

MINUTES
Kingfield Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting
July 10, 2013 7 PM-- MLK Park

Present: Jess Alexander, Nate Blumenshine, Hetal Dalal, David Fenley, Jim Kumon, Jenny Lock, Ben Rasmussen, Lisa Skzeczkoski-Bzdusek, Dan Swenson-Klatt, Mark Waller.

Absent: Scott Mueller, Henry Jimenez, Jason Montgomery

Call to Order: Hetal Dalal, KFNA President, 7:03 PM

7:05 Hetal calls meeting to order

Michael Chaney from Project Sweetie Pie was asked to give updates about the Mosaic Garden project in MLK Park. Project Sweetie Pie received funding to be able to pay youth stipends for youth helping in the raised bed garden this summer. A Bryant neighbor, Curtis will be in charge of supervising the youth and project. They anticipate they will have two garden work shifts a week and one cooking shift. They are looking to involve and engage all interested neighbors from Kingfield and surrounding neighborhoods and want to be respectful and work within the “mosaic” theme of inclusivity and diversity. The youth workers will be between the ages of 10 and 14 and will represent the diversity of the surrounding area. The project seeks to honor and celebrate the local area and to build on the good things happening in these neighborhoods. Although the project is getting a later start than desired, everyone feels it’s important to move ahead in the next 8 weeks because this project sets an important precedent of cooperation and partnership with the park board and is using park land in an innovative way. The Park Board needs to finalize language that will be used to recruit youth and adult supporters. The community will need to step forward and help with the harvest this fall.

Carrot Initiative: Jim gave a brief overview of the meeting held at Sabathani Community Center on Tuesday, July 9th hosted by the Carrot Initiative and Seward Coop. The meeting provided some basic information about the potential second site of Seward Coop on 38th St. between 3rd and Columbus. The meeting was split between a presentation and questions from the community. There were about 300 people in the audience and the discussion was very emotional for many audience members. Tensions around affordability and gentrification are clear. There is not a formal process yet for moving forward with the coop plan, but Council Member Elizabeth Glidden is interested in working with neighbors to put together a process. The Carrot Initiative needs more board members to help with outreach and all of their other tasks. KFNA Board has already voted to support the Carrot Initiative and there is a former KFNA Board member on the Carrot Initiative Board. This person has not signed an official liaison agreement but is willing to do so and to continue being a go-between between the two boards. Sarah will work with Jim and Hetal to look over the current liaison agreement form and if it seems appropriate move forward to have it signed. If anyone else is interested in being a liaison or Carrot Initiative board member let Sarah know.

Boulevard Trees- Ben has been talking with neighbors in Kingfield to try to plan how to get new and replacement boulevard trees in Kingfield. A neighbor who is walking through the neighborhood has started to map out the needs, but there is some confusion about power line rules, how far apart trees must be, etc. There was some discussion about possibly meeting with a forester or arborist to help us better understand good tree placement and the current city rules about this. Due to the recent storms, there is a sudden need for even more trees and the possibility of long wait times. Ben will call the Park Board and discuss with them what our next step should be.

Hetal leads discussion about the **board meeting format**. Currently the KFNA board meeting do not have any “business only” structured meetings. Some other neighborhood boards meet twice a month, once for business once for speakers but that would be a big shift of time commitment. Committees are currently not operating with all of the activity/authority given to them in the bylaws. We don’t technically have to have “open meetings” so could use other formats if desired.

Ideas:

- 1 quarterly business meeting, two monthly meetings with speakers; business is only handled during the quarterly meeting
- 1 quarterly business meeting, two monthly meetings with speakers; 8:30-9:00 (or 7:00-7:30) is reserved for emergency business items so they can be handled more quickly
- Financials should only be handled quarterly
- Every other meeting is business (even months business, odd months speakers, etc.)
- We should have project heads instead of committees to broaden the committees to larger interest areas
- If we had more engaged committees then after the June meeting the Energy Options would have been passed immediately to the “Green Committee” and they could already have been working on next steps
- Board members should sign up for more committees
- We should have fewer committees so there can be more members on each committee
- There should be more focus on tasks/events and less on a monthly meeting
- We should leave time during our monthly meetings to see who is interested in taking on a task/event and schedule a next meeting while those people are still in the room with their calendars
- What would it look like for a board member to become a “champion” of an idea/task/event?
- We should look at events “seasonally” and do them on a calendar cycle; we can try to do x number of tasks/events in x time period to help us move things along and leave enough time for planning
- Our September meeting should have business from 7:00-7:30 and then from 7:30-9:00 we should discuss our goals as a board- what do we want the next year to look like? We will use the goals mentioned at the board retreat.
- Moving forward our meetings will switch between being more business oriented and more speaker/community oriented though some time will always be set aside for emergency

business. Committees will become more event oriented and we will winnow down the list of committees based on current board member interest,

National Night Out- for the last 5-6 years the board has been biking ice cream to each of the registered block parties. Sebastian Joe's donates almost all of the ice cream for the event. Typically there are 3 people per delivery team, and each team goes to 10-13 parties. This year everyone needs to bring a friend to help! Scott proposed that KFNA buy a promotional item to hand out this year at NNO and recommended cell phone cleaning buffs. The board is in support of having promotional materials to hand out but felt that the cell phone devices were too expensive per item, and they didn't stick well to most people's cell phone cases. In the past when KFNA has given out promotional items there hasn't been a corresponding spike in donations. There was concern that they would just be thrown away. Other promotional items discussed were beverage insulators, refrigerator magnets, temporary tattoos, and Frisbees. Sarah mentioned that fliers don't work to hand out at NNO parties. It was mentioned that different items have strengths in different situations. People felt that temporary tattoos would be a good fit at next year's Judson Fest in a booth but not NNO. The most popular give away idea for NNO was a Frisbee with the KFNA logo. Nate made a motion for Jenny to spend not more than \$100 on promotional materials for NNO and it was seconded by Hetal and others.

Great Gatherings- Sarah and Hetal brought up the idea of KFNA board members doing "Great Gatherings" events/parties as a fundraiser. These types of events have been used elsewhere successfully- including at the garden dinner parties in the community garden. Other ideas include a bike excursion, dinner for 10, or canoe trip. The recommendation is that we choose events/experiences that vary in price so that everyone who is interested in participating can find something in their price range. We will discuss this further in our September meeting.

9:00- Meeting adjourned.

Minutes provided by Jenny Lock, KFNA Board Member.