

Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC)

July 11, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Molly Rater (President), Tracy Granneman (Vice President), Yvette Kell (Treasurer), Kim Freter, Jim Holzer, JoAnna Schooler, Arline Webb, Kathryn Bulard

Not Present: Rachelle L'Ecuyer, Carl Merritt, Mike Stephens, Dave Mastin, Jeff Stokes, Marnita Spight, Tim Woodcock

Visitors: Ald. Shameem Clark-Hubbard, Ald Mike Gras, June Vaughn, Grady Vaughn, Kevin Koen, Andy Cross

Executive Director: Michael Reid

Meeting was called to Order at 7:03 via Zoom

President Molly Rater related that we had a quorum (Need 8 members for a quorum now that we are a board of 15 after Andrew Cawood's departure)

Agenda was approved with correction that Minutes were available to be approved

Approval of Minutes: June minutes were approved with correction of Yvette Kell misspelling

Aldermanic Report: Ald. Clark-Hubbard reported that submitted speed hump requests were done but sometimes had to be removed if neighbors complained.

Mike Gras reported on ongoing trash/dumpster issues. Biggest problem is lack of dumpsters and the city has proprietary trucks. Rolling carts may be a better option. Several board members thought this might not work in our neighborhood due to street parking. Alleys may be more of a possibility. JoAnna has been doing some auditing of Alley trash issues and could use some help from neighbors. Mike Gras recommended reporting any problems with dumpsters to CSB. Mike Reid thanked JoAnna for getting a couch removed from an alley

Committee Reports: No reports were distributed to the Board by email before this meeting.

Beautification: Andy Cross reported that the Dog Show was a success despite lower than normal turnout due to extreme heat. He planted some flowers instead of grass in the Greg Freeman Park due to the difficulty with growing grass in this location. Keeping the plants watered has been a challenge. He asked us to watch out signs at FPP and Des Peres asking for feedback about the bridge over FPP at Des Peres.

Security: Grady Vaughn reported that the last security meeting had to be rescheduled due to some technical difficulties.

Financial Report – Yvette Kell still learning the financials so deferred the report to Mike. Mike reported that finances are Ok and expecting a payment from Wash U. We have also received 600 dollars for Porchfest with 5100 expected next week. Air conditioner repair was only 395 dollars for a blower fan and capacitor. Joanna made a motion to approve the financials and Tracy seconded. The financial report was approved.

Executive Director's Report – ED Mike Reid reported that he had no word on grant proposals. He has met with Stanley Hoffman regarding the Churches Chicken lot. Stanley is no longer going to sell and wants to develop the lot himself. He is looking for ideas from residents. Mike has met with Hamilton School about some collaboration projects. They are giving out some free Munny tickets to SD residents. He and Tracy will meet with them again. Mike and Andy are planning Rags to Riches to be held on August 27th. Mike hopes to do a concert in Greg Freeman Park featuring St Louis Boogie Band in late August. Mike has met with Nicole Blumner about resurrecting the Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) with Expo. This was at the suggestion of former Exec director Brandon Sterling who is going to testify in defense of Expo in the Luxe/Expo lawsuit trial. Kim advised that no documents/correspondences be handed over to either party without a subpoena.

New Business:

Board Retreat: Mike reported that 7 board members responded to the Doodle Poll with an evening in October as the most popular option. Molly reported that the main objective of the meeting would be to refresh the strategic plan.

Porchfest: To be held on Sunday October 2nd and will be our biggest fundraiser of the year. We really need volunteers!

SOP for committees: Mike formulated guidelines of expectations for SDCC committees to supplement our by-laws. This is in effort to increase transparency and give board members more information to make decisions. Mike reported that the lack of communication from committees sometimes caused voting delays. The SOP document was distributed to board members about two weeks prior to the board meeting by email. A checklist for committees was completed by Tracy but this was not distributed. Some board members felt that the SOP is redundant and the by-laws outline the expectations of committees. However, one board member pointed out that most are not complying with those expectations and may not even be aware of them. Committees should be submitting meeting minutes with record of attendance within 30 days of meetings to be posted on our website. Some felt that the SOP sounded too demanding of committee chairs that are already volunteering their time. Decision was made to talk more about committee procedures at our board retreat and the issue was tabled.

Molly reported that there is no meeting in August and we would reconvene on September 12th

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Minutes submitted by Molly Rater on 7/13/2022