

**Meeting of the Bancroft Neighborhood Association
August 9, 2012**

Present: Neal Baxter, Kyle Gaffaney, Joe Hatch, Andy Hestness, Whitney Kieffer, Sara Luoma, Heidi Rivers Marshall, Evette McCarthy, Mark Sauter, Matt Toburen, Keith Twist, Shelby Williams; Jilian Clearman, community organizer; guests.

President Sara called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM, and asked all present to introduce themselves.

Sara suggested we move the update on the Ice Cream Social to New/Old Business. Mark so moved, Joe seconded. Approved.

June Agenda—Neal Baxter

Mark moved the agenda, as amended; Evette seconded. Approved.

Ballot Initiative—Shelby Williams

With 2 controversial amendments to the Minnesota Constitution before the voters in November, it seemed meet and right to learn whether BNA was legally able and competent to take a stand on these issues. Attorney Emily Robertson agreed to present the case for so doing. Her argument:

Legally, endorsing a stand on an issue is lobbying, and a non-profit can expend much (at least 25%?) of its time on lobbying without jeopardizing its tax-exempt status. More pertinent considerations for BNA include: does endorsing positions fit our corporate purposes (are we specifically denied this right?); will taking a stand hurt the organization's finances or damage public confidence and goodwill.

Heidi: do we want to pass a resolution, then, and put it on our website?

---Joe: moved that Bancroft board pass a resolution opposing the proposed Marriage Amendment to the state constitution. Mark seconded.

Discussion followed. Many favored a resolution, Andy pointed out that this move would be a switch from gathering neighborhood opinion to speaking for our neighbors without asking them first.

---Joe moved: BNA opposes the Marriage Amendment; Shelby seconded. Approved.

---Joe summarized the issue obtaining with the proposed Voter ID Amendment, and moved that BNA opposes the Voter ID Amendment; Mark seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report—Kyle Gaffaney

July overdraft has been resolved.

Andy moved to accept the report; Matt seconded. Received and filed.

The \$5000 for the benefit of the Carrot Initiative came from our checking account.

Staffing Budget: \$44,000 (\$17/hour + taxes, times 30 hours per month); 20 hours per week would cost \$30,000.

38th & Chicago Business Association Staff—Evette McCarthy & Ashii Webster

Ashii's funding (from MCCD) ran out on July 31. Until another grant is obtained to pay her, Evette & Ashii proposed to the board that BNA pay the Association \$800 per month. Bryant will likewise be approached. This in addition to the dues of \$100 BNA pays. Discussion ensued about the value to Bancroft neighborhood of Ashii's work.

---Heidi moved that BNA fund Ashii through August 2012 (\$800), and that Ashii supply BNA with a detailed proposal at the September board meeting; Whitney seconded. Approved.

Green Committee—Shelby Williams

All are invited to the Committee's junket to 34th & 19th Avenue, on August 15 at 6 PM. We will

examine the street art there, and work out how to paint an intersection in Bancroft.

Reed Aubin of El Colegio talked to the Greens this evening about the new Patio, and asked BNA's help with funding and other matters.

We have contacted Lisa Cerney of Public Works about installing compost bins in Bancroft Meadows.

Commercial Development—Evette McCarthy

“Owner” of Sinaloa's building is only the manager, and the police want a window installed.

The Nordic building (42nd & Cedar) sold to a group of activists from Walker Church, which burned down this winter (31st & 16th Ave.). Price: \$350,000.

Outreach Committee—Andy Hestness

Mondays in the Meadows continue, and please come.

Bethel Church wants to host a listening session for its congregation.

Housing Committee—Whitney Kieffer

The article in the Banner about the Cruz foreclosure, we hope, helped others in similar straits.

Lots of houses sold in Bancroft in the past month.

Personnel Committee—Matt Toburen

Committee has received 7 resumes to date for the Community Organizer position, and will meet immediately after the Board adjourns. Shall we post the job in more places?

Today is Jilian's last day as Organizer.

SUN Project—Andy Hestness

The group has been assessing each member NA's strengths and weaknesses. Results forthcoming.

Andy recommended waiting to hire a Community Organizer until we can decide whether to share

Administrative & Programming functions with other SUN members, or even merging with another NA.

Jamary Hearn Shooting—Sara Luoma

Should BNA offer the family of the victim money to cover expenses? Andy cautioned against such an unprecedented gesture, and suggested contributions from board members instead of an official condolence. Shelby offered to collect pledges for the money, and set the minimum total at \$75.

Garage Sale—Jilian Clearman

Will take place on September 15, a Saturday.

Community Organizer's Report—Jilian Clearman

El Colegio turned in a Facade Improvement grant (the standing committee agreed to evaluate it).

Powderhorn NA will host a candidate forum on Oct. 20. All SUN Project Neighborhoods are invited.

Jilian's last day. She leaves with regrets, and impressed with the Organization.

New/Old Business—Sara Luoma

Evette: Wells Fargo has a new program. Shall a banker talk to the board about it? Yes.

Discussion about the Ice Cream Social: mixed reviews for the petting zoo; hiring Ashii to organize the event was a great success; we should get toilets next year.

Whitney moved to adjourn; Neal seconded. Adjourned, at 9:02 PM.