of Parks which is something that neighbors can attend at other times in the course of the weekend.
- Marie-Claire Leman will confirm other Tallahassee event dates, including Pride (no date has been announced on their website) and Chain of Parks (this was already confirmed at the time)

6. Next meeting Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 7:00 pm