Historic District Residents Association

Board of Directors Meeting

October 28, 2019

Home of George Evans, President, HDRA

216 Metcalf Street

New Bern, NC

Call to Order by George Evans, President@ 5:06 p.m.

Present: George Evans, Paula Jessup, Kate Rosenstrauch , Bridget Crawford, Val Ruland-Schwartz, Sheila Batten, Rick Prill, Betsy Clagett

Excused: Kelly Sorenson

Absent: Wayne Mills

Approval of September Meeting Minutes:

KR motioned, PJ seconded

Minutes approved

GE requested VRS update and post approved minutes for membership to have available.

Old Business

Care

RO had requested attendance at Aldermen meetings and RP had suggested CARE committee members attend to air concerns and position their platform better; HDRA will further evaluate attendance

* + GE has discussed how city can improve community communications as now it is mostly via Facebook
  + VRS volunteered to attend November Alderman meeting if there is a commitment to further attendance and pull through by Board members
  + GE expresses a need for consistent messaging with/from CARE to singularly focus on the need for a city flood resiliency officer
  + RP suggested that the upcoming City budget proposal should reflect if the city is considering hiring someone ( by proposing allocation for a salary for said position)
  + GE will put together the key talking points to message at meetings

Christmas Party

KS excused

* Date is 12/20 ; see Social Committee report

New Business

* GE : HDRA Policy on charitable solicitation; Is the board concerned that there are too many charitable requests being circulated through our HDRA email distribution list? The general consensus was that there were not, and that these announcements serve as a great community bulletin board for the causes. The policy, however, remains that all charitable announcement considerations must be of a historic district collective community concern. There is an approval process to review all communications before they are disseminated. This will continue and VRS will work with KR.
* KR : there is a last push for business membership and the November reminder for residential membership renewal.
* Speaker considerations for future General membership meetings. Board members agreed that having Foster Hughs speak at last meeting was quite informative and valuable . Board expressed gratitude to PJ for arranging all. Multiple concepts/ specific speakers were floated for future meetings including:
  + PJ : Susan Moffet Thomas
  + GE : additional speakers on flood resiliency
  + RP: Executive Director of the airport due to its future expansion plans
  + BC: New City HPC Director Matt Shelly
  + SB: CARE Committee
* GE : the 2 year Term is up for four Board members
  + GE will solicit membership for nominations
  + KR discussed forming a nominating committee and will work with GE on same
* Survey Results
  + 64 respondents
  + GE will present at January general membership meeting

Committee Reports

* Appearance PJ
  + PJ commented on excellent effort of City Parks and Rec regarding Mumfest and the beautiful Mum Archway in Union Park that drew many visitors
  + Parks and Rec will maintain urns
  + Delinquent properties are listed in report
  + Please forward addresses of all/any concrete planters that should be removed
  + GE: Clean Sweep low volunteer turnout; Blackbeard’s is the worst litter offender
    - BC suggested that possibly someone from the city can contact this establishment to address their littering and the establishment’s responsibility to maintain their property and contain this problem; KR will address with Foster Hughes and see what can be done about this.
* Treasurer Report B Clagett
  + BC: nothing to add to report
  + GE: reported that annual audit was completed
  + BC is on top of any fees that Bband T charges HDRA
* Communications Report VRS
  + VRS will review survey at next meeting
* Community Outreach WM absent.
* Membership KR
  + KR: Informed Board that they is a mapping delineation that defines historic district officially .
  + Nothing additional to address from report that has not already been discussed.
* Business Outreach SB
  + Nothing to add to report

KR motioned for meeting adjournment. B Clagett.seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.