

Urban Neighbors Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 1, 2009
Marriott Residents Inn, 400 E Sheridan, Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Present: Paige Gregory, Mark Gibbs, Trey Holmes, Steven Newlon, Brett Price, David Remy, Dick Rodine, Holly Shelton, A.J. Winters
Absent: Jeff Bezdek, Brett Price
Also Present: Karen Arbogast, UN Administrative Assistant

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 PM by David Remy, UN President.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August 4, 2009 UN Board Meeting were approved as distributed with no amendments or adjustments.

III. Financial Report

Trey Holmes gave the financial report for August 2009, noting that although he had not been able to access the August bank statement, no changes were expected. There were no corrections or adjustments noted; therefore, the report will be filed for the Audit Committee to review at a later date.

IV. Membership Report

Holly discussed the 28 new memberships that Shelley Pruitt had sent her. After further discussion regarding the memberships it was decided that Holly Shelton would provide David Remy with Shelley's address so that he could write her a thank you note.

Karen reported that she had been working with Linda Simpson-McDermid regarding a modified membership list that Linda and the Membership Committee could work with. Mark Gibbs noted that membership renewals continue to move forward slowly.

V. Social Report

Holly Shelton gave the social report. She gave a recap of the successful Vodka Dinner which was held at the Skirvin in August. She reported on the upcoming events which included the September Social at the Museum of Art and the October Social which would be at the Courtyard Marriott. The Ambassador Awards Presentation will be moved to the November Social, likely to be at Untitled[ArtSpace]. A Tequila Dinner organized by A.J. Winters will be held at 1492 on September 29, 2009. Steven Newlon mentioned having a Social at the Bricktown Candy Store. Steven is going to send Holly his contact so that she can discuss details with them. He also mentioned supporting IAO if possible and encouraging downtown businesses to use Wingo was recommended in general.

Dick Rodine suggested that something be done to get new members to the Socials and a way to identify first time members so that they can be made welcome. David recommended using different colored name tags. Mark Gibbs emphasized the importance of all Board Members to make sure they all speak with new attendees at all Socials, rather than just themselves. The Membership Committee will address the issue with a proposed plan.

VI. Marketing Report

Paige Gregory has sent out the newsletter via the new EMMA email system which provides good data on the results of a mailing. She reported that a total of 1234 emails were sent out. 1059 of those actually went through, 40% were opened, 37% were clicked through, 8 opted out and 4 forwarded the email. She also reported that the current website poll had a low response.

VII. Old Business

David Remy has updated the brochure with notes from the previous board meeting. He will be sending this final draft out for the final vote this month.

Membership Renewal – Karen is working through the membership list. The responses are sparse.

Sponsorship Levels – The final sponsorship levels will be sent out by David Remy this month for vote. Advertising, such as in the email newsletter, will not now be offered separately but as part of sponsorship levels.

Policy for Businesses Outside of our Boundaries – The Membership Committee is working on a policy that fits with their recruiting efforts.

Downtown School – David Remy could not recall where this item had been left. It seemed that Jeff Bezdek was going to get in touch with his contact on this issue.

Committee Chairs – The Executive Committee is going to meet this month to nominate chairs for various committees.

Ambassador Award – The presentations will be moved to November. Holly Shelton will notify John Williams and David Remy will notify Avis Scaramucci.

VIII. New Business

Dick Rodine will contact Jane Jenkins regarding the Train Noise issue.

Trey Holmes is going to mail in our \$300 membership renewal for the Oklahoma City of Chamber of Commerce.

IX. Announcements

The Transit Forum with the Mayor will be at the Skirvin on September 17.

X. Adjourn

David Remy adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Karen Arbogast, Urban Neighbors Administrative Assistant