Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes from 4/12/2023

Location: Campus Lounge

Attendees: Cathy Kuo, Dave Anderson, Shannon Tiger, Nancy Bell, Carol MacBride, Andrew Loyola, Bill Steitz, Carla Masur, Paul Kashmann

Review of Financials

Nancy reviewed the financial activity since the annual meeting, Small change in balance due to expenses and payment of dues. Nancy reviewed some of the other expenses and income expected throughout the year for the benefit of the new attendees.

Membership & welcome committee

Shannon updated everyone on the activities of the Welcome and Membership committee, stating that the 12 welcome packets which include the sales so far this year, were divided up and delivered to the homes of the new people moving into the neighborhood. These were delivered along with the tins with the BB logo and candy inside that Andrew put together. Andrew commented on what a nice way it was to get to meet some of the new neighbors, and a rewarding way to get to know them a little.

Events committee

Food truck night

This is scheduled for June 25th, and Dos Gringos truck has signed on to be there from 5-7pm. BBNA will purchase ice cream from Bonnie Brae Ice cream to serve to those in attendance. Nancy will look into seeing if Bonnie Brae Ice Cream will donate cups. Spoons, cones. Nancy will also see about toppings that could be added. The plan is to also have a movie night in the park either during or following the food truck time, perhaps with popcorn. Consideration and discussion was around how that might work when it is still light outside. Dave and Andrew will coordinate the movie part of the event. The event committee will work on the other details of the event.

Annual Picnic

The annual picnic will take place this year on September 10th. Discussion took place around what we did differently for the annual picnic last year and what worked well. It was decided that largely the same things would be done this year, including the food, raffle etc. Paul Kashman volunteered that he could help out with how to request an antique fire truck that would give children rides as we had had in the past. It was raised that we need more neighbors to join the picnic committee so that we can spread some of the efforts needed to put on the picnic so certain people are not unduly burdened. Additional volunteers will be requested in the next email that goes out, as the committee meetings need to start taking place in the near future. A discussion of possible Centennial celebrations included suggestions of a cake, BB logo balloons, and a display of old photos which Paul Kashmann agreed to contact Rick Dyer for some contributions. Additional suggestions were to have a historian give a short talk, and a trivia question session about Bonnie Brae which could include prizes. The idea of giveaways came up (TBD) including Bonnie Brae printed T-shirts as raffle/trivia prizes or gifts, this will be further explored by the Picnic committee.

Bonnie Brae Park

A review of the park bench replacements was discussed, and a thank you to Paul and his group for helping to retrieve the memorial bench that was mistakenly removed and replaced. Discussion took place with regards to the park and potential improvements. Paul K indicated that power to the park was not off the table, and discussion took place around other desires or upgrades to the park, such as weeding, adding more perennials, and tree trimming, also included an annual reseeding suggested by Andrew. It was decided that the board would provide Paul with a prioritized list of desired park improvements that he could work on the neighborhood’s behalf. Questions were raised with regard to the replacement of the capstones on the walls in the park. Paul suggested that they may not have been actually cemented down, but just set back on top of the wall. Dave will check on this.

Communications committee

Cathy updated everyone on the communications committee. The next email that goes out to neighbors will include requests for picnic committee volunteers, the food truck event announcement, and possibly the considerate construction code that Paul will be sending the board.

Other business:

Request for Consideration from Joyce Ross

Joyce sent a sample letter offering the board sign on to its message. The letter requests developers consider the character and charm of Bonnie Brae when developing new homes. Paul pointed out that re-development is happening across many neighborhoods, and builders make their own decisions based on profitability, economics, and regulations. It is important to focus on the people and not the home that builds a happier community for all. Bill shared his experience with trying to make BB into a historic district which created a lot of contention and division, and is not in keeping with our mission as a neighborhood association. The BBNA is not an HOA and has no control over builders. If such a letter is sent, it creates the need to provide guidelines to builders. The board is not in a position to lay out architectural guidelines. It becomes a contentious issue regardless, as one approach cannot reflect the beliefs of everyone in the neighborhood. All agreed that it is not a good idea to alienate neighbors based on their homes, and how we want to bring neighbors together to create a welcoming, supportive and inclusive feeling in our neighborhood. The communications committee will respond to Joyce’s request. Paul offered to send us the Considerate Construction Codes that we could share with the neighborhood.

Bill In CO Senate

Paul shared with us information about a new bill that is currently being considered in the CO Senate SB23-213 which attempts to remove local control and authority for zoning and land use statewide. This bill could impose top-down zoning at the state level and puts those decisions into the hands of developer interests and unelected 3rd parties. More information can be found on the Colorado Municipal League website. Paul shared that this has the potential to allow multiple dwelling units (as well as other things) in what is currently single family developments.

New Members

A discussion took place regarding neighbors interested in joining the board. Bill Steitz in attendance was voted to be added to the board. The others will be discussed at a later date. Andrew raised the question of assigning a President on the board, some discussion took place but no decisions were made.

Next Meeting

The next meeting should take place the second Wednesday in July.

Meeting adjourned.

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