

Central Bench Neighborhood Association

Quarterly Board Meeting and Community Forum,
April 24, 2017 6pm @ Wright Church, 4281 W Franklin St

Board Members Attending: Randy Johnson, Alexis Malcomb, Candace Hopkins, Lisa Theobald, Andrea Eborn

Agenda:

1. Treasurers' Report
2. Committee Updates:
 - a. Neighborhood Planning
 - i. Review next steps of 2017 Neighborhood Plan
 - b. Events
 - i. Review of Spring Egg Hunt and Spring Cleanup
 - ii. National Night Out
 1. Tuesday, August 1st
 - iii. Discuss possible future events
 - c. Communications
 - i. Newsletter
 - ii. Website
 - iii. Other avenues of communication
 - d. Community Garden
 - i. Updates
3. Grants Update
 - a. Traffic box wraps
 - b. Community Garden Insurance
 - c. Cassia Park
 - d. Mini grant
4. New Business?
5. Close meeting
 - a. Next Meeting July 24th

1. Treasurer's Report

Expenses to date: \$1126.03

Community garden dues: \$289

Cash on hand: \$1558.69

2. Community Updates

2a. City has allocated grant money to put together a Central Bench neighborhood plan. CBNA is the only neighborhood in the area that doesn't have a neighborhood plan; need to remedy that so that government agencies can better plan for our needs. The following types of information will be collected:

- Define borders
- Census data
- Income data
- Homeowner vs. rentals
- Corridors for bike routes
- Traffic counts on major intersection

Just getting started, with no information collected yet. No start date mentioned. Hoping to compile a bibliography with other neighborhood plans on the Bench, bike plans, bus routes, and other community-oriented information.

Public can send email to Randy, randyjohnson79@gmail.com or centralbenchna.com, with ideas or if want to be active on a committee.

2b. April 8, Egg Hunt at Cassia Park: Andrea reported that this was a success with about 25 kids. Fourth egg hunt event; CBNA is the only Boise NA that hosts an egg hunt.

April 22, Spring Neighborhood Cleanup for Earth Day: Wind kept folks away, though a few people picked up bags and gloves. Hope to host event annually. Perhaps meet at community garden next year and have events for kids, etc.

Upcoming: August 1, National Night Out 7 p.m. Need to choose location, possibly Wright Church? Event will have firetrucks, police, possibly food trucks, ice cream, hot dogs, games, music?

Neighborhood Watch: Randy will reach out to Boise PD to see which officer is assigned to our area to see if this person wants to talk about setting up NW's in the area. Randy will follow up. Lisa will put City Watch website info on CBNA website.

2c. Communications: Website has been updated, to be continued. Lisa asked that neighbors contribute ideas for newsletter or information of interest for website. Alexa and Randy will continue to update CBNA Facebook page with information.

2d. Community Garden: Ivy showed all in attendance the garden. Three plots were available at this time; perhaps will grow food here to donate to church food bank. Work parties are held regularly to clean and weed planting beds. Fencing will be added around irrigation ditch for safety concerns. Wood chips have been donated for pathways.

3. Grants Updates

3a. Traffic wrap boxes: Alexa is working the City Arts to choose 2 more wraps at Clark & Orchard & Cassia & Orchard.

3b. Community Garden insurance: City grant will cover insurance for the garden (\$750-\$800 annually)

3c. Cassia Park bridge: CBNA/Andrea obtained a \$75,000 city grant to build bridge over the canal between Albion Street and Cassia Park. City is negotiating with nearby residents to review the pathway to the bridge and City Council is working with the Canal Company and nearby residents to improve the plan and make changes that would perhaps not require that the canal be covered over. Residents who live adjacent to the canal are concerned about this. Some neighbors were upset that the city did not communicate the park/canal/pathway plan and that the plan would affect property values and quality of life issues. More to come.

3d. Mini Grant approved from city of \$2000 specifically for communication and outreach, including mailings. Mailing to CBNA mailing list costs about \$1200. Randy will get the mailing out to residents soon.

Other ideas: Explore possibility of grants from St. Al's and St. Luke's for community garden. Possibly Blue Cross of Idaho? Boise State offers grant-writing class; may be able to get grant-writing help from students. Nobody was assigned to follow up, however.

4. New Business

Maverick: The company is facing major hurdles for rezoning for building proposed at Orchard & Franklin and has pulled its application to rezone. No plan to build in the near future; project appears to be backburned for the time being.

5. Next Meeting: July 24, 6 p.m. Perhaps at the new Franklin Park? Hot dogs and/or ice cream? Watch for update.