

NESCO Board Meeting – November 26, 2013

Stand-In Secretary - Matt Belsaas

Present:

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| Arsenal Heights: no representative | |
| Bosart Brown: Mark Saetre | Known absence |
| Brookside: Tommy Reddicks | Present |
| Cottage Home: Dan Doll | |
| Emerson Heights: Rebecca Seifert | Present |
| Englewood: Brent Aldrich | Present |
| Fletcher-Lippincott: no representative | |
| Forest Manor: no representative | |
| Grace Tuxedo: no representative | |
| Holy Cross: Kelly Wensing | Present |
| Little Flower: Thomas Sisson | Present |
| Otterbein: no representative | |
| RMS10: Pat Paff | |
| Spades Park: Marsha Burkhardt | |
| Springdale: Jerry Shepard | |
| St. Clair Place: Stephen Ball | Known absence |
| TEAR/United: Teresa Sutton | |
| Willard Park: Zach Adamson | Present - Late |
| Windsor Park: David Hedrick | Present |
| Woodruff Place: Rick Van Dyke | Present |
| At-Large: Sue Switzer | Present |
| At-Large: Chris Staab | |
| At-Large: Ruth Shaw | Present |
| At-Large: Ken Holyoak | Present |
| At-Large: Matt Belsaas | Present |
| At-Large: Karen Celestino-Horseman | |

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| NOBO Guest: Suellen | Present |
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Jim Spahalski (sp?) from NOBO

Guests include:

- NAME, Organization
- Dan O’Dea, I-Ad
- Melissa Benton, Feast of Lanterns Chair

I. Welcome & Introduction

- The meeting opened at 631 pm. Kelly Wensing (President) invited those present to introduce themselves.

II. Public Comments:

- Ken Holyoak moved to assign treasurer duties to NESCO President, second by Tommy Reddicks, Unanimous vote in approval
- Tom Sisson - issue with water bill meter from the city. Melissa stated that the bill had been paid and the check has been cashed. Kelly reminded the group of the correct PO Box and that no contact information was on the statement. Invoice was \$15 and change. Kelly is noting to make sure that all remaining Feast bills are settled. Tom requested a segregated account be setup for the organization and not the individual person - Kelly stated that to have a bill in an organizations name, a physical address is needed. She said that she would check with other festivals to see what they do to get the bill paid by someone without an address.
- Brett Aldrich - text from Molly Trueblood at Connecting our Waterways - wants to reach out to NearEastside meeting groups to discuss Pogues Run in particular. Received a large grant from Butler. Looking at south of Holy Cross and somewhere in the Spades/Brookside Park area to work on the waterways. Should get her on the agenda for January. Noted by Kelly. Represented by David Hedrick, Brett Aldrich and Rick Van Dyke. The meeting in December is cancelled, will meet in January, the first Tuesday at 5p at KIB, Tuesday January 7. Contact is Tracy Heaton if you’d like to get updated on this.
- David Hedrick - neighbors in Windsor Park having issues with Family Dollar. They’re replacing the windows with non-safety glass. The business is locking the door during the business hours and store is asking the patrons to make sure there is noone else outside before they’ll allow patrons in the store. The neighborhood contacted the corporate headquarters and received a nice email in response. It’s not being kept up, but we don’t want to see it go. Constructed an illegal fence in the rear with barbed wire.
- David Hedrick - Friday December 13 at 5p. New art reveal at Windsor Park, 12th and Arsenal and Brookside. Warm beverages provided. Afterward the artist that designed the piece will have an event at their gallery St Clair as Mass Ave, at the Art Bank, across from the IPS bus garage. Put on by the Arts Council and KIB as part of the Green Space Grant. Artist Andrew Sevins.
- Tommy Reddicks - Meeting to discuss bylaw meetings after this meeting. Goal: Identify key areas in existing bylaws that need to stay, then packaging new Bylaws to consider and review. According to bylaws, no officer can hold more than one simultaneous position.
- Rebecca Seifert - Clarification with neighborhood monies in trust - Kelly confirmed still “frozen” and letters will be going out soon.
- Rick Van Dyke - Testified for NESCO in front of the EPA in regards to carbon production.

- Rick Van Dyke - Eastside Creation Care Network (churches on NE Indy), Friday night film series and discussion, once a month.
- Rick Van Dyke - Beyond Coal: asked if NESCO would be in support of a resolution asking Indiana to phase out of coal production. They didn't get the wording they wanted, so it will be asked again. Would like to get this before legislative session. Asked for permission to send out the electronic form of the wording to the board to get a response over the holidays. They are willing to come and present to the board. Next meeting is January 28, 2014. They would like the resolution prior to that date. Ken suggested this presentation occur at the Neighborhood Summit. Megan Anderson and Megan Fetter are in discussion about this.
- Rick Van Dyke - NOBO Solar Project, will be presented at the Neighborhood Summit.

III. Board Business

- Approval of the October 2013 Minutes
 - a. Changes noted and motion called by Tom Sisson:
 1. Tom Sisson asked that his name be spelled correctly in the motion, special committee "A"
 2. Rebecca Seifert asked that her name was spelled correctly
 3. Suellen asked that she be added to the attendance roster
 4. Ken Holyoak spelled incorrectly in Feast of Lanterns
 5. Tom Sisson change spelling in board business
 - b. Changes second by Ken Holyoak
 - c. Unanimous: Pro, no negatives, one abstention
- Treasurers Report
 - Chuck Coleman has resigned his position
 - Kelly noted \$3,088.67 in the checking account because Feast of Lanterns is square
 - Savings account has \$248.42
 - Event Brite check for History and Preservation is still sitting in the checking account from the Pub Crawl.
- Presidents Report
 - Kelly recognizes the opening of the new planetarium at Paramount. indytsdc.com Thursday public shows available. First show in December, check website. "Good time had by all" 25 seat.
 - Tinsel Town on East 10th. Email forwarded from Kelly to board. They are looking for wreath creators for the fund raising efforts. Kelly will make one on behalf of NESCO for sale. Encouraged other neighborhoods to create a wreath.
 - Ground breaking at Westminster Office - 12/16/13 at 2p
 - NESCO website, use the interface to add an event to the calendar

IV. Guest:

- I-Ad Near East Side Asset Blitz Report – Dan O’Dea
 - Results from the Infrastructure and Housing Survey results presentation by Dan O’Dea
 - Presentation of results for all surveyed neighborhoods is Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30p in the Chase room at the John H Boner Community Center - will be handing out the maps and the raw data. Facebook event and banner on NESCO website.
 - Looking to expand the data in the spring of 2014
 - Kelly created a new form of the survey to expedite small sample sizes to encourage more engagement of neighbors
 - Contact: dodea@jhbcc.org direct line: 808-2318

V. New Business

- Membership & Elections

- Everyone at the table, please take the next month to reflect and focus on what your role will be in the next year and term.
- Kelly will be personally contacting the neighborhood presidents to check in and see what we can do, make sure they're properly represented on the Board.
- Current members: please contemplate your role on the board as we have two elections coming up for Officership (Treasurer and VP). Nominating committee will be evaluating the members at the table and who might be a good fit for those positions. Email interest in either of these positions to Kelly and Zack.
- 2014 Congress – Committee to Plan and Run
 - Looking for volunteers to plan and run, either late January or early February.
 - Call for volunteers: Ruth Shaw offers help
 - NESCO Congress is a Saturday event that all the neighbors are involved in, goes until lunch time. Suggested Englewood Church or Chase Near Eastside Legacy Center.
 - Ad-Hoc committee: breakfast is pitch-in provided by neighbors, NESCO provides plates napkins silverware and cups, potential for budget, beg Mike Bowling for soup for lunch, plan for 100-150 attendees, silent auction to recoup investments(?),
 - Volunteers for Ad-Hoc committee: Rebecca, Ruth, Brent, Tom; Kelly will consult
 - David Hedrick asked why we have Congress? History Lesson: NESCO Task Force used to meet on fourth Thursday of the month, NESCO used to meet on first Monday of the month, but moved the date to accommodate Zack. Task Force dwindled in attendance. Moved NESCO to fourth Tuesday of the month. Still hold Summit meetings quarterly on the fourth Tuesday (eliminating four meetings). One of the quarterly Summit meetings would be NESCO Congress. Summit Meetings have been taken over by JHBCC and Megan Fetter, community builder for JHBCC. Rick: Back in the day, this group was a representative body and Congress was the annual public meeting at which officers were elected. When GINI came in and NESCO Congress was used as the launchpad for GINI. At the time, it was felt that NESCO needed a more regular neighborhood engagement meeting quarterly. Have quarterly meetings and one large annual meeting. Rebecca offered a suggestion where we consider the “NESCO Congress” be a strategic planning opportunity where we talk about the bigger picture of what we want the Near Eastside to be as a conglomerate of neighborhoods. David proposed holding Congress and Summit together in March. Tommy stated we NEED to decide this tonight. Heavy debate on need for Congress in general. Tommy restating the question of need. Ruth said it's in bylaws. General question of “why?” Zack voiced support of for the opportunity to interact with neighbors. Summits have taken on their own momentum. Use the congress to problem solve on the issues that have been long standing with NESCO. Matt Belsaas texted Megan to see if she would be interested in replacing the March Summit with NESCO Congress - respectfully declined. Matt Belsaas texted Megan to see if she would be interested in combining the March Summit with NESCO Congress - she also declined, respectfully. Zack said that it would be fun and that we should still consider doing it. Recognized - Jim Spihalski from NOBO - encourage young people to attend courses at CLC, last meeting only one person attended from NESCO area. **Matt Belsaas move to disband NESCO Congress on the grounds that the information is redundant and information is available at other neighborhood meetings, second by David Hedrick.** Ruth gave history lesson on NESCO Congress about what happened at Congress, including elections and votes on what NESCO should be doing in the next calendar year, stating it's still a very important thing for the community and to undo that is a very big mistake for the community. David agreed that this is a great idea in theory but in reality it's not going to happen. Zack stated that Congress is a strategy meeting. David expressed concern that Chuck resigned because he was exhausted with the things we have to do in

NESCO all the time and he doesn't participate any longer in either neighborhood events or NESCO. Kelly chimed in that asking for volunteers to run this event was like asking for President elections last year, but reminded all in attendance to re-evaluate their position on their Board and warned against getting burned out. Tired of people sitting around the table and asking for volunteers and not getting volunteers immediately. David reiterated the point using the example of Feast of Lanterns, warned against redundant neighborhood functions and encouraged a different philosophy for meetings. Tom Sisson stated that NESCO Congress is the only opportunity in the area for people in the area to meet and talk with the Board Members. Motion on the table restated. Zack tagged on again that this is the only event that we do, but it's up to us to make sure we're not redundant. Matt re-iterated that there is very little perceived power for the NESCO board and it isn't capable, it's an event planning organization talked about the little value in the meetings if residents have the opportunity to present concerns at Summits and have a chance of getting something done. Rebecca retracted that this is a planning event and should be viewed as a strategic planning organization. Ruth stated that you get a lot of people to turn out for Congress that don't necessarily come out to other events. You likely get someone revitalized again to come out and work. Lots of these people never go to the other meetings. Melissa - if we're talking about a social meeting to meet the board, we can use FEAST. No reason that Board members couldn't take turns in the NESCO tent and accomplish this. At the summit task forces are formed for these types of ideas and we report back. Could not remember what was discussed at the last Congress and that it wasn't memorable. Let's take some of the things that we have at Congress and add them to the events that we already do. Zack called vote to end debate on Congress. Majority ended debate. **Motion restated by Zack on the floor is to "end Congress". Kelly called for all in favor for ending Congress, majority said we keep it. Abstentions: 1. Final vote of 8-2 with one abstention.**

- Tom Sisson motion to adjourn. Vote majority in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 819 pm

Next Meeting xxx

There will not be a December 2013 meeting. Next meeting will be January 28, 2014 at 6:30pm (Location TBA) – Elections for Vice President & Treasurer