

Willo Neighborhood Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
June 9, 2021

Board members present (in-person and virtually): Dr. Robert Cannon (President), Brad Brauer (Vice President), Linda Doescher (Treasurer), Opal Wagner (Secretary), Ann Bommersbach, Erika Gagnon, Kush Govani, Patrice Wappel, Jeremy Schachter, James Varela

Absent: Aaron Moñtano Searles, Sandra Lefcovich, Charlene Gum

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Dr. Robert Cannon

Approval of Minutes: Opal Wagner made a motion to approve the May 12, 2022 Willo Board minutes. Linda Doescher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Doescher presented the Financial Report. Income was a little over \$400.00. Expenses were \$6000, resulting in a net loss of revenue for May of \$2100.00 - the first month of the new fiscal year. The statement of financial position if we closed up shop now, there is \$109,000: \$27,018 in the checking account and a little over \$71,000 in the Edward Jones investment account. There is no word on the Block Watch grants yet. Brad Brauer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Patrice Wappel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

By-laws Update: Ann Bommersbach reported the draft of the updated Bylaws has been posted for at least 2 weeks on the willophx.com website.

The By-laws Committee added a position for President Emeritus – a position for a prior board president, which is an honorary title, non-voting, acting in an advisory capacity only. It will be offered to someone who has contributed greatly and had a positive long-term effect on the neighborhood.

The Committee also discussed whether renters should be able to run for board seats. Because it is important to be inclusive, they set a 2-year residency requirement for everyone who wants to run for the board (applies to both renters and homeowners).

The Committee also looked at whether to add social media policies in the By-laws. In examining other organizations' by-laws, they found it typically isn't done. Social media policies are not typically operational procedures. Sandra did come up with some social media policies, but they will be kept separate from the By-laws.

These are all the By-laws changes recommended by the Committee.

Brad Brauer made motions to accept both the President Emeritus and 2-year residency requirement to run for the board as updates to the Willo Neighborhood Association By-laws. Jeremy Schachter seconded the motions. The motions passed unanimously.

Erika Gagnon said she would date the draft approved as of today and get it to Bob Cannon for signature.

The next Bylaws review will be in June, 2023.

Streets and Traffic Safety Committee Update: Opal Wagner reported the Phoenix City Council had voted on June 1, 2022 to approve funding for construction of improvements to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenues through Willo as part of the 2022-27 Capital Improvements Program Budget. The 100% design phase is expected to be concluded by September, 2022, with construction to begin by the end of the year.

Central and Thomas Update: Opal Wagner reported that the City of Phoenix and Clear Channel Outdoor's Motion to Dismiss the appeal filed by Urban Phoenix Project and Arcadia Osborn NA was granted by the Superior Court on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Urban Phoenix Project, Arcadia Osborn Neighborhood Association, Harvey Shulman and others lost their legal action against the City of Phoenix, Clear Channel and the developer seeking to block relocation of the 3 billboards on the northwest corner of Central and Thomas and convert two of them to digital to facilitate construction of the proposed mixed-use high-rise. It remains to be seen whether they will file an appeal.

Zoning Committee Update: Brad Brauer reported no response has yet been received to our March letter to Deputy City Manager Alan Stephenson. A follow-up will be sent.

A new zoning request for 97 W. Lewis to add a carport structure behind the historic home is scheduled for a Historic Preservation hearing on June 22, 2022.

Linda Doescher is working on finding out who currently owns the property in the 100-block of Cambridge-Virginia and will reach out to the new owner. No construction is currently happening.

Communications Committee Update: The committee established email accounts under willophx.com. for both Willo Home Tour and Block Watch. Sandra Lefcovich also sent the policy for social media guidelines to all Board members to be reviewed and voted for approval. Linda Doescher made a motion to accept approve the Social Media Policy. Erika Gagnon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

*Inside Willo* is on hiatus until September. The June issue is out and has been posted electronically.

Jeremy Schachter reported that Willo's Facebook accounts now include Willo Events, which is public, along with the Official Willo Facebook page, which is only for residents. Our social media pages are working as intended.

Social Committee Update – Bob Cannon announced that Willo's new Social Committee Chair is Jonathan Gail Roberts and thanked Jonathan for taking on the chairmanship.

Proposal for a possible committee for concerts in Willo: Bob Cannon asked for the record to reflect that Alison Daniels and Nick Harper were not in attendance to present their proposal for concerts in Willo, which the Board was prepared and expecting to hear at tonight's meeting.

Block Watch Update: Erika Gagnon reported she is in the process of going through the Excel spreadsheet of Block Watch block captain information and should have an updated list prepared by September. She plans to post which blocks are missing captains and will be in touch with our Community Action Officer to establish a date for the captains to meet.

Willo Yard Sale: The next neighborhood yard sale is planned for October 15, 2022 (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat. of October).

Willo Home Tour 2023 Update: Linda Doescher reported the Home Tour Committee has set up several committees already, including Docents and Homeowner Liaisons (Brad Brauer), Procurement and Photos (Diana Herman), Volunteers (Addison Dent), Music (Ellen Fong and Chris Gonzalez). There are currently 3 confirmed homes and 5 maybes, as well as 2 confirmed gardens and 1 studio.

Brad Brauer is looking for volunteers to be docents and liaisons to homeowners. Watch for volunteer opportunities on Facebook.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Bob Cannon announced the Willo Board will be recessed until Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, so please check the website and your emails for updates in the interim.

A motion to adjourn was made by Patrice Wappel. Brad Brauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.