

ECA Board of Directors Meeting

Zoom and In person

Wednesday, October 13, 2021 6:30 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:35 pm. September minutes were approved with no changes.

In attendance: Anita Bernacchi, Mary Biesty, Michelle Christensen, Anthony Florio, Kathy Kaminski, Jan Kupiec, Jeff Manuel, Justin Ochonicki, , Nancy Williams, Tom Misiewicz, Beverly Padratzick, Jeff Singer, Caryn Meyers, and Jerome Witte,

Absent: Lorrie Kennedy, Jennifer Carlson, Tom Kraft, Tim Weiske Jennifer Herren, Christine Rosenberg, Steven Peacock, and Ewa Ryan

Officer's Reports

President's Report: Jeff discussed the follow up with the hazardous condition of the railings of the Metra underpass. Since CDOT is responsible for the maintenance of the underpass, Alderman Napolitano's office will follow up. There will be both a temporary fix and eventually a more permanent fix anticipated.

The Halloween activities are moving forward. Lorrie and Michelle are coordinating the ECA's participation in the Edgebrook Lutheran Church's Fall Festival. Nancy is still coordinating the Spookiest house judging for 10/28. Finally, the newsletter and social media postings will promote neighbors "I've been Booed" activity. Kathy has provided the beautiful graphics for both events. Bev ordered snack clips with the ECA logo to use for membership promotion at the ELC Fall Festival.

Finally, Jeff informed the board that Steven Peacock has become Justin's apprentice to learn the ins and outs of social media postings. Justin has set the bar high!

Vice President's Report: Nancy, Steven, Mary, Jeff, and Bev manned the ECA booth at the Farmer's Market in September to promote the activities of the ECA. Several new residents joined the ECA.

Treasurer's Report: Jeff S. reported the current budget to date. While income is down \$3.6, the expenses are down \$5K. Anticipated snowplow expenses are unknown and there will be some beautification expenses that will be incurred because of some sprinkler damage on the triangle. It was suggested that the city might absorb that cost. Jenny and Caryn will write a letter to Alderman Napolitano. Jeff reminded the philanthropy committee they have \$400. left to spend.

Secretary's Report: Mary reminded the board that the committee assignments for board members were the responsibility of the ECA president, but historically, Jeff always tried to accommodate any board members requested assignment.

Director's Reports

Nominating Committee: Michelle and Jerome indicated that the proposed slate for the next year's officers and board members would be sent via email before the November general meeting.

Community Development: Nothing to report

Special Events: There was a discussion about the Holiday lighting and Holiday stroll. After discussion, it was decided that the holiday lighting ceremony on November 20th would be enhanced with a visit from a Paw Patrol character, craft station, hot chocolate table, and more. Nancy will help coordinate with Ewa and Michelle. The holiday stroll the following weekend would be limited to strolling carolers to help promote Small Business Saturday and the ECA. Santa visits were eliminated because of Covid concerns.

Membership: Although membership numbers are down significantly (411 TY versus 600+ previous years) the group felt this was due to Covid and lack of major events that encouraged residents to join. Caryn indicated there would be more targeted mailings next year. Michelle suggested looking into using a QR code that links to our membership application.

Schools: Nothing to report

Media and Publicity: Justin suggested an email blast about the Halloween happenings. Also, there will be an ad with the Spookiest house winners posted for the October 30th Nadig paper.

Police/Fire and Transportation: Jerome suggested a social media posting about the CPD advisory meeting for the 16th district

Beautification: There will be a full report presented by Caryn at the November board meeting about Beautification progress and plans for next year.

Website: There was a recent issue with the website but Tony and Caryn informed us that the server had moved to a new site without prior notification to them.

Programs: Jan has scheduled the November General meeting to be held at the Edgebrook Lutheran Church on November 3rd. She and Jerome will provide a presentation on Real Estate trends and the General Membership will vote on the proposed slate of candidate for the ECA board.

Philanthropy: There is still \$400.00 available this year.

Old Business: The previous concern about ECA sponsorship was brought up with no additional action or comments.

New Business:

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm

NEXT MEETING: Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 10th at 6:30pm. Please remember to contact Jeff if you are unable to attend.

Board Meetings (every second Wednesday at 6:30 pm at the Edgebrook Lutheran Church or on Zoom)

November 10th

December 8th

Special Events

Holiday Lighting Ceremony Saturday 11/20

Holiday Stroll/Cookie Walk Sunday 11/28

General Meetings (4 per year)