

**York Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting, April 12, 2017, 7pm
at Garden St. United Methodist Church
MINUTES**

Attendees: Ben Larson, Jean Layton, Anne Mackie, Kim Owen (via phone), Mark Schofield, Tom Scott, Mark Sherman, Edward Tabor

Absent Excused: Cory Anderson, Don Hilty-Jones, Leigh Mcdiarmid, Kim Niederhauser,

Guests: Julia Burns, Campus Community Coalition; Melissa Laitsch (Alabama Hill neighborhood)

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 by Tom Scott.

The Agenda was accepted as amended.

1. Approval of minutes for March 8 General and Board meetings

MOTION 2017.04.10.1: Mark Sherman moved and Jean Layton seconded to approve March 8 General and Board Minutes with one change in wording to the Board minutes to add the word “postpone” regarding the letter from YNA to the City Council in support of the proposal to form CNAC (Council Neighborhood Advisory Commission). Motion approved by unanimous consent.

2. Spring General Meeting Plans

MOTION 2017.04.10.2: Jean Layton moved and Mark Sherman seconded to change the general meeting date from May 10 to June 14. Motion approved by unanimous consent. Board members will prepare a “Spring Salad Buffet.”

Meeting topic & speakers: It was agreed that the meeting will have two parts. **Part I:** A “fun” topic (to be developed). Concern was expressed about it being graduation week and difficult to draw attendance.

Part II: (45 min.) Kim Owen will present the results of York’s interest survey and discuss plans for a fall general meeting at which a longer discussion will be held to identify neighborhood priorities, get more volunteers for projects, and do “capacity building.” Julia Burns agreed to also report on CCC’s survey results. Jean volunteered to help with presentation if Kim O. is not available. Because students will be leaving in June for the summer it was agreed to hold the lengthier discussion in the fall when students return. Format for the fall meeting will include break-out groups.

3. York Interest Survey

A draft survey from the sub-committee (Kim O, Jean, and Leigh) was reviewed. The purpose of the survey is to take the neighborhood’s temperature on issues and interests. Edits and suggestions from board Board: add “would you be interested in volunteering?”; do not use acronyms like “ADU”; be more specific in the questions rather than just use terms or labels like “Infill” or “Crime”; more descriptive questions; do not state “alternative transportation” but rather specify buses, bikes, walking. Add

the topic of housing affordability and zoning. Questions #3 & #5 seem repetitive. Suggested to drop #3. Add “business owner” to #1; do these a check boxes so a person can check more than one. Keep the ranking of priorities really simple.

CCC’s survey about quality of life issues in neighborhoods has had 450 responses; 3% are students. The survey closes April 17. The board discussed whether or not we could use CCC’s results to gauge areas of interest of concern in York (the results can be broken down by neighborhood); but it was felt the data is not sufficient.

4. Spring Yorker newsletter

May 11 the newsletter will be ready to hand out. Articles are due to Anne by May 1. Articles: announcements June meeting and Dumpster Day; President’s message; the survey and its purpose; ADU facts; parks reports; announcement Harriett Spanel Park dedication/party; event calendar; Tenants Waste Task Force.

5. Dumpster Day planning

June 3 was selected because it’s one week before WWU graduation. Volunteers: Jean, Mark Sherman, Kim O., Anne, and Tom.

TO DO: Ask Cory Anderson if he will again coordinate; ask Carolyn Mulder if she will contact SSC. (Anne to do.)

TO DO: Anne forward information to Julia about York’s dumpster day.

TO DO: Tom provide info for newsletter about donated computers for kids program.

6. CCC’s Tenant Waste Task Force

Meeting Thurs. Apr 20, 10:30am at WWU Alumni center, Herald building. Jean volunteered to attend for York. Julia reported they are reworking the theme and signs for this year’s campaign. Abatement letters from the city were sent to property owners, which helped get dumped furniture and trash picked up and saved the city significant funds last year.

7. Bellingham Neighborhood Coalition

The next meeting is Thurs. April 27, 5:30pm, here with guests Iris Maute-Gibson and Mike Estes, new members of the Planning Commission.

8. Parks Reports

Harriett Spanel Park: There was a good turnout for the April 8 work party. Several new neighbors volunteered. Plans are coming together with the Sehome Neighborhood to hold a renaming celebration later this spring. Work parties will continue in the evenings during the summer. April 28 another work party is planned with WWU’s Teaching & Learning Community Service volunteers. A “welcome back to Western” day of service may be held in September.

*The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm. Minutes submitted by Anne Mackie, Secretary
Minutes approved 7-25-17*