

## **ECA Board of Directors Meeting**

### **North Branch Arts**

Monday, October 9, 2018, 7 PM

#### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order 7:05pm. September meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

**In attendance:** Mary Biesty, Jim Gillespie, Jennifer Herren, Dennis Henley, Jan Kupiec, Tom Kraft, Jeff Manuel, Caryn Meyers, Tom Misiewicz, Beverly Padratzick, Christine Rosenberg, Nora Shea, and Nancy Williams

**Absent:** Craig Caimi, Jac Charlier, Jennifer Carlson, Kevin Haran, Julie Marske, Justin Ochonicki, Lidia Pomaville, and Jeff Singer.

#### **Officer's Reports**

**President's Report:** Jeff reported that the retaining wall at the Metra tracks had collapsed due to the construction project on Devon Avenue. Caryn has notified the alderman's office. Jeff also indicated that beginning in January, board director positions, currently unfilled, will be filled by new or existing board members. Jeff will also set up a budget meeting in the next month as well as a financial audit of ECA funds.

**Vice President's Report:** Nancy informed the board that the project to change our existing bylaws continues. Susy Schultz has graciously agreed to review our proposed bylaws and provide feedback. Susy has past experience creating bylaws for not for profit groups. The proposed changes will be presented at the next board meeting in November for final board approval and then given out to members at the next General Meeting. The final approval is done by a member vote at the next General meeting in 2019 (currently not scheduled).

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff was not present due to illness but will send out the financial update via email. Jeff will also file paperwork to update our status as a non-profit organization 501C-4.

**Secretary's Report:** The board was reminded that monthly meeting minutes would be posted on the ECA website beginning with the September Meeting.

#### **Director's Reports**

**Nominating Committee:** The nominating committee of Mary Biesty, Julie Marske, and Jan Kupiec presented the slate of candidates and officers to the board. The board voted and approved the slate. The final slate will now be presented at the next General meeting scheduled for November 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Programs:** Jan was commended for the last two programs including speakers Congressman Mike Quigley and FAiR. Both events were well publicized and attended. The next General Meeting is scheduled for November 26<sup>th</sup> at the library and the topic is Cybersecurity. Jan is looking into the scheduling of a candidate's forum for the two aldermanic races (41<sup>st</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> ward).

**Beautification:** Kudos were given to Caryn on the ongoing improvements to the triangle. Caryn is also looking into a new sprinkler maintenance company because of the high cost of the current company. Caryn will schedule a fall cleanup of the Metra and Triangle for Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Nora Shea was thanked for her donation of several hydrangea bushes to replace the dead arborvitae bushes on the Metra platform. Finally, Caryn has sent communication to Jac on the Blue Star Memorial project.

**Special Events:** Because of the high cost of the estimate from a professional company for the holiday decorating of the triangle, the special events committee will continue the tradition of their own hard work making the area look festive! Decorating is scheduled for Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Santa has extended hours this year for the Holiday Stroll due to expected high demand. Entertainment has been booked and Chris Schultz is again allowing the ECA to use his office as a welcoming center.

The Spookiest House judging is again being hosted by Nancy Williams on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. The cost is \$30.00 for any board member or friend that will be on the rented bus.

**Community Development:** The Edgebrook Sauganash Chamber had formally requested that Metra move the train station to alleviate the traffic congestion when trains are stopped at the Edgebrook Station. Metra responded with a letter to Dennis Hammer stating that Metra Milwaukee outbound trains will no longer hold the gates down at the crossings. A Mexican restaurant is rumored to be going into the old Subway location.

**Safety & Transportation:** The sewer project on Devon continues!

**Membership:** Nora reported that our current membership is at 574 residents. Members have paid \$23,318. Nora thanked board members that attended the Fall seed and Bulb Swap held on October 6<sup>th</sup>. The event was well attended.

**Newsletter and Website:** Dennis continues to do a great job updating the website. He will be putting together the next newsletter to publicize upcoming events. He is still in the process digitally archiving the ECA records. Thanks Dennis.

**Social Media and Publicity:** Justin will be posting publicity for the upcoming events including the Spookiest House judging, General Meeting on Cybersecurity, and the Holiday Stroll.

**Charitable and Community Support:** Tom M. has asked for clarification on the philanthropy budget and how to best distribute the budgeted funds. This funding line is used by both schools and philanthropy.

**Forests and Parks:** Craig is working on a proposal for a fitness trail be added to the 41<sup>st</sup> Ward participatory voting process

**Snowplowing and Police/Fire:** Jim Gillespie reported that the CAPS meeting will be moved to the Edgebrook library starting in January. The meetings are at 7pm the first Wednesday of every other month.

Also, Jim has contracted with Jim Dunbar for snowplowing this year. The cost will be a retainer fee of \$3500. For three months and \$65.00 per hour when they plow. This is a savings over last year (\$4000. Retainer and \$125. Per hour)

Motion to adjourn 8:40 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 at 7pm.** This meeting will be held at North Branch Arts. Please remember to contact Jeff if you are unable to attend.