

Northwest Carbondale Neighborhood Meeting
Steering Committee Volunteers
19 March 2012

Present:

Yolan Presley, ,
Chuck Paprocki,
Patti Diggle, ,
Adam Loos,
Jane Adams,
Lorie Allen,
Courtney Smith,
Sandi Litecky,

The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. at the Carbondale Senior Center on Springer Street.

The Nominating committee presented a slate of potential officers:

Adam Loos, President
Yo Presley, Vice President
Patti Diggle, Treasurer
Lorie Allen, Secretary

It was agreed that we would recruit members, and advertise our general meeting, at both the Farmer's Market and the Friday Night Fairs (beginning 4 May 2012). Courtney Smith offered to put together a Facebook page.

(<http://www.facebook.com/NorthwestCarbondale>)

Patti Diggle also created a Google group

(<https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en&fromgroups#!forum/nwcdale>) and an email address: NWCdale@gmail.com

Chuck Paprocki noted that it is time to let people know what is going on. It was agreed that the people who attended the 16 January 2012 meeting and left an email address would be contacted with a slate. Fliers would be prepared to be handed out at the Farmer's Market beginning 31 March. It was agreed that the first General Meeting would be held Monday 23 April. The agenda for the meeting would include the name of the organization, approval of the by-laws, elections of officers and board, and creation of committees as well as dues collection (\$10 for households, \$5 for individuals)

It was noted that the "New Old School" is being renovated and they will be hosing an open house sometime in April. Part of the developer's plans is for a community center. They also plan to be a center that provides interpreters for people speaking a number of different languages. It was mentioned that this may be a good location for the General Meeting. The Elks Lodge was also mentioned.

We agreed that 21 March an email would be sent out notifying potential members of the meeting. Hopefully, there will be some response by at least 31 March. On 4/10 an updated email should be sent out as well as press releases. The General Meeting will be held 4/23. Chuck Paprocki agreed to secure a free location.

Sandy Litecky noted that there may be a need for a Neighborhood Assistance Team—people who volunteer and look for code violations in their neighborhood and then contact the appropriate city authority (things like dangerous sidewalks, high grass, graffiti, etc.). If there is a “point” person to whom others send their information that person then apply pressure to city staff until something is done.

Jane Adams noted that in the early fall it is important to have a get together. Students are back and a gathering makes them feel welcome in the Neighborhood. Sandy Litecky noted that Sunday afternoons are usually the best time just before school starts. Patti Diggle suggested Hickory Lodge Park would be an idea setting. It was noted that Oakdale Park still has not been cleaned up from the Derecho!

Sandy Litecky noted that regarding the Old High School fields, she talked to Chris Lawless in the City and plans have passed through the planning commission. The city staff are now waiting for final plans and those will go in front of the City Council. At that point neighbors can lobby for more buffers etc. There will be another chance for input but we need to keep watch for it.

Regarding the Armory, Andy Wallace was approved by Military Affairs and his bid is now on the Governor’s desk. It has not yet been approved.

Regarding the illegally operating Garage: the City is trying to avoid a law suit and trying to help the other find places her tenant can move. It seems to us someone should be helping the tenant. Lorie Allen agreed to attend the next City council meeting (and as an aside, I did. I feel the City will take no action on this issue unless someone or a group really starts to apply pressure regularly and often). As a group it may also be possible to write a memo about this issue and file a more formal complaint.

The next meeting will be held 9 April 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.