

Urban Neighbors Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 4, 2007

Sperry Van Ness Offices, Chase Tower, 100 N Broadway, Ste 2525, OKC, OK 73102

Present: Brian Engel, Mark Gibbs, Paige Gregory, Brian Hammond, Steven Newlon, Brett Price, David Remy (arrived late), Holly Shelton.

Absent: Jeff Bezdek, Andy Burnett, Robert Robles

Guest: Maria Epperson of *aClickUp*

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by Brett Price, UN President.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 6, 2007 UN Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

III. Social Committee Report

Holly Shelton reported on publicity and preparations for the upcoming December Christmas Party at the new Red Pin Bowling Alley on Thursday, December 13, 2007. Having a flyer available at the door with a list of UN updates and reports as well as a request for feedback from members on what issues were important to them was proposed. Mark Gibbs reported that he had secured commitment from Lanc Gross, Bicycle Planner, City of OKC, to speak at the January 2008 Social. Mark Gibbs would also present an update on the Rack Up Downtown project at that meeting. Approval was given by the Board to send Christmas cards to the hosts of socials, key supporters of the UN and all UN members.

IV. Website Update

A presentation was given by Maria Epperson on a turnkey proposal to develop a scalable website and to manage marketing and billing of advertisers which stimulated detailed and wide ranging questions from the Board. Once she left, the general conclusion of further Board discussion was to continue pursuing this project. A current, well-maintained calendar of Downtown events was seen as important to attracting visitors and offering a viable proposition to advertisers, so providing an important revenue stream. Securing sponsorship to cover upfront website design costs was not seen as a major obstacle, whereas the trial development of a prototype calendar would be an important step for the project. It was suggested that the proposed "UN update door flyer" at socials could specifically ask members what they would want to see in such a calendar. Paige Gregory, Chair of the Marketing & Communications Committee, was encouraged to recruit volunteers to help with compiling content for the calendar.

V. Membership Committee Report

Brian Hammond reported that he had not convened a meeting of the Membership Committee yet but he presented a list of notes and thoughts on issues that would face the committee. Mark Gibbs said he and his wife would meet shortly with Brian to move things forward.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Not given since Robert Robles was not present, though it was understood that the bank balance was around \$600.

- VII.** Draft UN By-Laws..... Brett Price
 Brett Price invited all Board members to review the current draft version of the UN By-Laws and to send comments to Mark Gibbs who will compile a new draft. Paige Gregory recommended that that latest draft be given to Georgie Rasco of Neighborhood Alliance for review. This draft will be presented to the Board at its January meeting where any outstanding issues can be voted upon. Once approved by the Board, the Draft By-Laws will then be presented for review to the Membership at the January 2008 Social Meeting with a recommendation for approval at a business meeting during the February 2008 Social Meeting.
- VIII.** UN Membership Card
 As a way of creating a benefit for becoming a UN member, the Board recommended that previous versions of a discount card for Downtown restaurants and businesses be reviewed.
- IX.** New Business
 The Board discussed the Downtown community’s general perception and enthusiasm for Urban Neighbors, as well as the strong potential for growth of the organization. The longer term need for a fulltime Executive Director was noted.
- X.** Adjourn
 The meeting was adjourned by Brett Price at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

 Mark Gibbs, Secretary