



# BWNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2024  
Beaumont Middle School

**Prepared by:** Patti Koehler

**Adopted on:** 2/12/24

**Board Officers:** Patty Nelson, President; Al Ellis, Vice President; Patti Koehler, Secretary; Karla Lenox, Treasurer; Tim Gillespie, Immediate Past President. **At-Large Board Members:** Aaron Breakstone, Angela Frome, Gary Hancock, Jonathan Hays, Rob Lee, Colin O'Neill, John Sandie, Susan Trabucco.

**Welcome & Introductions:** Patty Nelson, BWNA President

## Attendees:

**Board Members:** Patty Nelson, Al Ellis, Patti Koehler, Karla Lenox, Angela Frome, Jonathan Hays, Rob Lee, Susan Trabucco

**Others:** Tim Root

**Excused:** Tim Gillespie, Aaron Breakstone, Gary Hancock, Colin O'Neill, John Sandie

## Meeting and Association Governance

**Adoption of Meeting Agenda:** Motion to adopt meeting agenda with addition of graffiti update was made by Karla, seconded by Rob and approved unanimously

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion to adopt previous meeting minutes was made by Susan, seconded by Angie and unanimously approved

**Treasurers Report:** As of 12/31/23

Cash in checking account: \$ 23,877.89

Cash in Venmo account: \$ 181.27

Additional discussion: We are 1/2 way through our fiscal year. Bills to pay, \$2,022 to Pamplin Media for Newsletter

## Meeting Discussion

1. Events Committee: John was not present but provided notes for Patty. Events committee met for the first time on Jan 2nd for a brainstorming session. John sent a summary of the meeting to all Board Members. Patti pointed out that the ideas are aspirational and many would not occur this calendar year. Current events being worked on are:
  - Movie in the Park: Movies have not been picked, top three movies chosen by BWNA members have been decided but Alameda Neighborhood Association had other requests. John is still working that out with them. Application has not yet been submitted to the city.
  - Garden and Art Show: There are 5 garden hosts from the neighborhood who stepped up to participate in the coming year. Four of the hosts met with Patti and Susan on 1/7/24 to discuss expectations and budgeting. Patti and Susan will be Board coordinators. We are again asking \$500 to fund marketing materials, balloons and signage.

Patty moved and Rob seconded approval of the proposal. It passed with unanimous consent. The Event will occur 7/27. Patti will contact CNN for Insurance and once that is secured we can work on marketing, social media and setting up a payment system through Karla. Will also see if we can get extra money through local sponsor's. Will not need to decide where the funds go but should be on the next meetings agenda. Thoughts of asking BMS if there are other departments that could use the funds. Susan is in contact with Liz at BMS and she will reach out to see if there is a way we can establish closer relations. Perhaps a PTA representative would like to come to one of our meetings? Al mentioned we have purchased white boards for the school in the past. Angie mentioned basketball hoops and new painted lines on courts could be good. Al mentioned the "Sparrow" program was supported in the past. Jon mentioned the challenge with the PTA is that there is a lot of turnover.

-Patty reminded us that someone had come to a past meeting with a desire to hold a BWNA yard sale. Patti pointed out that she told us at the time she was in school and not currently available. Patty said she is a neighbor and she will check in with her family to see if she is available and interested.

Al had a suggestion about notification regarding Events committee meetings. Friends of Wilshire Park meetings have been advertised in the Newsletter with directions to contact Gary and he sends a zoom link to those interested in attending. Susan pointed out that we don't have good places to meet for groups of people. Patty recommended that advertising meetings with zoom link information would help to resolve the issue of not having a large room to meet in.

## **Committee Framework and Updates**

At the retreat we discussed having improved documentation. Asked the committees to write down purpose, scope and authority. The Events Committee took the lead on this. Susan had asked if the Newsletter is a committee. Patty looked at other Neighborhood associations and stated they are not a committee. Same thing with the communications. Susan said having policy is important, for example regarding religion and politics or the coverage of news of surrounding neighborhood associations. Patty encouraged us to look at the Grant Park NA website to see how they broke out all of their committees and ad hoc committees. Colin put together a transportation committee which was emailed yesterday. Patty wants to make sure the committee does not speak for the Board, the Board provides the direction for the committee. Al pointed out that the Bylaws recommendations will be presented to the Board next month and that will state that committees are advisory to the Board. Patti asked where these proposals live. Right now there are no attachments to the meeting minutes. Patty said there is a way and we will work through that in the future. She would like to see it posted on the

Website and that these are currently working documents. We still need to do job duties for officers. Al suggested looking at Bylaws first.

Tim R submitted a Land Use proposal. Susan took issue with the second paragraph of the Scope section which addressed Public Information Requests on Property Development and Permit Drawing Sets "if requested by the BWNA or neighbors/businesses in the BW Neighborhood". After discussion the wording was changed to "if requested by BWNA".

**Central Northeast Neighbors:** Patty did not attend the last meeting

**Crime Prevention & Safety:** No report

**Friends of Wilshire Park:** Al reported for Gary that the next meeting is this Wed, contact him if you want to zoom in.

**Land Use:** (Tim Root) Not a lot going on. Two requests for AirBnb/short term rentals. Also a development on 42nd where they are demolishing a house and have permits are for four townhomes with a shared drive and no garages. Tim will give testimony previously discussed on the 10th to City Council on the proposal to rezone inner east side. A new group called Portland Neighbors For All is working to roll back single family residential zoning on the East side to increase density. Susan pointed out the state has already done some of that. Tim said this would be a state legislature item as the state has to change zoning, he does not think cities can. Patty will bring it up at CNN to see if we want to partner with other neighborhoods to follow and collaborate around it.

**New Neighbor Welcoming Project:** (Al) Thanks again to Patti and Kate and John and Susan for getting out packets. Let him know if anyone else wants to assist. People are also contracting me about neighbors who have moved in next door. Diane Charleton came over and she and her husband Bear will put together a discount card for their Frame shop to be included in the packet.

**Newsletter:** Patty said the Newsletter proposal was very good. Susan sent a Rev proposal regarding Non-BWNA Article Guidelines changing "Articles or letters to the editor or Board with political or religious content will not be included" to "Events of a political or religious subject matter, or of benefit to political or religious groups, shall not be included". Discussion followed about political discussion which we do include vs endorsement of particular candidates which we cannot do. Patty wanted to add limitation of Ads to 40% of content. Susan reported members of the Newsletter team have stepped forward to pick up various aspects of the Newsletter which have been overwhelming. Chris has volunteered to cover the Events section. However, he does not want people sending items to his personal email. Susan asked if the Newsletter could have an email address for \$12 a year specific for events that he could then have access to. Patty suggested using the info@BWNA email for now. Al moved, Rob seconded approval of \$12 a year to set up an event email. The Board approved the proposal.

**Digital Communications Committee:** Jonathan said he and Angie did not fully understand the requests for a proposal. He said they will have by the next meeting (although the Board stated they had already done much of the work in the last couple of meetings). Jonathan has been struggling with how to get out information about events that are not just a duplication of what is in the newsletter. He would like to get more of a cascading information flow. Rob has been sending out the email blasts.

**Graffiti updates:** Angie reported a clean up date of 3/15/24 at 9 a.m. has been set for the neighborhood graffiti cleanup. She is still trying to get the City to commit to getting us the cleaning products and she would like to figure out a staging location to meet and put supplies. The neighborhood got hit hard after the recent street races. She took pictures and sent it to John at the City and they cleaned it up in two days. Will present info regarding budgeting at next meeting.

**Bylaws:** Will be presented at the next meeting.

**For The Good of the Order:** Karla suggested that since we are now meeting at BMS and we are no longer meeting at Bethany Lutheran Church that we consider moving out of there. At the least she wants the Events committee to do an inventory of what we have at the Church. She will email this request to John who is the chair. The President and possibly John have the keys. Susan proposes that she be given authority to research the opportunities to have a room of our own that would work for us. Patty requests having space that has wifi. She will give Susan a list of places she has already talked with. Tim stated there are rooms available at the Methodist Church on Fremont. Susan was given the go ahead to look into other options.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:37 PM

**Next General Board Meeting:** February 12th 7PM BMS library.