

Beechmont Neighborhood Association

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, January 21, 2008

MINUTES

Board Members Present: President Bob Starck, Julie Brackett, Gary Guss, Corey Koellner, Jeff Miller, Brian Moore, Rick Pickerill, Laura Speedie, Linda Taylor, Debbie Thompson, Jim Woodward

Board Members Absent: Dottie Krause, Elizabeth Meisburg

Guests Present: Councilman Dan Johnson, Det. Bo Hatfield, Lt. Greg Mitchell, Sgt. Mindy Zirnheld, Linda Guss, Donna Harper, Donna Pickerill, Vi Thompson

The January meeting of the Beechmont Neighborhood Association was held at Resurrection Episcopal Church due to the Martin Luther King holiday.

President Bob Starck called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. A quorum was present. Minutes of the November meeting and December meetings were approved (with several names added to the December minutes). Debbie Thompson presented the treasurer's report, indicating deposits of \$822.50, outputs of \$705.00, and a balance of \$5,627.18. The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Report from LMPD: Lt. Mitchell reviewed last month's crime statistics with the group, pointing out that the Beechmont beat had only 40 reported crimes, compared to much higher totals in surrounding areas. He mentioned community-wide problems with theft of copper, particularly from vacant houses; LMPD is trying to address the problem through scrap dealers.

Councilman Johnson suggested reaching out to attract more diverse participation in BNA as a way of improving the neighborhood association and perhaps addressing some problems.

Det. Hatfield reported on police activity in the area that has lead to arrest of a drug dealer who frequented the area. He also commented that the graffiti at the gazebo is likely the work of a copycat rather than actual gang activity but warned that it could be a predecessor to actual gang activity. The board is still considering several steps, including the possibility of security cameras, to deter vandalism at the gazebo and to aid in prosecution of vandals.

Election of Officers: The following slate of officers was elected without opposition for the 2008 calendar year:

- President—Bob Starck
- Vice President—Brian Moore
- Treasurer—Debbie Thompson
- Secretary—Julie Brackett

2008 Committee Assignments: The following volunteers were confirmed for committee assignments for the year:

- Nominating Committee chairperson—Jim Woodward
- Membership chairperson—Gary Guss; co-chair—Laura Speedie
- Beautification Committee chairperson—Jeff Miller; co-chairs—Liz Meisburg, Linda Taylor, Laura Speedie, Vi Thompson

- Publicity chairperson—Gary Guss
- Public Affairs chairperson—Linda Taylor; co-chair—Debbie Thompson
- Special Events—
 - Festival of Flowers chairperson—Laura Hosbach; co-chairs—Linda Taylor, Debbie Thompson
 - Mini-Marathon Breakfast chairperson—Corey Koellner; co-chair—Gary Guss
 - Finish Line Festival chairperson—Rick Pickerill; co-chair—Jeff Miller
 - Christmas on the Corner chairperson—Lara Hurt; co-chair—Liz Meisburg (to be confirmed)
 - Farmer's Market chairperson—Rick Pickerill; co-chairs—Donna Pickerill, Gary & Linda Guss
- Planning Committee chairperson—Julie Brackett; co-chair—Linda Taylor
- Business Committee chairperson—Corey Koellner; co-chair—Bob Starck

President's Report: Bob reported that he had met with Jimbo's Barbeque regarding a thank-you dinner for the firemen at the Ashland Firehouse; a date will be coordinated with the commander.

As a follow-up to last month's discussion and at the suggestion of Lt. Mitchell, it was moved, seconded and carried that BNA will provide \$50 annually to cover recognition during one month of the year for the 4th Division Officer of the Month for LMPD. In addition, BNA will provide snacks (e.g., pretzels, peppermints, etc.) to the officers monthly at a cost of \$10 or less per month; Rick Pickerill will purchase the snacks, and Gary Guss will produce labels to indicate that they are from BNA.

Bob asked Councilman Johnson to use his influence to encourage more active enforcement of parking violations by LMPD and IPL. In addition, he followed up regarding \$500 bond and funding for signage on the lot at Third and Florence; Councilman Johnson directed Bob to contact Ray Manley regarding those items.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m. The February meeting of the BNA board will be held on Monday, February 18, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Beechmont Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Brackett—Secretary