

## West Andersonville Neighbors Together

Minutes of the Summer 2017 General Meeting  
Tuesday, June 27, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm. Members present were Josh Bucher, Karen Hardy, Deborah Pope and Miguel Trujillo.

Minutes – A motion was made and seconded to approve the previous meeting’s minutes. It was approved unanimously.

Membership Report - The mailbox has not been checked. A concern was raised that a member’s dues check has not been cashed.

Treasurer’s Report – The report was not available. Details of the yard sale were provided: There were 51 participants (5 fewer than last year), \$160 were collected in fees and \$111.35 were spent in printing the maps.

Garden Committee Report – Maryon reported that people have been coming out to help, around 15 individuals at the weekend, but poor participation on Wednesdays. Some people from BCO will be out on July 16 to help.

Someone planted an oak tree on the railroad property just South of our garden. That tree, if left there, will grow to over 50 feet in height.

A member in attendance brought up the issue of the dead trees at the corner of Summerdale and Paulina and asked who should be called about that. Jeff from BCO replied that the owner of the property where the tree is located is the one who needs to initiate the call.

Land Use and Zoning Committee Report – No activity. At the Summerdale Church site, a fence has been put up and permit signs have been posted.

Regarding the Trumbull building, Shannon from Alderman O’Connor’s office stated that Svigos is now the property owner. They have Type 1 zoning and can now move forward with the project, but, historically, they move slowly. Svigos negotiated the option to turn the property over to a private, non-charter school, but they would need a zoning change to put a school there.

The Edgewater Medical Center property is in the process of environmental remediation, which is a complicated process that involves the contractor, environmental experts, the city and the Park District. This is an on-going process.

Other issues that were brought up include the large amount of garbage on the street at Clark and Foster and that condominium/apartment buildings don’t have enough dumpsters causing overflowing of the existing dumpsters, which attracts rodents. It was suggested that the alderman’s office be contacted.

Also, it was brought up that the water fountains in the playlots were left running since April by the Park District in order to improve water quality. Parents complain because they can’t keep the children away from the fountains.

BCO - Jeff from the Bowmanville Community Organization, addressed our group and reported on the plan to have their garden and ours form a giant loop. BCO needs to raise \$50,000 by the end of summer to purchase the land. Presently they are at \$17,000. Debbie reiterated that we had agreed to match donations from WANT members to BCO up to \$500. There is also the possibility of doing a Hamburger Mary Bingo Night before the end of August to raise funds for the project. Karen asked if there would be any interest in giving \$1000 to BCO. Debbie replied that we have committed \$500 to match WANT members' donations. Karen suggested that we up our match to \$1000. Maryon indicated that this needs to be advertised as communication has been lacking.

Karen motioned to make a \$500 direct donation plus another \$500 in matching funds from neighbors in the WANT area. Maryon seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

Newsletter – A June newsletter was planned, but we couldn't get it printed on time. Help is needed with the newsletter. Many businesses on Clark Street don't want the hard copies delivered to them.

Debbie indicated that when she canvassed her precinct, she spoke with a lot of people; if we host a WANT event and invite them, we could get their email addresses and increase personal contact.

Josh proposed that we establish a calendar of meetings for the year. The proposed next date is September 21, location to be determined. We will plan the schedule off meetings for the entire year by the next meeting.

Bridget suggested that we notify the community that the newsletter "Will no longer come to your mailbox, but, instead, will come to your email box."

A Coffee in the Garden was suggested. Bridget recommended that it should happen relatively soon in order to showcase the matching funds project for BCO. The proposed date for the Coffee in the Garden is August 13

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.