

West Andersonville Neighbors Together

Minutes of the Summer 2018 General Meeting June 20, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. Members present were Dianne Daleiden, Karen Hardy, Debby Pope and Miguel Trujillo. 21 people were in attendance.

Welcome and Introductions – Debby welcomed everyone and asked them to introduce themselves. Karen motioned to approve the minutes, with one correction. Debby seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – The total in the account is approximately \$7500. A complete report will be available after the yard sale.

Farmers Market – A table will be set up to advertise the yard sale and distribute maps. Debby Pope asked for volunteers to work at the table.

Sewers and Drainage Issues – The alderman requested a list of the addresses where there is a problem with drainage. We submitted the list in March, but have received no information since. A ticket is in with the Water Department.

Garden and Railroad Update – Maryon attended a meeting with the alderman and the contractor. They don't anticipate much damage to the garden. Originally, the garden was going to be used as a staging area, but that plan is no longer in place.

In other garden news, two weeks prior to this meeting, someone tried to set fire to the cottonwood tree.

Land Use and Zoning Committee – There are no new zoning requests, but there have been some questions about construction sites in the area, particularly 1630 W Gregory.

A question was raised about 5348 N Ashland, where there has been no work done. Dianne brought up that East Andersonville is in the process of deciding whether they will down-zone their area.

Charlene H. brought up numerous issues at 5323 N Paulina. The alderman's office has been notified, but nothing has been done. The neighbors would like WANT's support in getting help. Also, there appears to be someone living on the top floor of the vacant building at the northeast corner of Paulina and Summerdale.

Midsommarfest Report and Concerns – Midsommarfest was held on June 8-10. Due to rainy weather, the crowds were thin this year, except for Sunday afternoon.

The concerns include people relieving themselves on Paulina Street and a large amount of trash. We should ask the Chamber of Commerce to clean up the side streets, not just Clark. It was decided to send a nicely-worded letter to the Chamber regarding these issues.

Old Business – There were questions about the proposed garden between Berwyn and Foster. There are still issues with rats. Some allies were baited, but others need to be, particularly the alley west of Ashland from Berwyn to Catalpa.

New Business – At the CAPS meeting, police indicated that our police beat, 2012, shows a downward trend in crime.

Neumann Center is officially vacant.

Gerhart brought up the issue of the increase in property value assessments, which will result in many people not being able to afford living in the neighborhood. He requested to bring this up to the alderman's attention. Phil C. suggested that people file appeals. Dianne suggested to send a letter to the alderman (and a copy to Assessor Berrios) indicating our concerns regarding property taxes. Karen will draft the letter and share it with the Board.

Next Meeting - We will reach out to Waldorf School to hold our next meeting in their building.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.