WPA General Monthly Meeting Minutes 5.6.13

Meeting Called by: Terri Neuner

Facilitator: Nick Caballero

Time Keeper: Terri Neuner

Type of Meeting: WPA General Monthly Meeting

Minute Taker: Terri Neuner

Quorum obtained

Call to order 7:32pm

Attendees:

Nick Caballero – President

Wendy Paul – Vice President

Terri Neuner – Secretary

Susana Latorre – Trustee

Mory Thomas – Trustee

Lisa Blando – Trustee

Craig Hanlon – Trustee

Ellen Pelli – M

Marcus Pelli – M

Mike Carlock – G

Ann Antol – G

Michael Yun – G

Dave Calton - G

Theresa Haywood – G

Leigh Gonzalez – G

Rev. Mario Gonzalez – G

Lindsey Brown – G

Jake Blakinger – G

Al Anton – G

Grace Giron – G

Kenya Rivera – G

Ron Ferguson – M

Peter Aquinde – M

Sean Connelly – G

Kevin Kelum – G

S. Chin – G

W. Dietz – G

Leigh Gonzalez – G

Peter Basso – M

President’s reports –

- Peter Basso and I met with the County Park's Division and MKW twice to continue executing on the Green Acres Grant

- Led the Planning and execution of the WPA and Loew's Annual Fundraiser, Special thanks to all the Trustees and Advisors for your assistance with our successful fundraiser

- Led the planning and execution of our Earth Day Maintenance program where 70 local volunteers attended

- Rescheduled our annual planting program for June 1, 2013

- Met with the County Parks Division to plan the Movies in the Park details

- Documented the results of the Big Dig in Full Bloom

Vice President’s Report-

      Assisted with fundraiser mailer, stuffing envelopes and promotion during the month

·      Consolidated our mailing list addresses to one document.  Will work with Katherine Crawford Gray to have all info electronically in one location for future mailings

·      April 27 assisted with garden cleanup

·      Assisted with set up day before fundraiser

·      Coordinated chef introduction for food items and coordinated volunteers of culinary students with Hudson County Community College with Mory Thomas

Secretary report –

Events Committee Meeting held April 14th to discuss the following items:

* Annual Fundraiser at the Loews
* Planting in the Park April 27th
* Goldman Sachs Community Team works to be held May 31
* Planting in the park June 1st

Agenda and Minutes are posted on the meet up website.

Attended Captains meeting – walking the beat,

Attended the Council at Large Candidate Forum April 18th

Attended the Reservoir Spring Fund Raiser April 27th

Attended the first Farmers Market of the season at Riverview Park/ Mory Thomas provided food demo – Lovely Spring Slaw

Don’t forget to get out there and vote! May 14th

Please be sure to sign in!!

50/50 Tickets are available $1.00 each

Today is Craig Hanlon’s Bday~

Treasurers Report

Financial Statements

**Report for Q1 2013**

The first quarter for WPA is historically quiet and the Q1 financial report reflects a low level of activity. Revenue $9277 - County of Hudson grant for Washington Park Live! Expenses $1553

Net Income $7,043

Revenue breakdown – Local Government Grants ($7375); Corporate Donation ($500); Individual Donations & Membership ($340)

Expenses breakdown – Insurance, Business Registration ($600); Postage, Printing, Supplies ($250)

**April Report**

There was very little activity in April. We sold some tickets to our May Wine Tasting Fundraiser, and raised some fund from the 50/50. Net income for April was $560

**May Report**

Given that we had our largest fundraising event of the year on May 2, we are happy to report some preliminary numbers for funds raised. We estimate that, align with our partners, Friends of the Loew’s, we raised: $6600 in ticket sales

$2,800 in silent auction items Total raised $9,400. After expenses have been deducted, all proceeds will be split with the Friends of the Loew’s on a 50/50 basis.

- Katherine Crawford-Gray Treasurer

Officer Dave Calton –

Stats –

Burglaries – 16 automobiles

2 arrests –

Commercial 2

Residential – 20 -0 in WPA area

Robberies 14 -0 in WPA area

Security if windows open – Motion sensors

Vehicle safety – GPS please hide all belongings

Griffith street shooting – 70 YO grazed

Still active investigation

Bob B. - Stop sign South and Cambridge missing

Graffiti – Getting better

Capt Martinez,

Teresa Haywood- Quality of life

Status of 671 Palisade? – Same

Getty Graffiti

Candidate Q/A

Facilitator - Mory Thomas

Time Keeper – Mory Thomas

Sean Connors – State assemblymen – BOE – moved to Heights 2000, chose to move to heights, Church, little league, Work ethic stands for itself- Work for 12 months January to December. Team Fulop. Loves JC – Not just a filler on a tickets.

Grace Giron –

Business Profession – Medical Legal Industry BA – Marketing Degree- Homeless- Parents care Movement – Bridge Gap btwn parents/ Educations: Principal for school 27. 1 YO and 10 YO.

Mario Gonzales – Resident 18 years – Married 32 – Corp experience – Lockhead Martin- Cordoba Law School – Built hope center – Arts academy – Preschool- Food pantry – Help community in crisis – 9/11 Extend what he does to the community. Help in what ever way he can. In public service.

Michael Yun – Business owner 32 years – from Brooklyn- JC Heights is hometown. Protected by good people. SID president. Good shopping district. Kids have work. PS 20 school – Involved in saving Reservoir 3. Our downtown. Save Christ Hospital. Preserve jobs in the area.

Vision for the heights

Grace Giron –

Teamwork – work closely to associations – What are pain points? Not a one-person problem solve – need the input – Homeowner taxes, business in Ward D, plan business are sustainable. Incubators, safety with the police, parking and transportation, senior’s affairs- treated ok. Family member, business owner.

Michael Yun – 15 minutes from NYC – Improve mass transportation to NYC – open space, reservoir 3, public safety. Safe to walk after 7pm. Fighting. taxes. No more tax abatement, fair taxes in heights. Citywide difference.

Sean Connors – 3 priorities

-Quality of life - Clean the streets, Union City cleaner than the heights. Mirror

- Proper income for lower priced housing – Ward F gets more funding

-Redevelopment of Central ave – 30 vacant storefronts – Corp stores needed – Existing mom/ pop stores will become successful

-Repaving of roads

-Mosquito Park –

Mario Gonzalez

-3 visions

- Children – Afterschool programs – backbone of things we do. Malleable – No afterschool programs. Kids a place to go.

-Quality of life – Graffiti, disrespect for property, repositioning their bad art for good… mentoring

-Business investment – Hope center, non-normal building for the heights - #2 in the state… into arts. Built center with a vision. Partner with different Orgs. Joint with Goldman Sachs.

Ron F. What specifically are you going to do about trash- cleanliness?

Sean - Initiate foot walker’s cleaners back into neighborhoods – Success of Union City and North Bergen- Mirror – Bring unemployed to the street to clean- Rehabilitate- Vibrancy- Our responsibility as a govt.

-Yun, built a program 20 years ago- Street Maintenance program – All store owners must clean in front – Doesn’t work – Street cleaning – Garbage can full – Household garbage – Clean cans 2xs / day.

Giron – Combination of community – and people – Yes, regular program

Gonzales – Govt doesn’t do well. Change culture and change the way we think. Incenting the behavior. To cooperate, govt subsidy.

Question – Bob B. Fines, enforced.

Questions – Missing a lot of business on Central Ave.

Giron – Business need to sustain on Central Ave. Issue is all around Heights. Education-

Gonzalez – Treating symptom, not disease. Look at issue holistically

Sean – State grants, tax incentives, tax reductions.

Can Central Ave support heights

Yun – Educating children – 30 Years ago. No change. Good idea. Not working. 1 -2 years to get building permit. JC needs to help make easier to open shop/ restaurants. 80% of jobs in country small business.

Questions- Are you satisfied with level of policing – What is your view on community policing.

Sean- Shundlun era – Bike, scooter.. Safer street back then. Community policing helps. Let’s go back to bike/ scooter patrol.

Gonzales – People need to be out with the people. Not in metal cars

Giron – More out on the street, not behind desks. Monthly meetings. Communicate with the community. and are friends not enemy.

Yun –30 years same thing. Why he decided to run. Tried a lot of things. Difference- Command in street. Citizen review committee.

Peter Basso- Park Plan improvements

-Refurbished Picnic area

-Ball rolling on lighting plan – Electrical conduits

-2 AVA openings

-Only parking lot to code

-No signage seen yet

-What do we name this area of the park?

-Mary Sally did signage for Disney

-Not breaking ground yet for kids to use in the summer – waiting until fall.

-Signage project will be template for other parks

-100 year old park

Goldman sachs – 2000 projects locally – May 31st

* 20 Employees – Great day

5th Annual Planting in the Park

* Different areas each year
* This year learning garden
* Band/ Walter Parks
* Tabling
* Raffles

Movies in the Park – Stay tuned

WPA Live – Sept 21st

* Partnering with O’Connell’s run this year
* After run, march to stage/ live band
* VIP area – Food, Snack, hopeful beer vendor.

Golden Door Film Festival

* Paul Servino

Fund Raising Effort

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Events Committee

Fundraising

Meeting Adjourned 9:01pm