

Urban Neighbors Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

Jim Thorpe Conference Room, Downtown Library, 300 Park Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Present: Bose' Akadiri (arrived late), Jeff Bezdek, Mark Gibbs, Paige Gregory, Trey Holmes, Steven Newlon, Brett Price, David Remy, Dick Rodine, A.J. Winters

Absent: Holly Shelton

Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by Brett Price, UN President.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 3, 2009 UN Board Meeting were approved.

III. Financial Report

Mark Gibbs delivered the Financial Report for February 2009.

IV. Update on Hiring an Administrative Assistant

Brett Price reported that he had sent Karen Arbogast a list of additional duties to be added to her proposed agreement with Urban Neighbors and hoped this could be completed soon.

V. Membership Report

Mark Gibbs briefly reported on the current membership numbers – 69 Resident, 41 Associates and 35 Businesses. He emphasized the pressing need to focus on membership renewals and discussed how the process would proceed. He also encouraged the Board to renew their membership quickly.

VI. Social Report

Holly Shelton was not present but it was reported that the March Social would be one week later than normal on Thursday, March 19. Mickey Clagg of Midtown Renaissance will speak at the April 9 Social at the Mercedes dealership and the May 14 Social will be at the Mid-Town Deli.

VII. Marketing Report

Paige Gregory said she would issue a news release about the election of the new Board Officers. She reported that Chuck Ainsworth had found the information collected by the poll on the UN Website about the Candy Factory to be very useful. Two UN relay teams are planned for the Oklahoma City Marathon and a block will be reserved for UN members to congregate and support the race. The idea of "Adopt A Street" was mentioned with the useful attendant publicity of Urban Neighbors appearing on a street sign. A discussion on recruiting Downtown developers then ensued.

VIII. Purchase of Bulk Email Service

After discussion (including about the importance of email communication to the UN), the Board voted unanimously to ***approve the purchase and recurrent monthly charges for the higher ("Emma") of the three bulk email options presented.***

IX. Election of Board Officers

David Remy, Paige Gregory and Trey Holmes were elected as President, Vice-President and Treasurer, respectively. With no nominations received, Mark Gibbs remained in office as Secretary.

X. New Business

Jeff Bezdek raised a potential issue of concern about Urban Neighbors' relationship with the Deep Deuce Apartments. It was agreed that the President and Vice President would make a personal visit to mend any fences and apologize on behalf of the Board for any possible misunderstanding that may have occurred.

The upcoming DOKC Downtown Home Tour, how Urban Neighbors should be involved, and which aspects of the Tour were important to the UN was discussed. Steven Newlon offered to chair a UN Home Tour Committee and the Board was encouraged to send ideas to him.

XI. Announcements

Mark Gibbs briefly reported on the Downtown Strategic Initiative (DSI). Bose' Akadiri reported that Shauna George of Spirit Bank was sorry they had scheduled an event at the Oklahoma Heritage Center that clashed with an Urban Neighbors event. Bose' Akadiri noted that it was pleasing that Spirit Bank were planning around UN events.

XII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Brett Price at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Mark Gibbs, Secretary