

Date: June 11, 2024

Location: Kenwood Community Center

Time Meeting Called to Order After Quorum: 7:02PM

Board Members Present: Sue Westerman (Treasurer); Jonathan Suk (Secretary); Anne Nelson; Jackie Brown-Baylor; Sarah Grundhoefer; Will Stancil; Holly Ebener; Matt Ludt; Sheldon Sturgis; Bob Kaufman; Betsy Beck; and Henry Hallaway

Other Attendees: Will Goodnow (outgoing Acting President); David Bjork (outgoing board member); and Fran Davis (outgoing board member)

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

The May 7, 2024 meeting minutes, which had been distributed by email in advance of the meeting, were presented to the board, and after discussion, the meeting minutes were approved.

Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

The board members engaged in a discussion about the June 4, 2024 annual meeting, with topics including (i) venue choice (generally positive feedback about First Unitarian and attendance in 2024 vs. 2023), (ii) refreshments (generally positive feedback, except for recommendations to purchase more food in 2025 and to consider moving the refreshments into the hallway at First Unitarian), (iii) speakers (generally positive feedback, with a recommendation to encourage all speakers to use slides in the future) and (iv) general planning/process (including recommendations to continue sending the mailer in future years, continue providing giveaways at the meeting and have multiple board members speak at future meetings about their areas of expertise on the LHNA board).

The board members also discussed conducting outreach to annual meeting attendees to solicit their feedback about the meeting and the pre-meeting advertising (what worked, what didn't, etc.). The board members also discussed the possibility of sending a year-end survey to all residents to solicit feedback on a wider variety of issues, including LHNA board priorities for the following calendar year.

Finally, the board members discussed initial planning for the 2025 annual meeting, with consideration given to holding the meeting on either May 20 or June 3, depending on a variety of factors (including First Unitarian's availability), which the board members agree to discuss further in the fall.

Events

Jackie Brown-Baylor and Anne Nelson then led the board in a discussion about upcoming events, including the July ice cream social at Thomas Lowry Park, the August

fishing outing at Ceder Lake, the September/October concerts at Thomas Lowry Park, a July League of Women Voters' candidate forum and a potential Hennepin Avenue event being planned by Council Member Katie Cashman. After discussion, the board approved spending up to \$5,000 on events through the end of October 2024.

Treasurer's Report

Sue Westerman provided a financial update and led the board in a discussion about 2023 spending, the 2024 budget, 2024 spending to-date and potential uses of additional available funds. The board members also discussed upcoming deliverables and other required coordination with the city.

Governance

The board engaged in a discussion about governance for the upcoming year, and after discussion, Anne Nelson was elected as President, Sarah Grundhoefer was elected as Vice President, Sue Westerman was re-elected as Treasurer and Jonathan Suk was re-elected as Secretary, each for a one-year term.

The board then discussed committee assignments for the upcoming year, with (a) Sue Westerman, Bob Kaufman and Sheldon Sturgis agreeing to serve on the Crime and Safety Committee, (b) Jackie Brown-Baylor and Henry Hallaway agreeing to serve on the Events Committee, (c) Matt Ludt and Sheldon Sturgis agreeing to serve on the Governance Committee, (d) Matt Ludt and Sue Westerman agreeing to serve on the Zoning Committee, (e) Holly Ebener and Greta Chizek (in absentia) agreeing to serve on the Communications Committee, (f) Betsy Beck agreeing to serve on the newly formed Neighborhood Priorities Committee and (g) Holly Ebener and Greta Chizek (in absentia) agreeing to serve on the newly formed Green Committee.

Crime & Safety Update

Sue Westerman provided an update on the upcoming neighborhood safety walk (June 15) and an overview of the May 2024 crime statistics, which had been distributed by email in advance of the meeting.

Grant Programs

Will Stencil provided an update on the façade improvement grants, again raising the possibility of the LHNA providing matching grants to further incentivize participation in the program, and answered questions by the board members about the same.

As there was no further business,

Meeting adjourned by Anne Nelson at 8:33PM by motion carried.

Definitions

LHNA: Lowry Hill Neighborhood Association

The next LHNA Board Meeting will be held in-person at the Kenwood Community Center on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 7PM.

Minutes by Jonathan Suk
Secretary, LHNA Board