



SoWe Board Meeting

Minutes

Mon., April 23, 2018-5:30 pm
St. Joseph's Church- St. Francis Room

Attendees: Vasthi Acosta, Peter Barber, Susannah Bartlett, Jason Busz, Bianca Cordova, Gene Duncan, Andrea Miller for Rachel Eck, Dick Hecker, Carole Kirchner, Marie King Linares, Stu Metzler, Willonda McCloud, Martha Montes, Christina Ortega, Luis Ortega, Emerson Sampaio, Karen Schloer, Audrey Skilton, Jeff Tischer, and Abby Tucker

Absent: Christina DiCola, Ole Hongvanthong, Joe Krizemienski, Vicente Ramos, Sgt. Dorsey Sumrall

Staff: Jim Shultz and Shelby Nauman

1. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. Introductions

First, Florence Krane, the Principal of Price Elementary School, was introduced and thanked for hosting this meeting at the school. Next, the three new SoWe board members were introduced: Christina DiCola, Vasthi Acosta Dominguez, and Vincente Ramos. Last, the new SoWe Clean Up Crew, Porchea Stuckey and Dennis Shellenberger, was introduced and asked to say a few words about the first few weeks on the job.

3. Approval of Minutes

Gene makes a motion to approve Minutes from the March 26, 2018 meeting with the amendment to add Marie King Linares to the list of attendees. Willonda seconds the motion and it is unanimously approved.

4. Committee Reports

-- Communications (Jeff Tischer)

At the last meeting, the budget was reviewed. There was a discussion about bulletin boards and moving forward with them. There was a meeting with One-2-One to discuss the progress of the



website. They will be helping to build a website that can grow as we do and hopefully be multilingual. Block party promotion has begun, posters have been designed.

--Community Safety (Dick Hecker)

At the last meeting a guest from Ambassadors for Hope, a project that supports children with one or more parents who are incarcerated, to discuss what their initiatives are and the funds they need to continue their efforts. The budget was reviewed and increased funds for the Bike Ambassadors will lead to some coverage everyday. Three porch lights were installed on the 600 block of St. Joseph Street. The porch light project is reaching out to landlords to go 50/50 to install lights on their rental properties. SoWe will be included and contribute to a parking study with the City Parking Authority that will cover the entire city and surroundings. There was a neighborhood watch team meeting with the Lancaster Police on Tuesday, April 16, more info to come.

--Economic Opportunity (Jim Shultz for Ole Hongvanthong)

There is money allocated to support the parking study that will include the southwest. The SoWe board will be part of the study and will be involved in the planning and details. There is \$35,000 allocated for the installation of streetlights and trees on Manor St. Façade fix-up is planned for Manor Street and CRIZ financing is being sought for specific properties in this area. Private investors are being sought to get involved in Manor Street properties. The program in Lititz that started some 40 years ago will serve as the model for investments, improvements and control of properties; the impact of the success of this program is visible when visiting Lititz. Someone from that program will meet with SoWe to, see if the same concept can be applied.

--Education (Bianca Cordova)

The last Donuts for Dads was a success. The program was great for parents, students, and teachers this year. Next year there is a goal to create workshops for parents in conjunction with the Donuts and Muffins events. Other goals are to increase the before school program and increase the relationship with the recreation center and Brandon park. Two applications were submitted for additional funds to support a community school at Price Elementary.

--Housing (Abby Tucker)

There were no proposed budget changes at the last meeting. Planning for new initiatives has begun and public meetings with city land banks are to come. Properties that have been condemned and are owned by the redevelopment authority are being presented to private investors for redevelopment. More landlord meetings will be planned to see what we can do to get more participation.



--Neighborhood Connections (Willonda McCloud)

Parking lots for the Night Out on Tuesday, August 1st have been secured. The city has been waiting to discuss the idea of Connection Captains in neighborhoods until the Director of Neighborhood Engagement has officially started. The SoWe Block Party is on June 23rd. Food, music, and activities have been confirmed. A budget is being developed and most things are being donated. Emerson has submitted all city and police applications for the block party. The Block Party sub-committee is still looking for about 30 volunteers to facilitate kids' activities and logistics.

--Parks and Public Realm (Andrea Miller for Rachel Eck)

This committee assisted with the installation of porch lights. They discussed the potential to add trashcans in needed areas. An additional \$5,000 has been allocated for more trashcans and LHOP is seeking funds to match that amount. Volunteers will be needed in designated areas to empty these public trash cans on a regular basis. There will be a "data walk" on May 12 from 10-12 to assess neighborhood needs. Home owners who want of trees can choose from 40 types of trees to be planted on their property. Residents are being asked to report rotting trees. A piano has been obtained for the park, but needs to be installed. Open streets is on May 20th, there will be a feedback meeting during this event to discuss potential park improvements. June 24th is Pride Fest at Culliton Park. This will be the first time this event will be held in our park. The event is family friendly. More blocks have been adopted, SoWe still has the most blocks adopted in the city. Our tv collections have stopped because a hauler has volunteered to take over. There will be a citywide cleanup on May 12. It has been a goal to work in conjunction with local artists to promote recycling, trash, and cigarette disposal, by using these items as art. There is an offer from the city on the lot behind the baseball field at the park for a potential skate park or other installment without having to take away the parking lot. Kids and parents enjoyed the egg hunt, there were 1200-1300 eggs collected.

--City Council Liaison (Martha Montes)

The Lancaster Arts Council will make a presentation for Culliton Park. An HR report will be coming soon. There was a moderate change in noise ordinance. There were 56,00 crime cases which was a 56% increase from 2016. Most were calls to dwellings. The police academy is down in enrollment. Panhandling is being handled by the mayor's office now. The police department donated 30 bikes to the Lancaster Schools District.

Mayor's Report

Streets were clear and safe during winter emergencies. April 30th will be the start of Mayor's week. There will be public meetings in each sector and the Director of Neighborhood Engagement will be announced. May 2 will be the Southwest meeting at Price Elementary.

5. Finance Committee



A motion is made to send the budget to LHOP to make a final approval. Willonda McCloud motions and Martha Montes seconds the motion. Unanimously approved.

6. Old Business

By laws are being revised and approved by LHOP. Final first round interviews for the SoWe Director will be wrapping up and second round interviews will begin. Announcement of the new Director will follow.

7. New Business

The next meeting will be on Monday, May 21st. A survey will be sent to all board and committee members from Wells Fargo Regional Foundation (WFRF). New SoWe hats and t-shirts are available for \$10 at the SoWe office. Jeff Tischer makes a motion to rename the SoWe meeting room to the Jim Shultz Meeting Room. Martha Montes seconds the motion and it is unanimously approved.

8. Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:35 pm unanimously approved