



## **MEREDITH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 13, 2004** at 6:30 pm

Meredith Reformed Church/ 5128 Meredith Drive / 276-4901

**Attendees** - Those in attendance were Justin Gross, Chris Craig, Mikki Kinning, Don Shaw and Lisa Shaw. Emily Chafa had another meeting and Mike Seifer was not able to attend.

**Call To Order** - The Board Meeting was called to order by Justin Gross at 6:30 pm. The Agenda was approved. Previous meeting minutes were distributed by Secretary, Chris Craig with a motion to approve. Chris furnishes a copy to the Board by email prior to the meeting and distributes a paper copy at the actual meeting. Minutes are maintained in a permanent record book.

**Treasurer Report** – Mikki Kinning reported a beginning balance \$5,442.81; revenue of \$2,980.00.00 which included 8 received memberships (120.00), advertising revenue (\$1,350.00) and donations (\$1,510.00); expenses were \$303.98; and the ending balance as of September 13 is \$8,118.83. Expenses are grouped and reported by project.

Mikki provided revised copies of the **2005 Projected Budget** listing revenue and expense projections; the Board agreed it looked very good and thanked Mikki for her efforts. Mikki prepared a General Ledger (details by items) sheet which breaks out the events and projects. An equipment category was added to the Budget and Chris Craig asked that the Board consider the purchase of a logo 10x10 foot portable tent to reuse at all events (instead of borrowing Ken Craig's tents from Off Campus). The Board authorized Chris to check out vendors and prices. Chris will also look at prices of a new digital camera for use with the newsletter; she is currently using her web cam camera with low resolution and the DSM Register is refusing to print submitted event photos.

Mikki recommended the \$1,500 donation from Meredith Neighbors Window Problems will be put into a CD with a 2.24% interest rate. It was discussed that she wait as interest rates are improving. We can withdraw without penalty. Chris will close the Wells Fargo window account when this large check clears.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Palm & Bel-Aire Street Islands** –This Partners in Parks annual lease with the city expires November 30, 2004.

Project Coordinator Nancy Beltramo has moved and no one is coordinating at this time. The Board discussed turning the lease back to the city or putting an article in the newsletter asking for volunteer help to maintain and plant the islands. Nancy turned over all her paperwork and files to Chris. Chris will also check the cost of an outside vendor watering and planting for the MNA during the growing season.

**Westchester Park Committee** –Lisa Shaw reported the new area grading is completed and currently fenced off. The older play equipment installation has begun assembly and should be done by the end of Fall.

**Membership Committee** – Justin Gross reported new membership data volunteer Jennifer Hashaugen has been passed the Excel files and materials. Justin and Chris went over the update procedures with her. She will submit a new file to Chris by October 1 for the Fall newsletter mailing. The Welcome New Neighbor packets will not be handled by Jennifer and we need someone to continue to distribute these area business coupon packets, etc. to new residents. Chris has all the past materials gathered up by Justin when he coordinated the program.

**Social Committee** – The **Beaverdale Parade** is on Saturday, September 18 starting at 10:00 am. Chris has coordinated classy cars and driver. Neighbor Bruce Babcock requested and received 5 boxes of Braches candy from HyVee on East Euclid where he is the Pharmacy Manager. Don Shaw will be picking up additional candies from Walgreen on Douglas having worked with Manger Bill Diaz. Justin has rounded up 5 children from the neighborhood to walk and hand out candy this year (new procedure, NO throwing). All participants meet at First Federated Church at 48<sup>th</sup> and Franklin by 9:00 am in MNA t-shirts to decorate the cars and get ready.

**Skate North Family Afternoon** has been confirmed by coordinator Mike Seifer for Sunday, October 3 from 2:00 to 4:30 pm with a discount. Chris will send out a group email reminder and will create a flyer for Mike to pass out to residents and post at area businesses. The email will add in the churches so they can announce to their families.

**Business Committee** – Chris Craig reported that Ken Craig will be checking with General Manager Paul Dullard of Carlos O’Kelly’s on what type of dinner discount they will offer to the MNA for our November 1 Member Appreciation Night from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. We have our Board Meeting that same night at this location and we will reserve a table also. We need to figure out who will man the table during the meeting from 6:30 to 7:30.

**Communications Committee** – Chris Craig will be starting the Fall / October newsletter issue and will send out an email to solicit articles and photos. The Business Committee will start soon rounding up ads for the Fall newsletter issue and Chris will prepare the packets and have Ken drop off at homes.

**Community Development Committee** – Don Shaw reported he would like to make sure we invite all business leaders and managers to our Quarterly Meetings. Chris will make sure their emails are on the group email list for all notices and events. We should ask the new Hoover Booster Club President to come to a Board Meeting.

We will need a November 9 speaker(s) for the quarterly meeting. Chris will contact Deb Belt of the DSM Register to speak. We need to sign up more volunteers at this meeting also for various events.

Justin suggested we have a “diversity potluck”, but due to lower November attendance the Board thought the idea would be great for the May 2005 Annual Meeting. In other words neighbors bring their ethnic foods to share.

We will have a December **Salvation Army Ring the Bells** at Dahl’s on Merle Hay Road and Don will get a date for Chris to put in the newsletter. Maybe tap into Hoover student body or booster club to help out.

Justin reported he stopped by the **Des Moines Neighbors Annual Cookout** on August 26 at their new offices and met lots of folks. The **Des Moines Neighbors Chili Cook-Off** is set for Saturday, October 9 at their Pleasant Street offices. All neighborhoods are invited to attend and Justin’s dad may represent our group.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: Monday, November 1, 2004 at Carlos O’Kelly’s**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Craig". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Chris Craig, MNA Secretary 2004-2006