



HRA Board Meeting
Minutes
11-3-10

President Teresa Edgerton called the meeting to order. Board members present were Liz Swaine, Barbara Ramsey, Julie Payne, Kelly Gay, Tina Kendrick. Absent were Marsha Millican, Tom Arceneaux and Advisors Dan Marcalus and Sue Ball.

Teresa recognized guest Shelly Ragle, Director of Shreveport Public Assembly and Recreation (SPAR). The order of business was suspended to allow Ms. Ragle to speak to the board about a letter we recently submitted regarding concerns and questions about Highland Park. Ms. Ragle went point by point in the letter to address the issues raised. Please see attached letter with Ms. Ragle's responses in bold italics.

Old Business:

The minutes of the October meeting were approved as distributed with a motion by Liz, second by Tina, and board vote.

A disbursement statement incorporating both August and September expenses was distributed. Tina moved to approve, Liz seconded. After a brief discussion the Treasurer's Report was approved as distributed.

Barbara reported on the commercial members' decals, which she is having City Printing prepare for January distribution when she mails out new membership invoices and/or thank you's.

New Business:

Teresa presented a written President's Report as follows:

- Office Space— I haven't checked on Highland Center office space but I was told the basement has wireless internet across the hall in the VOA offices and we would need to make arrangements to access it. Facilities Manager didn't know how it would be accomplished and I haven't followed up.
- HRA Strategic Plan—Tom identified someone who will do planning session as in-kind contribution but not write a report. We will follow up on this after January 2011 board elections.
- 2011 NIP Grant—Grant proposal submitted for \$10,000 with emphasis on physical improvement projects. Main events are not NIP activities—Christmas Tour of Homes and Taste of Highland because there is a charge for entry.
- Cultural District—Nothing new to report. Liz and I turned in our portions of the proposal. I assume we are waiting on state to reopen the process.
- Jazz Festival HRA table—Thanks for those who volunteered to help with HRA table. See assignment schedule sheet.
- Highland Park—Shelley Ragle will discuss with HRA board. We put into NIP grant to partner with SPAR on Highland Park improvements.
- Bus Stop Benches—I didn't include this in our NIP grant because I heard at the NIP proposal meeting that the process is laborious and bureaucratic. We may want to gather more information about th

- Revision of by-laws—Teresa asked Julie to type up a rough draft based on notes provided to Julie previously.

Tina Kendrick gave the Program report. The October 19 general membership meeting was a successful culmination for our 2010 General Membership meetings. We met our goal of having three well-planned and well-attended meetings. Teresa mentioned that we need to send Larissa a thank you. Liz said she had the address. January meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 18. The program will be election of officers and new board members and discussion of the Historic Commission ordinance. Please give me or Elizabeth Arceneaux any board nominees.

Tina also reported on the Taste of Highland event preparations. She has completed a draft of the SPAR application and met with the insurance carrier to arrange for the additional coverage. We received the city council resolution for beer-wine sale. Tina and Teresa are in the process of putting together a budget. Liz suggested we place signage at each end of the street at entrance points. Fairfield Historic District Association has agreed to assist with children's area. The cost of tickets will be finalized once we know how many vendors we have.

Tom Arceneaux was not present to give a Property Standards report. There was a brief discussion about a pile of debris from house renovation on Prospect or Dalzell. Also mentioned was the former Christian outdoor furnishings location on Gilbert. The windows are broken and the junk inside is falling out.

Tom is handling HRA's opposition to a proposed dance hall at corner of Youree and Stoner. The petition was denied by the Zoning Board of Appeals, but proprietor has filed a zoning request for event center with MPC. Tom will also attend that in December to voice HRA disapproval of proposal.

Teresa reminded everyone who can assist with Neighborhood Clean-up to meet Saturday, November 6, at corner of Wilkinson and Creswell at 8:00 am (til 11:00) to pick up trash on streets around Columbia Park. HRA will provide lunch for volunteers.

Elizabeth Arceneaux indicated she would help VP, Julie Payne-Johnson with membership. Elizabeth requested a list of the commercial members so she could begin to pursue more commercial members for HRA.

There was no formal landscaping report. The Neighborhood Ministries' flowers arrived and have been planted in the beds. All beautification sites are looking good, according to Teresa. Teresa said that she had been told that HRA and FHDA Member Barbara Hartwell helped out with this, picking up flowers for Sue. If information is correct, Teresa said she would will send her a thank you note. Teresa will photograph beds for NIP Final Report.

There was no additional information to report on regarding Public Relations. Kelly Gay indicated the newsletter was forthcoming, but was later than anticipated because of problems with City Printing. There was a discussion of using another printer if issues with City Printing continue.

The Neighborhood Improvement signs have been distributed but the sign maker had a misspelling on new ones. Marsha will handle resolution of this problem. Suggestions for commercial NIA awards included: C and C Electric, The Arc of Caddo-Bossier. Teresa said she would inform Marsha.

There are no additional fundraising activities scheduled at this time, although a tag sale may be scheduled sometime next year.

Announcements were as follows:

A new restaurant has opened on Jordan called Philly Cheese Steaks and Subs. Oakland Cemetery has an event coming up, with a reception at Holy Cross Church. The December Board Meeting was tentatively scheduled for December 15 at Teresa's house at 6:00. A social meet and greet will be held after the abbreviated board meeting. Teresa asked people to suggest potential board members who might like to attend, as well as people that HRA would like to thank for their assistance in past year. Teresa indicated that a NIP Banquet will be scheduled by Community Development, date TBA, and asked if anyone wanted to attend. Barbara indicated she would like to attend with Teresa.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.