

Woodley Park Community Association Executive Board May Meeting

May 6, 2009

7:30 PM

**The Rockefeller Room
Stanford in Washington DC Center**

Present:

Jay Sushelsky

Barbara Ioanes

Peter Brusoe

Denny Clements

Warren Gorlick (and daughters)

Tamora Ilasat

Bill Menczer

Jenelle Dennis

John Goodman

Michelle Fox (Outreach and Service Specialist, Ward 3)

Anne-Marie Bairstow (ANC3C03 and Chair of the ANC)

Lee Brian Reba (ANC3C01)

Nicholas Thorpe (Serve DC)

Called to order:

Jay Sushelsky welcomed everyone and thanked all for coming. He noted that Bill Kummings (ANC3c02 commissioner) was home preparing for surgery and Bruce Forrest (WPCA Treasurer) was feeling under the weather. The board expressed its hope for a successful surgery and quick recovery for both.

Minutes:

The board reviewed the minutes distributed by Peter Brusoe. Bill Menczer moved their acceptance, Sushelsky seconded and the body accepted them unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

The board reviewed the treasurer's report sent electronically by Forrest. The Board voted to accept it. Barbara Ioanes requested that in the future disbursements also be included into the report, for example, the Federation Dinner check.

Federation Dinner:

The Federation of Citizens Group's banquet is scheduled May 12th 2009, with several WPCA members attending.

MPD District 2 Appreciation Dinner:

Menczer updated the group on the MPD District 2 annual awards banquet. It was voted that the WPCA purchase four tickets for the event and look at other ways to thank our dedicated police officers for their hard work on behalf of the community.

Call Box Project:

Tamora Ilasat reported on the call box painting project. The rain over the past few weeks has seriously delayed this project. In doing some preparation work on the call boxes it was noted that they were not prepared well the first time that it was done and it would be necessary to have them specially sand blasted. Ilasat reported that when Cleveland Park did their call boxes they used a company which sandblasted the call boxes, primed them and prepared them for painting. It would cost about \$100 per call box and \$200 for transport. Given that we have eight call boxes, \$1,000 will be needed for the project. Additionally the board asked about controlling for lead based paint that may be on the call boxes. Ilasat said she would look into it. The board moved to authorize \$1,200 for the project.

A follow up conversation occurred about what permission from the city may be required in order to undertake the project. Since the city technically owns the boxes we should consult to see what the rules are to repaint these boxes. Michelle Fox, Ward 3 Outreach and Service Specialist, offered to look into this matter for the board and to research what permits, if any, may be needed.

The board thanked Ilasat for her work and continued dedication to this project.

Website:

Brusoe distributed a revised request for proposals for the Woodley Park website. A discussion of content on the proposal occurred with changes and markups to the proposal. A timeline was discussed where Brusoe would revise the proposal, send it out to the board for comment, with intended distribution starting on May 11, 2009.

Several questions came up on the proposal including the need for a new website. Brusoe explained that it would be helpful to be able to have a more user friendly system that allows for web 2.0 features, as well as additional features not originally used.

Community Emergency Response Team:

Nicholas Thorpe from the ServeDC Office came to address the association about the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Neighborhood Corps Program. These programs provide training to the community and neighborhood in case of an emergency and to assist first responders. Thorpe distributed several documents and packets on training programs. His office is currently developing a dedicated corps in each neighborhood. If a group is able to get 20 people together the Mayor's office is able to provide direct training to the group at a location of their choosing, rather than in downtown.

Sushelsky asked Menczer to consider whether Neighborhood Watch might be a suitable vehicle to bring the program to the neighborhood and to explore options for doing so through the Neighborhood Watch program.

Kilborne Talk:

Jenelle Dennis reported on the talk by Al Kilborne at the Maret School on April 4th 2009. The talk was well attended with over 30 neighbors showing up. All of the board members that attended commented on how much they enjoyed it and how much positive feedback the Association received from it. WPCA also purchased several copies of the book that Bill Menczer will hold on to for the Association.

Summer Solstice Picnic

Tamora Ilasat gave the committee report about the plans for the Summer Solstice Picnic. (NOTE: Tamora if you could email that so I can append it that would be amazing). Plans are still going forward for having it on June 20th from 4-8 PM. (check?) with a rain date of the 21st. Ilasat recommended and the Board voted to purchase additional T-shirts provided that the shirts are "sweat free"/American made. Ilasat also talked about the desire to have a banner for Woodley Park. It was agreed that the meeting will take place around 4:45PM at the Summer Solstice Picnic. Details are still being worked out and there will be a committee meeting soon.

There was a discussion about advertising for the event. There would be promotion in the *Acorn* as well as in the neighborhood apartment buildings. It was decided not to promote the event through the schools or the Cleveland Park Library because it might attract too many non-Woodley Park residents.

The board thanked Ilasat for her and her committee's hard work.

AAHSA:

WPCA received a response back from AAHSA regarding their parking garage. It has been turned over to Jenelle Dennis for her review. There will be a committee discussion before sending our response.

Acorn:

Jay Sushelsky talked about the upcoming issue of the *Acorn* and asked that those who promised him articles to please have them turned in soon. A discussion of ads occurred about whether or not we will have them or not. It was decided that yes, the *Acorn* will welcome ads. Brusoe volunteered to coordinate the ads.

Essay Contest:

The board discussed the essay contest as proposed by Brusoe. It was decided not to approve the proposal, and to look at other ways to help serve the community.

Bicycle Racks:

Brusoe proposed that the Association sponsor the placement of several bike racks on Woodley Road, and 29th street to help accommodate bicyclists coming in and out of the neighborhood. Fox indicated the DC government could provide them if there was a need/request from the community. Bill Menczer volunteered to write an e-mail to Fox

indicating the need for such racks as did Bruscoe and Sushelsky. Fox agreed to check into this issue and to respond to Sushelsky.

Triangle Park:

The 2800 Woodley Building is considering sponsoring a clean up on May 17 from 9AM to Noon of the Triangle Park located on 29th and Woodley Road. Elizabeth Franklin and Nan Simpson were working on the details. John Goodman asked the Board to approve up to \$300 of Association funds to pay for planting and necessary materials for Triangle Park for spring, 2009, which the Board did.

Circulator Bus:

Barbara Ioanes talked about some concerns with the Circulator bus. Currently there are several individuals who park their vehicles in the lot by the metro and she hopes that will not happen in the future. Bairstow reported that she believed that they were the supervisors and since the Circulator route is new they have been observing it more.

Traffic with the Hotels:

The group discussed a recent email from Sally MacDonald concerning traffic congestion originating from the Marriott and the Omni-Shorham. It was discussed that on the Monday in question several very high profile individuals were at the hotels. Bill Menczer said that he would talk with our MPD community relations officer about possibly getting advanced notice about major events that may disrupt traffic. Board members acknowledged that high security events would not likely result in our advance notice.

ANC Reports:

Bill Kummings was preparing for a surgery and was unable to attend.

Lee Brian Reba: No report.

Anne-Marie Bairstow: Bairstow reported that Debonair Cleaners is looking at building a four story apartment complex over the current parking lot and that more information will be forth coming.

There was no further business.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.