



HRA Board Meeting
Minutes
7-21-10

President Teresa Edgerton-Scott called the meeting to order. Board members, advisors and others present were: Barbara Ramsey, Tom Arceneaux, Cathy Williamson, Liz Swaine, Kenney Koonce, Marsha Millican, Julie Payne Johnson, Tina Kendrick and Kelly Gay. Absent were James Eakin and Advisors Sue Ball and Dan Marcalus.

Old Business:

A motion Liz Swaine seconded by Tina Kendrick approved the minutes of the June 20, 2010 meeting. Treasurer's Report was approved with a motion from Tom Arceneaux and seconded by Liz Swaine.

2010 NIP Grant—Teresa Edgerton

NIP Report has been turned in. We received our NIP reimbursement of \$4100+ that is not reflected in the Treasurers Report.

New Business:

President's Report—Teresa Edgerton

Office Space— The Highland Center didn't find HRA space that is handicapped accessible, so we will be moved back upstairs, but closer to stairs, within a week or so. Teresa asked how important it is for us to be accessible? Do we want to reconsider Buckner Square space for higher rent? Right now we pay \$94. We could get Buckner Square for \$225 with some requests of Christus Schumpert plus a phone and internet. Right now our finances look pretty good. Teresa felt right now we make no use of the office, however Sue Ball thinks people would come in and answer the phone if we had an appropriate space. The office space is not usable as it is now. There was a discussion on the usage versus the prospective cost. It was decided to postpone a decision on this matter.

HRA Strategic Plan: Teresa has emailed Dan Marcalus's contact to ask him to give us estimate of what he might charge to assist HRA in making plan for our future. This would possibly include one meeting with the board and one meeting with the membership. This contact would provide us with a starting point for our vision.

ShreveCentre Coalition: The next meeting is in August.

Candidate Forum—

This event is set for August 26, 6:00 pm—8:30 pm, Noel Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Letters to the candidates have gone out and Fred Childress will serve as moderator. Liz has a format put together. She suggested that questions be solicited via the website and forwarded to her. We will have mechanism for people suggesting questions/topics via web ahead of time. Each candidate will answer same question and there will be time limit for each speaker. There will be an informal mingling opportunity

after forum in back of fellowship hall where we will serve lemonade, water, and cookies. This will be a 2-hour event with the last 30 minutes allowing the candidates questioning each other.

Noel Methodist Church charges \$210 for the room, \$30 for the custodian, and \$35 for the sound person. Teresa would like to order cookies from Lilah's to add a special Highland touch. This event is funded by NIP money. We are featuring it in upcoming newsletter. Do we also want to plan postcard reminder to members, do we want to purchase signs that advertise event (like clean-up signs)? We still have Jazz Festivals event parking signs on loan. Do we want to ask Fairfield Historic group if they want to co-sponsor? Liz will prepare press releases. Tom Arceneaux suggested we ask for donations.

Taste of Highland—Tina Kendrick

An initial planning meeting with potential volunteers was held Tuesday, July 20, at Tina Kendrick's house. Task force areas were identified and discussed. Tina will email copy of notes this meeting. There was a good response. Tina is making an attempt to engage people not active in HRA. The date discussed was Sunday, May 1, 2011. The goals were to promote the historic Highland district, to engage our commercial and residential neighbors, to promote the restaurants in the Highland area, and to establish a biannual partnership for a Taste of Highland event. This event is still in the preliminary stages. Tina said they wanted HAP to be a partner as well as the Junior League and Tina had talked to Jodie McJunkin. There was a discussion about including the South Highland Historic District as a partner. The biggest accomplishment of the meeting was to define the procedure for the restaurants to participate. There was also a discussion of including an exhibition of Highland artists.

Property Standards—Teresa's on-going issues or concerns

Teresa passed around a response to Tom Arceneaux email concerning parking in front lawns. Tom said he would continue to call to report violations.

Zoning—Tom Arceneaux

There are no zoning cases in Highland at this time.

Roll out of the Master Plan is on Saturday, August 28 from 10 AM until 2 PM.

Neighborhood Clean up—Dan Marcalus is meeting with some folks who have ideas about street adoptions and clean up, in conjunction with Community Renewal. This is to try to get help with community clean up.

Membership—Julie Payne-Johnson

Julie, Kelly Gay and Teresa Edgerton Scott met and reconciled all membership lists. Teresa thinks labels reminding of dues date may be ready for this upcoming newsletter. Teresa suggested we have a short explanation about the labels in the newsletter. We will continue to work on ways to get people to consistently renew.

Landscaping update—Sue Ball

Sue will apply for a Master's Garden Grant to assist with landscaping one-time only expenses.

Public Relations—Teresa Edgerton

HRA needs a new brochure and commercial decal for commercial members. Does anyone know someone who would like to assist with this? Barbara Ramsey said she would be happy to help. Teresa suggested perhaps there were someone on the marketing committee who might help. Julie Payne Johnson suggested that Casaic could possibly use the work they did for the tee shirts that might be used. She said she would call Casaic.

Newsletter—Kelly Gay

Kelly Gay, Julie Payne Johnson and Teresa Edgerton Scott met and also discussed newsletter. Lead story will be candidate forum. Liz said she would write the article. Also featured will houses being renovated by Kelly Gay. Marsha Milligan Gill will write an article about The Neighborhood Improvement Award Winner and an explanation about award. There will also be a President's Report (to include activities thus far, Taste of Highland, some photos to go along with it) and short updates on Jazz Festival grant, membership labels, etc.

Neighborhood Improvement Award—Marsha Millican Gill

Kenny suggested Greg Pearson on 400 block of Merrick for this award.

Programs Update— Tina Kendrick

Tina said the presentation of the Strategic Plan and also talk about the Taste of Highland and the Jazz Fest would be on the agenda for our next membership meeting. Tom Arceneaux suggested perhaps we could focus on the historic portion of the Master Plan. The possible date would be Tuesday, October 19, 2010. The board agreed Randall T. Moore would be a good site for the meeting.

Fundraising—None scheduled at this time.

Announcements

James Eakin said to tell everyone he is still alive.

Adjournment

A motion for adjournment was made by Barbara Ramsey and seconded by Kelly Gay.

Cathy Williamson

Submitted by Cathy Williamson, Secretary HRA