

Meeting Minutes
Willo Neighborhood Association
May 13, 2021

Officers Present: Robert Cannon – President, Brad Brauer - Vice-President, Opal Wagner – Secretary, Linda Doescher – Treasurer

Board Members Present – Ann Bommersbach, Jeremy Schachter, James Varela, Erika Gagnon, Patrice Wappel, Sandra Lefcovich, Kush Govani, Aaron Montaña Searles, Charlene Gum

Members Absent: None

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Cannon at 6:30 p.m.

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Opal Wagner made a motion to approve the March, 2021 and April, 2021 minutes. Jeremy Schacter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Linda Doescher presented the current financial report. Brad Brauer made a motion to approve the financial report. Jeremy Schacter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Opal Wagner gave the Streets and Traffic committee update and announced that a meeting with the Streets Department staff on the 3rd and 5th Avenue re-design project will be held on May 21, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. near the traffic circle on 3rd Ave. and Encanto Blvd. Opal asked neighbors to please take advantage of this opportunity to get their questions answered and share their concerns directly with the City staff.

Tom Doescher gave the Zoning Committee update and reported on Zoning Adjustment application ZA-227-21 for a Raising Cane's drive-through restaurant at 2816 N. 7th Avenue. The following guest speakers spoke on the issue:

Gabrielle Sikes and Dennis Burke from the Encanto Manor neighborhood spoke in opposition to a Raising Cane's at that location.

Brent Kleinman, President of the Encanto-Palmcroft Historic Preservation Association stated that EPHPA had voted to oppose the Zoning Adjustment application for Raising Cane's.

Jeanine Baber, President of the Story Preservation Association stated that SPA had voted to support Willo's position if the Willo NA opposed the measure.

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Opal Wagner made the following motion: I move that the Willo Neighborhood Association oppose Zoning Adjustment Application ZA-227-21 for a Raising Cane's drive-through restaurant at 2816 N. 7th Ave. on the basis that It will create negative traffic impacts, does not meet the conditions for the use permits and variances the Applicant is seeking, and will set a bad precedent for the area; and we authorize Dr. Robert Cannon to send a letter to the Zoning Adjustment Hearing Officer informing them of our opposition.

Ann Bommersbach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Brad Brauer gave a Block Watch update and said there has been an increase in crime reports now that many neighbors are no longer working from home and homes are unattended during the day.

Jeremy Schachter gave an update on Willo's social media and asked the Board for guidelines and rules of engagement for Willo's Facebook page. Bob Cannon asked Jeremy Schachter, Sandra Lefcovich, Kush Govani and Aaron Searles to form a committee to study the matter and report their findings at the June, 2021 meeting.

Sandra Lefcovich gave an update on Inside Willo, which will be on hiatus for July and August, 2021. Sandra made a motion to adopt the advertising guidelines as presented to the Board. Erika Gagnon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The guidelines will be posted on willophx.com, published in Inside Willo and distributed to advertisers.

Ann Bommersbach presented an update on the By-laws committee and announced that the By-laws updates proposed by the committee (Ann

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Bommersbach, Erika Gagnon and Charlene Gum), will be voted on at the June, 2021 Board meeting. Major changes include all-electronic voting in the future, though neighbors may still request a paper ballot.

Carl Schurtz gave an update on the Welcome committee and said 58 tote bags had been distributed to new neighbors.

Teresa Fontana and Brad Brauer presented an update on the Home Tour committee and said 5 homes have been confirmed so far and procurement efforts are ongoing.

Patrice Wappel gave an update on Kleen Streets and said she will be doing work on 7th Avenue this Saturday.

Brad Brauer gave an update on the Parks committee and said he has been working with the Parks Department on getting the streetlight repaired and the trees trimmed.

James Varela and Diana Herman reported that 108 copies of the Willo architecture book project had been pre-sold – more than half of the 200 that have been ordered.

Kush Govani reported that he and Linda Doescher were working on changes to freshen the neighborhood website and make it easier to use.

Old Business – Bob Cannon stated that the Wednesday food trucks are not an official Willo neighborhood function. A neighborhood volunteer coordinates the food trucks. The food truck vendors have permits. Neighbors near Walton Park

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confirmed that the food truck vendors have been “organized, clean and neat”.

Bob Cannon asked Kush Govani and Erika Gagnon to include the Willo Kids Club leadership in planning for the October, 2021 “Celebrate Willo” event.

New Business – Linda Doescher said we received a request through the website recruiting Willo for a blood drive. Bob Cannon asked that we check with our insurance carrier before considering it.

Linda Doescher made a motion to adjourn. Patrice Wappel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.