

West Andersonville Neighbors Together

Minutes of the Spring 2017 General Meeting
Thursday, March 30, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. Members present were Josh Bucher, Dianne Daleiden, Deborah Pope and Miguel Trujillo.

Membership Update - It was announced that there are vacancies on the board, that membership is low and the Cameron Krieger has stayed on and will be working on membership.

Treasurer's Report – We did not have a Treasurer Report, but it was announced that the account balance is approximately \$12, 000. A question was raised about potential issues with businesses who paid for advertising in the newsletter and the newsletter will not be there.

At this point Shannon, a representative from Alderman O'Connor's office was introduced.

Garden Committee Report – Maryon distributed a flyer regarding the garden and spoke about the work in the garden in February and March, where about 20 volunteers came out. The next day to work in the garden will be April 22. The Garden is getting a lot of use. Bowmanville Community Organization wants to expand their garden on the West side of the Metra tracks and connect it with ours.

Land Use and Zoning Committee Report – A developer has made a request to upzone the property at 5348 N Ashland to build a three flat building. This zoning change would be from R3 to R425. The committee approved this request, but did not approve the use of cinder blocks for the facade.

In January, the committee met with the Chicago Dance Ensemble Theater, which meets at Ebenezer Church. The committee approved to allow them to do theater performances, which will give the ensemble the opportunity to apply for grants. There are no parking issues.

There is no news on the Paulina/Balmoral site.

The Edgewater Medical Center buildings have started to come down. The project is moving forward.

The Summerdale Church was torn down and sold to a developer, who plans to build two single family homes. This developer has built other properties in the area.

Dianne brought up the issue of illegal dumping at the space behind the Ward Yard in Bowmanville. This is being done in the middle of the night. The representative from the alderman's office will alert the alderman and will follow up.

Regarding the Trumbull building, the alderman's representative stated that Svigos was in talks with CPS to make changes to the plan to allow Svigos to sell to a private, non-charter school if they cannot find a theater partner. The amendment is scheduled to be on the agenda for the CPS April meeting, but CPS is stalling. The Alderman's Office will keep us updated.

Newsletter – The printed newsletter requires a lot of volunteers and is very costly. Due to present circumstances, the newsletter will be cut to two issues this year (summer and winter). A proposal will be offered to businesses so they can advertise on our website, as well as on the monthly email.

Debbie Pope motioned that we vote on a new newsletter format. Dianne Daleiden seconded. The motion was approved 13-2.

Refugee One – The Board agreed to have WANT sponsor a family . It would take \$6000 to \$8000 to get them set up.

Dina suggested that we collect used coats or something similar in order to help more than one family. This would be a way to come together as a group to show that we are a welcoming/diverse community.

Debbie Pope motioned to form a committee, meet, make a plan and write a detailed report for the next meeting. Maryon seconded. The motioned was approved unanimously.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.