

Minutes
Watrous Heights Neighborhood Association
Special Board Meeting, May 31, 2023

In attendance: Dave Johnston, Heather Byrd, Karen Lodden, Jim Hugley, Becky Dewey

Absent: Brad Greer, Andrea Greer, Ryan Shaw, Elizabeth Williams

Dave reviewed the need to review and enforce the by-laws. The Board to review and suggest changes/updates to those this summer.

Dave submitted a statement for the record, cited from current WHNA by-laws dated December 16, 2020:
Article 6. Board of Directors; Section 7:

“Members of the Board of Directors are expected to attend all Board and association meetings.

Missing three consecutive meetings shall be construed as resignation from the Board...”

Quorum Check: Board In Attendance: Dave Johnston, Heather Byrd, Karen Lodden, Jim Hugley, Becky Dewey

Absent: Ryan Shaw, Elizabeth Williams.

Insurance

- Jim reviewed insurance quotes and it was decided to go with Jester Insurance. Dave signed copies of the coverage and copies will be provided to Des Moines City Council, Des Moines School System and a copy for WHNA records. A copy will also be sent to board members for their records. Insurance covers three events a year that WHNA sponsors (NNO, block parties). If we have more than that, we would pay an additional fee. Insurance covers all neighborhood meetings no matter where they are held. We also have a rider for acts of terrorism.

National Night Out

- Grays Lake N.A. has submitted a request to join us at our NNO event, Tuesday, August 1st. The mailing that we will do will also have some addresses within their boundary. They can have a space and participate at the event (help set up, volunteers, etc). They can have their sign displayed at their booth. But this is not a WHNA AND Grays Lake N.A. partnership and the mailing will only list the event is sponsored by WHNA. We are not sure if Park Avenue Elementary will be participating in the activities this year. Discussed volunteer reach out for NNO. Jim will check with Walnut Creek Church, Karen will check with DMACC and Simpson College, for possible volunteers to help in all aspects of the NNO event.
- We will have 16 - \$30 (\$480) gift cards from Hy-Vee, Fareway and Casey's and will draw two names every 15 minutes for these at NNO.
- We will have school supplies and food bags to give away to families.
- Games: Bounce House, sucker pull, rubber ducks, ring toss, face painter(s). Yard games: Connect Four and Jenga.
- Red Cross will be doing their smoke detector installation program in our area again this year.

Proposed modified by-laws

- Changes to by-laws, now that the pandemic has ended, were discussed: Zoom only in special situations, no voting by e-mail, no absentee voting, no voting for others/proxy votes, etc. Board members should

review by-laws, and submit changes to the Board for discussion and then we will have a vote at the next neighbors meeting (August).

- Meeting dates and location(s) need to be reviewed and discussed. Pastor Heather offered the church as a meeting location if we choose.
- Yard sign/meeting notice would need changed if we switched date/location of meetings.

Post card mailing – EDDM (US Post Office)

- We will use the Polk County Print Shop to print our postcards.
- We will mail one NNO postcard and see how that works before we spend money upfront to for several mailings a year. Jim suggested we have monthly/quarterly mailings. We need to build a budget for postage/mailings before we can accomplish that.