

**West End Civic Association and NRZ  
Board Meeting Minutes  
United Methodist Church  
January 9, 2018**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kyle Bergquist, Lakisher Hurst, Bongi Magubane, Ed McEachin, Roger Minor, Cindy Courtney, Guy Neumann, Max Condron, Angela Pomfret, Jan Klein, Jon Esmail, Dave Jorgenson, Dorothy Lovett Buckley, David Klein

**ALSO PRESENT:** Guests Officer Sherbo, Janice Castle, Marielina Lima and residents.

**Welcome and Introductions:** Bongi welcomed members of the community and asked the Board to introduce themselves. The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

**Financial report:** David Klein reported that 2017 came in close to what was planned. We are still waiting on a payment from Wholesome Wave, and are expecting it by April or May.

For the 2018 budget, the committee chairs are asked what amount of money they believe they need and what they hope to raise. The anticipated income is a little over \$35,000. David summarized operating expenses (insurance, facility fee, mailing expenses including the newsletter for two editions.) We need a new database program and a person to implement and set it up. Lindsay Ewing volunteered to work on identifying and setting up a database.

Some committee requests could not be funded at the level requested because income is reduced. Membership and DineAround are both smaller than in previous years and will bring in less income. Efforts were made to reduce requested funding on an equitable basis.

Summary of requests:

- Beautification and planting: This award was previously \$3000. The committee currently has no chair. David stated that \$500 has been earmarked for this committee.
- Public Safety: The chair asked for and received \$2000 for the decoy car project.
- Architectural history: This committee's work has been taken over by Planning and Zoning.
- Farmers' market: Previously there has been a \$6000 allocation. The WECA board wants to see a budget before this is allocated, but \$6000 has been earmarked for the market.
- Education: Suzann Beckett requested \$3500 and the committee was given \$2500 to support the chess program and Noah Webster programs.
- Community Engagement: Joann Bauer requested \$4500; we are matching last year's budget of \$2200.
- Planning and Zoning requested and received \$600.

- Movies: Evergreen movies will not be held this year because they were poorly attended this past year.
- GRANTS: \$6000 will go to recipients that in the past have included Camp Courant and concerts in Elizabeth Park.

There is a budget deficit of \$4600. However, not all of the committees use the money, and David stated that accordingly, the committee is comfortable having some deficit.

The budget was unanimously adopted.

**Farmers Market:** Eileen Buell reported that there is a tentative committee, and it is working on a budget. Jonathan Janeway and Charlotte Ross are leading the committee. The Market has obtained a grant of \$6000 from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The committee is soliciting fundraising ideas. A hiring committee is being formed to look for a market master.

**Newsletter:** David Klein reported that Kurt Malec circulated a proposal to the board that two newsletters be sent through the post office.

**Planning and Zoning:** The Director of Development Services is resigning, but it is hoped that other staff will remain. There are no current issues to be resolved, so there is no committee meeting scheduled.

- 544 Prospect, a boardinghouse, has been put on the market. It is being marketed as a multi-family house. There is now a rule that an owner must live in a dwelling to run it as a boardinghouse.
- 230 Scarborough, the medical society building, was purchased by a church some time ago. They have hired an architect.
- The owner of 268-270 Oxford was not happy with the recent decision not to allow him to convert his two car garage to a three car garage.

**DineAround:** The DineAround is on trend to be a little smaller this year—from 290 participants to about 246.

### **Guests:**

Marielina Lima from the Hartford Food System spoke about the Community Food Security Awards given on March 21, 2018 at the Center for Contemporary Culture, Hartford Public Library.

Officer Sherbo reported that December's burglary rate had been lower than recent months. There was a shots fired incident and an assault at a gas station. There was a robbery at the corner of Sisson and Farmington.

Janice Castle:

- The bus stops have not been shoveled out; she is trying to contact maintenance about it.
- Regarding bulky items and scheduling a pickup: residents of two family units get 2 pickups.
- There are free tax services for lower income residents.
- Disney on Ice is coming to town and discounted passes are available.

There were no sector representative reports.