

November 13, 2019

Original Northwood Association

Board Meeting

November 2019

**Present:** Richard Skolasky (President), Kerry Spence (Secretary), Jennie Spratt (Treasurer), Mary Stevenson (Covenant), Jeffrey Carroll (Maintenance), Haywood Wilson (Safety), Lauren Devine (Social), Lynnette Dodson (Social),

**Absent:** Eric Dodson (Communications), Katrina Raysor (Social), Shequila Purnell-Saunders (Social)

**Convene: 7:04pm**

**1. Communication**

- Desire to improve communication with the neighborhood- printed newsletter
  - Need content from each board member
  - Reach out to advertisers
  - Within newsletter- option to opt out of printed newsletter
  - Could ask how people prefer to get information when they pay their dues

**2. President's Report**

- 2019/20 Initiatives will include:
  - Developing policies and procedures for each position to aid in transition that include transition of Board business to Google platform
  - Improve communication with neighbors in the format that they prefer to begin with printed Winter 2019 newsletter; Solicit advertisers and reinstate the Block Captain network; Survey of online vs. print
  - Establish a relationship with the attorney who represents GNCA to have regular legal counsel, rather than current as needed
  - Conduct a follow-up landscape survey (previously done ~5 years ago) to identify dying trees, drainage issues, and sidewalk/wall integrity
  - Strengthen relationship with NE Police Department; Consider Safety Walks, Night Lights, and other community approaches; Develop guidance for reporting suspicious activity
  - Establish a sensible budget for social events held in the community; Find ways to encourage neighbors on the periphery to join the fun
- **Mary Washington** - A strong advocate for local neighborhood who will be reaching out to community representatives to identify issues and work toward solutions. We discussed dying city trees (potential state/foundation grants to remove- through BGE or other).

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- **Keep Maryland Beautiful Grant**- up to \$5,000. Grant ends tomorrow, 11/14/19.
- **2020 Census**- strongly encourage everyone participating. This is how city programs get funded.
- **How can we reach our neighbors?** Door knocking
- **GNCA** - The GNCA has contracted with a new servicing agency, PayHOA. Bills have been distributed and include mandatory GNCA dues and voluntary ONA dues (\$40)
  - The GNCA also allows us to include neighborhood information in their mailing. I will follow up with Executive Secretary Emily Weber for more.
  - Prior discussion has involved uses for GNCA funds. We need to be mindful of the legal requirement that funds not enrich any one person.
- **Northwood Commons** - Meeting held in Fall to unveil a timeline that includes demolition to begin this year (2019)

### 3. Treasurer's Report

- Oktoberfest revenues- @\$220 cost
- Electronic payment status/issues- reducing payment options to the following three.
  - Pay HOA
  - Venmo
  - Check
- Cut-off date for 2019 dues- any dues paid after 10/31 will be applied to the next year's dues

### 4. Communications Chair

- ONA Website, login credentials still outstanding
- Old website is still active- some old documents haven't been transferred to the new site. Richard to coordinate w/ Eric about what should be moved over.
  - Timeframe for getting website updated?
- Update calendar of events on the website- google calendar?
- ONA Quarterly Newsletter, Winter 2019 edition- December 21st
  - Need content
  - Need advertisers
- ONA NextDoor account
  - Does not have a function for community board accounts
  - Business account- not worth paying for
  - Nextdoor used for quick communications, but point people to the website for accurate information
- Communication strategy
  - We have a Facebook page
  - Use links that take people back to the website for the information

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## 5. Covenant Chair

- Covenant Appeal
  - Northview- request to install asphalt shingles on main roof
    - Listened to neighbor's concerns
    - Board asked questions and some discussion
    - 5 Yes votes to deny appeal, 3 abstained to vote
- Review of issues over the last year
  - Several old issues that have not been resolved.
    - House on Argonne was flipped and realtor did not disclose to the buyers that the windows are out of compliance. Lauren to reach out to the owners about issue and connect them with Mary, covenant chair, and determine plan of action. Reach out to our attorney.
    - Alameda- will follow up on this issue after the Argonne issue is addressed

## 6. Maintenance Chair

- Neighborhood issues include leaves in storm drains and road surfaces
- Next Dumpster Day, December 7<sup>th</sup>
  - Dumpster is scheduled by official ONA point of contact.
- Communications Options: website & website calendar, newsletter, e-mail list from GNCA?
- Sandbox distribution/supply process
- Program in Baltimore to connect teens to work- help for those that aren't able to shovel
- Ongoing/new concerns

## 7. Safety Chair

- Safety Walks- neighborhood walks that point out specific concerns that could improve safety
- Encourage people to be observant and look out their windows
- Build a list of folks with cameras- could be private- helpful when crime occurs
- Intersection of Havenwood and Loch Raven- representative to work with city about safety
- Turn On Tuesday/Thursday
- Ongoing/new concerns

## 8. Social Chairs

- Oktoberfest update
- Holiday Party update: Jason & Paul are hosting, Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>, 7-10pm, 1200 Southview, Appetizers and Drinks will be served. Also a toy drive.
- Re-instate Block Captains for delivery of flyers, postcards & newsletters
- Wine & Cheese- have a volunteer to host

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- Neighbor-Led events requesting financial support
- Ongoing/new concerns

**9. Old Business**

- Routine Alley Walks and Cleaning (Monthly Clean Up Days) – vermin and debris
- Dumping on Argonne concerns shared from neighbor on Argonne via email

**Adjourned 9:17**