

Annual Meeting of the Bancroft Neighborhood Association November 8, 2012

Present: Neal Baxter, Kyle Gaffaney, Joe Hatch, Andy Hestness, Whitney Kieffer, Sara Luoma, Heidi Rivers Marshall, Evette McCarthy, Mark Sauter, Sandra Smith, Matt Toburen, Keith Twist, Shelby Williams, Mikki Denny Wright.

President Luoma called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM, after a delicious dinner, and asked all board members to introduce themselves.

Approval of Agenda—Sara Luoma

Sara moved and Joe seconded the agenda. Approved.

Approval of the Minutes from Annual Meeting, 2011—Neal Baxter

Neal moved, with a correction; Joe seconded. Approved as amended.

Ward 8 Update—Elizabeth Glidden

Single-sort recycling has been approved by the City Council, and will be worked into the City's waste collection services throughout the winter.

Mpls has a new police chief: Janee Harteau, the first woman to fill the position. Hired from within. City Council has also authorized a property tax hike of 17.7%. This increase will pay for police and fire fighters.

With DFL majorities in both houses of the Legislature next year, the interests of the City will get more weight. Local Representative Paul Thiessen will likely be chosen Speaker of the House. DFLers will chair committees vital to the City in both House and Senate.

Gov. Dayton has proposed changes to the state's tax structure which will affect Mpls residents.

The gas station on 38th & Bloomington has been sold, and the owner is working on it now.

Arts on Chicago, a project of Pillsbury House, has received a grant for 20 art projects for 2013, to be installed from 32nd to 42nd Streets.

El Colegio—Mitch Roldan & Reed Aubin

The school has 75 students now. The community space is open until 9 PM daily, with many activities. Stop by and get acquainted.

El Patio is finished, thanks to among others Elizabeth Glidden. Partners included the City, the County and Bancroft Neighborhood Association. Money from BNA will pay for gardening sheds and benches. New trash cans are already in place. Everyone can help:help us plant a garden on the site; volunteer at the school grounds and with the students; join our board.

An exhibit of memorials for the dead is on display, per Dias de los Muertos.

Urban Arts—Lisa Lindstrom

Urban Arts is 12 years old. We offer after-school and pre-school programs (which will be fully licensed by year's end) for neighborhood children.

Minneapolis Crime Watch—Karen Notsch

She has served as police liaison since April 1991. She works with block clubs on long-term solutions to crime. Six blocks (which she named) still need block leaders.

Block leaders build community, talk with neighbors and help their neighbors solve problems.

Weekly crime statistics are available on-line.

Green Committee—Neal Baxter

Our Committee grew to 12 very active members this year.

Mark Sauter coordinates the 18 garden plots for the committee. In May, he accepted for the committee the Metro Blooms Community Garden of the Year Award.

We continued our involvement with Southside Hub, and working of BNA's zero-waste policy.

In Bancroft Meadows, we participated in a "flour bombing", with the City's Public Works Dept. and artists from The Soap Factory. Through this event, we made contacts which will prove valuable in years to come.

In 2013, we will help Public Works lay out the Southern Bike Connection down 17th Avenue; and we plan to paint the intersection of 17th & 40th St. in the spring. We have talked with Corcoran NA about their street art, and learned a lot. Interested in participating? Sign up at the tables, or talk with us.

We are also looking to expand garden space in our neighborhood.

Committee meets here at Bethel Church of the 2nd Thursday of each month, at 6:15 PM. Join us!

Commercial Development—Evette McCarthy

The Committee tries to fill empty commercial spaces

No solution yet to the building on 38th & Bloomington

The gas station across the street is now under new management

Kim Bartman is opening a new restaurant at 11th Ave. & 38th St.

Many Facade Improvement Grants are underway:

Sinaloa, for a new window replacing the wave mural on Chicago

Bill's Barber Shop, at 14th & 38th St., for awnings

My Cute Hair and Shoes, basic upgrades

Millenium Connect do.

Southside Farm Store do.

Question about the Bowling Alley. Glidden answered: the church owners have never submitted a plan for the building to the City; they have hired an architect, however; they bought on a contract for deed, and previous owner says "they're paying their bills". Thus, the City has no leverage yet.

Outreach Committee—Andy Hestness

We ponder how to reach out the community. Our quarterly conversations with neighbors by block and one with Bethel Church have been most useful. Monday in the Meadows was a fine idea, and will resume around Memorial Day, 2013.

Housing Committee—Whitney Keiffer

We addressed the Foreclosure Issue this year, and specifically the crisis on 41st & Cedar. Getting more information to residents was part of our solution.

Spring or fall open house was under discussion, but the houses sold before we could organize the event! Housing prices in Bancroft are rising, which is great news for all of us. Lack of foreclosures helps sell houses here, and we continue to look at ways to promote Bancroft.

Financial Report—Kyle Gaffaney

Ruth Kinkaid Fund allows BNA to spend first, apply for reimbursement later, an unusual advantage.

Staff costs predominate in our debit column. Income shows a loss, as we are waiting for reimbursements at the moment.

Andy moved, Geneva seconded to approve. Accepted and filed.

Board Elections—Kyle Gaffaney

Incumbents stood and presented themselves, then Julie Zamora and Josh Casey were nominated for seats.

The number seeking election not equally the number of seats open, Mark moved a white ballot for the whole slate. Joe seconded. Approved.

The victors: Sarah Luoma
Neal Baxter
Whitney Kieffer
Matt Toburen
Julie Zamora
Josh Casey

Seeing no other business, Whitney moved, and Kyle seconded, a motion to adjourn. Approved, and adjourned at 8:15 PM.