Historic District Residents Association

Board of Directors Meeting

November 25, 2019

Home of George Evans, President, HDRA

216 Metcalf Street

New Bern, NC

Call to Order by George Evans, President@ 5:00 p.m.

Present: George Evans, Rob Overman, Kelly Sorenson, Paula Jessup, Kate Rosenstrauch, Sheila Batten, Rick Prill, Betsy Clagett

Excused: Val Ruland-Schwartz

Absent: Wayne Mills

Approval of September Meeting Minutes:

KR motioned, RP seconded

Minutes approved

Old Business

Christmas Party

KS reviewed the following:

* Date is 12/20, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm at the O’Marks Building (which is available to HDRA at no cost);
* Sweet Peas will be providing food at an approximate cost of $20/person
* Social Committee is waiting on RSVP count to determine beverage needs
* Regarding music, two options available: one, secure a DJ, or two, pipe in music using equipment from a friend
* Committee will need help from members to setup and take down tables/chairs; KS will check with Sabrina Bengel about availability of tables already at the building

Survey Results

GE commented that he was a little frustrated with some of the survey results/comments, including a relatively low turnout of membership responses.

GE noted that he had sent an email out regarding the Survey Results and asking the membership to identify possible new Board Members. To-date, no response regarding potential new Board members

KR handed out a flyer that will be sent out, asking the membership to consider participating as a Board member or recommending someone. The flyer will be sent out in approximately one week

GE indicated that a date needs to be set for the January membership meeting along with who we may want to invite as guest speaker(s). One possibility might be a representative of CARE. Another possibility might be Susan Moffet Thomas. GE indicated that he will contact Matt Shelly, who is the new City representative to the HPC. GE also noted that at the January membership meeting, the election of Board Members will need to be conducted along with a recap of this past years’ activities.

GE indicated that the Board needs to draft a proposed budget for the 2020 calendar year, therefore the Committee Chairs need to review their anticipated financial needs and submit a budget request. KR suggested the possibility of having a few ‘no cost’ HDRA night outs throughout the year, which was done a couple of years ago.

RO suggested the possibility of including a budget fund whereby HDRA could buy some trees that could be planted by the City where space is available. PJ indicated that she will talk to Foster Hughes, Director of Parks/Recreation, to see if this might be a possibility.

RO indicated that he will talk to a representative of Christ Church about the possibility of scheduleing dates throughout the year for HDRA using the Harrison Center. GE noted that HDRA might need to look at the possibility of paying Christ Church for use of the Center.

In response to a question, SB commented about the new T-Shirt/Hat business scheduled to open soon at the 5 Points intersection

New Business

GE asked if there were any recommendations that the new Board will need to address in 2020. This could include any specific items that will need to be focused on, anything that the current Board did not do that needs to be addressed, or dues for businesses. Hearing no comments, GE asked the Board members to give this some thought.

Committee Reports

Appearance: PJ indicated that she had no report and that December will be a quiet month for the Committee as well. She will check with the City about their success in finding new urns for Council Bluff.

Treasurer Report: BC noted that a few revisions to the monthly report have been made which will better show our current financial status and bank balance

Business Outreach: SB indicated that she is working on putting together a calendar of events for the next couple of months

Communications Report: VRS was absent so no report was made

Community Outreach: WM was absent so no report was made

Membership: KR indicated that she is still working on encouraging greater business membership

Government Outreach: RP indicated that he had no report

Social: KS noted that her report was made earlier in the evening

Having no further business to conduct, KR made a motion to adjourn, seconded by RP, the meeting was adjourned.