

## 03/25/2013 SWNA Membership Meeting

We had an Ice Breaker where we found things that we have in common in groups of 5.

Nomination Committee: Pres: Janice Tocher; VP: Danny Gray; Sec: Debbie Sharp; Tres: Rosie Collins; District 1: Marcia Oneal; District 2: Greg Lance; District: Roe Lyle; At large: Kathy Weaverling; At large: Betty Spangler; At Large: Robert Marlino, however; Robert decided to decline the position. There were nominations opened up to the floor. There were several questions by different members and we explained that there were two positions open and what the basic duties are. Shelley Conklin added her name in the mix for an At Large position. She was added to the list. There was a motion by Greg, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roe to approve and elect the candidates. Motion passed unanimously.

1<sup>st</sup> District Report: Nick was unable to be at the meeting so he provided a report via email that Janice read to the group: "The neighborhood conference was unbelievably successful for the first year. I was proud so many South Knoxville folks played such prominent roles in its success. I could not be happier for the merchants in the Urban Wilderness Arts & Trade District due to the city and county giving \$20K each for marketing the area during the extended closure of Henley Bridge. Hopefully the state will step up to due to the great efforts by Joe Armstrong and Becky Massey who are working hard for us in Nashville. Be sure and attend South Fest April 12 and 13 to help our merchants. A working group for the design of Ft Dickerson (which includes myself, Brian Hann of AMBC, Joe Walsh Director of Parks and Rec, Carol Evans Director of Legacy Parks, and local business owners Todd Green and Scott Romines, and Paula Gumpman President of Colonial Village Neighborhood Association) are about ready to present a plan to the administration. After the April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting we should be ready for presentation. You will recall I secured \$10k in the budget two years ago for this design and implementation to make this a destination. I am excited to get this moving and attracting folks to the area to help boost traffic for our merchants. The city's budget process has begun and I don't anticipate any tax increase but a lean budget with very few frills. More to come on that as the process moves forward. My quarterly "Coffee with the Councilman" is this Saturday (the 30<sup>th</sup>) at the Round up from 9-11 drop by to discuss any issues you may have or just for some good ole' fellowship. I apologize for not being at the meeting but I am traveling on business but you can always reach me via email, phone 454-7216, or [www.nickpavlis.com](http://www.nickpavlis.com) or on Facebook. See you at the next meeting and Happy Easter! Nick Pavlis"

Officer Roark: He informed us that property crime has increased in the last little bit on the other side of Chapman. Someone was breaking into cars but was arrested. He also informed us that there is now a dedicated unit that goes just to the parks like Ijams, Ft Dickerson, Duff Field etc and it seems to be working well. Someone called about people dumping trash at Big Lots so he went to talk to them seeing if they might close the back entrance, but he said that he cannot enforce much because it is on private property. But if you see dumping, get a tag number and he will see what he can do. A lady who lives on Florence talked to the officer about a possible drug house next to her. They are trying to break in to her home. He took down some information and said that they might be close to getting the people out. We were also informed that when there is an eviction, neighbors can go to the hearing to speak about what they have witnessed and observed. Another lady who lives on Bob White mentioned that her cat was shot. She wants everyone to be aware.

Antoinette mentioned South Fest, a festival to help shops in South Knoxville due to the bridge closure, will be April 12 and 13. It will go from the beginning of Chapman to Moody with inflatables, Booths, Food, and a bike ride from Harley Davidson in Maryville. There will also be an outdoor showing of October Sky on the 12<sup>th</sup>. For more information, look up South Fest and Like Urban Wilderness on FB or Cash Mob on FB as well. They are looking at it being the biggest sidewalk sale ever in Knoxville. If anyone is interested in helping with the planning, the committee meets at Gloria Dei Church for the next few Tuesdays at 6:30 pm.

There were questions about the opening of the bridge. It was announced that the opening has been moved to February 28<sup>th</sup> 2014.

Janice spoke about being certified with the National Wildlife Federation. Everyone was encouraged to get their home certified. Several people had questions that were answered with what you need to be certified.

SKNBC has welcome packets and Janice gave out one to new neighbors Brandon and Brandy. If you know someone let Kat know and we will get one out to the new folks.

Roe had a comment: He wanted to thank the city for paving Woodlawn Pike!!! There were cheers about this.

Janice asked if anyone would be interested in having an Arborist in May for the Membership meeting since it is also our annual Seed Swap. Someone recommended Lisa Stanley to offer information on plants as well. The group was interested in getting an Arborist and asked for hands on instruction. Then we discussed a day to meet since our next meeting is scheduled for Memorial Day. All agreed to May 20<sup>th</sup> as the date of the next membership meeting.

Janice gave an update about WHO SW. Some were not aware of the Wildlife Outdoor Classroom and the \$30,000 grant so she gave a brief update. We will be working with the contractor but this got hung up in the school system. It finally cleared the schools and there was a ground breaking. Legacy Parks is working with us and the contract has to be worked out. We talked again about how we are so close with houses being certified (18) and we need the schools. At that point when we are certified, we can have a party.

We then discussed what people would like to do after we are certified for the upcoming year. New Ideas for the year.....There was a suggestion to have speakers that are helpful, some might be from city government. Another suggestion was to be sure the membership is aware of community meetings that are requesting public input. The Board can be sure to get the word out about public input for the luxury apartments at Island Home, Fort Dickerson, and the Suttree Park, which are all supposed to be this coming year. One person suggested that we get a farmer's market. Janice mentioned that Nick has been working on this and it is somewhat complicated but he is still working on it. Someone mentioned that during the growing season, they might have seen one at a church parking lot. There was also a suggestion that we need a new grocery store. There was a lot of interest also in having a Picnic at Sam Duff or Meadow Hills Park and music jam for the membership.

Rosie did a Treasurers report. 545.50 + 120 membership fees – 278.35. Ending Balance 387.15 and 191.07 is WHO SW the rest is SWNA. We changed to Tennessee State Bank and had to close the other account because the bank closed. Marcia made a motion and Kat 2<sup>nd</sup> to approve the Treasurer's report for audit.

Feedback on the meeting....People said that they liked the format.

Valdecy talked about the Latino population and he suggested that the way we can help is to invite them to a picnic. 4:00 pm each Sun is the Spanish Speaking Service.

Silent Auction was done and we adjourned.

The Board met for a minute to see when they would meet monthly. They decided on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of each month. So the next meeting will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the Woodlawn Christian Church.