

Arbor District Board meeting 9-26-2023

Zoom 6:30 p.m.

Present: Kyle Miller, Brian Swoboda, Jane Adams, Pheral Lamb, Francine Wien-Frankowski

Absent: Judy Ashby, Sarah Buila

Kyle called meeting to order

No agenda prepared.

Committee reports:

Fran (Activities and events) - Judy was thinking about music on the porch. But she's been out of town a lot. Brian – noted that we need to begin organizing the annual Holiday party

Pheral (Housing etc.) – The most interest he's found for the Committee's ideas is the Study Circles group, particularly Mary O'Hara. He wants to work with Study Circles and will report after Study Circles meeting.

Discussion:

Brian reported that the City received a \$500,000 grant to purchase and demolish buildings.

Pheral & Brian – SIU and SIH should be involved, despite long history of their lack of engagement. Suggestion for Arbor District members meet with SIH and SIU officials to try to get them invested.

Treasurer's report: Brian gave a summary of funds on hand, no outstanding bills.

General discussion:

Pheral reported on a focus group for non-profits held by the City's Economic Development consultants. He chose not to attend the one for the general public; nor did any other member of the Board. Pheral assessment is that the money was wasted. Nobody from the city was there. Nothing new came to the fore.

Jane reported that the redemption period for the Fishers to pay the taxes owed on the Cherry Street lots ended Sept. 22, so the property has gone to the County Trustee, to be auctioned off. The City is planning to acquire the parcels before they go to public auction; failing that, the Park District will acquire the property. We will know in a couple of weeks the status of those parcels.

Pheral raised the question of park development – how can we be involved in the design of the park itself? Arbor District participation to be pursued.

Kyle will distribute a Doodle poll for meeting toward end of October. – To be on the agenda: Halloween (probably more in terms of future Halloweens than this year), Holiday gathering, membership, annual meeting, development of park on the Fisher lots.

Brian noted that we need to alert neighborhood to increased number of kids for Halloween.

Adjourn