

2024 02 04 Arbor District Annual Meeting minutes (UNAPPROVED)

At 3:05 Kyle Miller called the meeting to order

Present: Kyle Miller, Judy Ashby, Brian Swoboda, Jane Adams, Pheral Lamb, Francine Wien, Sandy Litecky, Peg Falcone, Ben Menendez, Dan Finnegan, Mike McCormick, Bob Flannery, Parker Wilkinson, Tobin Grant.

Board members absent: Sarah Buila

Approve of minutes of the September 25, 2023 Board meeting (Board only voting). Francine Wien moved, Brian Swoboda second, to approve. Unanimous.

Approve minutes of 2023 Annual Meeting. Sandy Litecky moved Brian Swoboda second to approve. Unanimous.

Treasurers report, Brian Swoboda: The account has \$1,204.00 on hand. Last year ended with \$1,485.00. Sandy Litecky moved to accept, Bob Flannery second. Unanimous.

President's report, Kyle Miller: Miller reported the organization's accomplishments and activities of 2023, appended to end of these minutes. Sandy Litecky moved to accept, Dan Finnegan second. Unanimous

Sandy Litecky, as member of the Carbondale Planning Commission, reported on the "Glass House" – halfway house for federal offenders, which is still in process.

Amendments to by-laws. The proposed amendments were read, the considered one by one. The proposed language was discussed and some amendments to the language were accepted. (Proposal appended; updated by-laws posted on Arbor District website)

Article I, Geographical boundaries. Sandy Litecky moved, Brian Swoboda second, to approve amendment with revisions. Unanimous.

Article V.1. Board and Officers. Number of at-large members. Sandy Litecky moved, Pheral Lamb second, to approve with revisions. Unanimous

Article V. 4 Add clause regarding ex officio roles. Tobin Grant moved, Sandy Litecky second, to approve with revisions. Unanimous.

Article VIII – Committees. 1. Specify nominating committee. Sandy Litecky moved, Parker Wilkinson second, to approve with revisions. Unanimous

Election of officers. After discussion the following slate was established:

President – Pheral Lamb

Secretary – Tobin Grant

At large – Parker Wilkinson

Kyle Miller

Sandy Litecky moved to accept the slate, Peg Falcone second. Unanimous

Open discussion. Note that the annual Keep Carbondale Beautiful clean up will be April 20. Also, clean up before eclipse. Sandy Litecky reminded the attendees that the Arbor District has undertaken responsibility for keeping the stretch of W. Walnut Street between Poplar and Oakland free of trash.

Brian Swoboda reported on a property on W. Monroe that appear to be operated as a “flop house”, with many overnight residents and daytime visitors who appear to be purchasing drugs. It has been reported to the City but the disturbance continues.

Francine Wien reported actions being taken to make the gardens around the Carbondale Public Library less convenient for homeless people to establish regular sleeping sites.

Adjourn.

Attachments

2023 Arbor District accomplishments

The Arbor District has a very active year, organizationally and in terms of actions to improve the neighborhood:

Neighborhood improvement:

January - Community-wide meeting to address gun violence, due to an upsurge of retaliatory shootings in the heart of the Arbor District. State's Attorney Joe Cervantes attended, with helpful information and follow-up with announcements about apprehensions of shooters that were transmitted to the Arbor District email list.

These concerns continued, including concerns about squatters, as several houses and other buildings (including the old part of the Walnut St. Baptist Church owned by the City) burned down due to squatters starting fires.

Encouraged Bucky Dome to acquire house that was burned down by squatters on the NW corner of Forest and Cherry.

In general, encouraged "squatter patrol" to report problem properties using SeeClickFix

Held "Living Room Conversations" with City Council and Mayoral candidates before April's elections.

Participated in Earth Day clean-up

Held spring neighborhood gathering and potluck.

Supported owner of former Glass House (805 W. Freeman) regarding its use as a federal halfway house.

We submitted CIP request for improvements to W Cherry between Poplar and Oakland, including a pilot project of traffic calming and striping of Forest Cherry intersection in

anticipation of increased visitor traffic to the Fullerton Dome Home museum and interpretive center, as well as to address speeding and frequent incidents of running that (Forest/Cherry) stop sign. Endangering especially neighborhood children.

Held annual holiday party

Organizational

Resurrected the Arbor District website. www.arbordistrict.org

Formally incorporated as a state not-for-profit corporation. (Not tax exempt as our expenses are too low to make it worth the annual IRS filing).

Reviewed by-laws with suggested revisions to be voted on at the 2024 Annual Meeting

Suggested amendments to the By-laws:

Article II. Geographical boundaries:

The Arbor District is the area bounded by West Main, South University, West Mill, and South Oakland, inclusive of both sides of the boundary streets.

Article V - Board and Officers

1. The business of the Arbor District Neighborhood Association will be carried out by a Board consisting of a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and ~~five~~ **three (3)** at-large members. The Board will designate a webmaster and email list manager. The immediate Past President shall be an ex officio member of the Board with voice but without vote, unless the past president is also an elected Board member. The duties of officers shall be those generally ascribed for those offices. The Board may appoint other representatives and committees to carry out functions of the Arbor District Neighborhood Association at the direction of the Board. Board membership should be representative of the District.

4. Roles such as organizational historian, webmaster, and manager of social media/communications may be filled by board members or general members. Such roles do not confer voting membership on the board.

Article VIII - Committees:

1. A Nominating Committee shall be formed in October of each year. The Committee shall recruit officers and new members to the Board. The Nominating Committee shall send out a call for nominations by October of each year.
2. Standing and Ad Hoc committees...[as in current Bylaws]