



HWEN Minutes, May 7, 2018

Members Present: Mary Crichton, Nora Liggett, Jim Redwine, Susan Schipani, Wesley Wilson, Ann Toplovich, Paul Picelli, Jan Bushing, Margaret Phillips, Andrew Lange, Chris Carpenter, Tom Cash, Mickey Panucci, Martha Stinson, Phil Ryan, Jenny Cheng, J. D. Thomas, Tom Grooms, Mary Skinner, Bob Passaretti

Guest: Councilmember Burkley Allen

1. The April minutes were read and approved.
2. The **Treasurer's Report**, along with a statement of financial position, was distributed. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

3. Committee Reports

- a. **Dragon Reopening Celebration**-Phil passed around a signup sheet for the event on May 20. Discussion ensued about the amount of ice-cream needed and whether or not to add ice-cream sandwiches this year. Martha reported that the event will begin around 4:00 and end by 6:30. The dragon will be roped off with construction tape, with big bows around its neck. Metro Parks can lend us a sound system to use in the dragon area. We'll need a podium and folding chairs. Tom will be the announcer, calling the children up to dragon when the mayor cuts the ribbon. He will recognize the Metro officials and craftsmen involved in the project. In addition to the Mayor, a representative from Vanderbilt will speak. The Arcade will offer temporary tatoos, and the Little Art House will set up a table for arts for the children. There will also be door prizes.

Jan reported that they are finishing the resurfacing now and will keep the fence up until next week. She said that we will have enough money when it is finished to give bonuses to the workers. Discussion ensued about the amount of the bonuses, and we decided to table it until June when we know the final expenses.

Martha reported that an account has been set up by Anne Roos and her husband through the Community Foundation to provide maintenance of the dragon.

- b. **Beautification**- Wesley said the Plant Swap was successful, in spite of rain with around 35 people attending. We passed a motion to reimburse Susan for the cost of 20 signs used for the Plant Swap. The signs can be used again. The trees in the Triangle were mulched recently. On Earth Day we had a lot of volunteers picking up garbage around the neighborhood. They also weeded the Triangle. We are continuing to make plans for the mutt mitts.

- c. **Communications**-Mary said donations have been coming in through the envelope enclosed in the last newsletter. Tom suggested making changes to the content and design of our website. He said that it has a lot of deferred maintenance. The recent survey showed that many people in the neighborhood are unfamiliar with the website.
 - d. **Streets**- Metro has been collecting data from the Walking District and we should be getting a report from that in the next month. We've heard from Vanderbilt officials that they are lowering speed limits on the streets that they control in order to unofficially expand the Walking District. Plans to pursue putting speed bumps on Westwood Ave. have been put on hold because of lack of vocal support from neighbors on the street
 - e. **Zoning and Code**-Chris Carpenter reported recent zoning appeals in the neighborhood. He said that The Continental now has a gate blocking the alley. Tom reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals has begun to ease restrictions on short-term rental owners found guilty of operating without permits. Instead of being prohibited from operating for a year, many short-term rental owners are restricted for a shorter time. We discussed a bill passed by the state saying that cities have to grandfather in owners of short-term rentals who have permits, whether they live there or not.
4. **Council Report**- Allen reported the following: Metro is forming a committee of neighbors and developers to come up with a comprehensive plan concerning the use and density of 21st Avenue South. Plans for the potential high-density, mixed project at Murphy Road are continuing. Overflowing trash cans continue to be a problem on Love Circle. There aren't enough trash cans. We need to get volunteers to put in extra garbage cans.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Crichton.

