

BPNA, INC.

Executive Board Meeting July 9, 2009

Time and Location: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m., at the home of Marc de la Vergne

Directors Present: Margaret Buss, Marc de la Vergne, Hal Edmonds, Sally Flory-O'Neil (taker of minutes), and Rob Sperling

Directors Absent: David Philipp and Catherine Turrill

Guest in Attendance: Pete Bramson

1. Secretary's Report

Sally reported on behalf of Catherine, who is out of the country. The Secretary's Report summarizing the main points of the last meeting on May 14 was presented to the Board by e-mail in May. Suggested corrections were made at that time. The Board agreed to accept the amended minutes as the official record of the May meeting. There were no minutes to review from June because last month's Executive Board Meeting was cancelled.

2. Treasurer's Report

Hal Edmonds, the Board's Treasurer, presented BPNA Inc.'s Profit and Loss statement for the period May 15 through July 9, 2009, as well as the corporation Balance Sheet as of July 9, 2009. The reports were approved as presented.

3. *Park Beat* Content for August

It was agreed that articles about the following would be included in the next edition of *Park Beat*:

Historic Home – Asha

National Night Out - Hal

Website Article – Hal

New & Renewing Members – Sally

SOCA's September Home Tour – Margaret

Spaghetti Dinner – Sally

RT Correction/Modification to July *ParkBeat* - Margaret

Community Garden - Margaret

Friends of the River - Margaret

Screen on the Green - Rob

Volunteers - Rob

Friends of Grant Park – Articles

Sally Flory-O'Neil will forward all articles to Editor Asha Jennings on the 15th of July, as Catherine Turrill is out of town.

Rob Sperling will be the Guest Editor for the September issue of *ParkBeat* as Asha will be unavailable in mid-August, when the newsletter is assembled.

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4. ParkBeat Distribution

Rob Sperling will send Sally Flory-O'Neil a list of the current block captains. Thereafter, she will check in with each to see how things are going in re the delivery of our monthly newsletter, i.e., any problems, concerns, suggestions, etc.

5. BPNA Website

Pete Bramson reported on the status of the website. Future content was discussed. It was agreed that free ads would undermine the revenue brought in by selling ads for hard-copy newsletter publication. However, it was agreed that ads could be run free on the website for those currently advertising on the hard-copy newsletter.

6. BoulevardParkNA.org Banner

A motion was made, seconded and passed that \$200 be authorized for the creation and purchase of a banner that could be hung on Pete Bramson's fence prior to and during the Spaghetti Dinner to acquaint residents with the new website. Rob Sperling will look into this and report back to the group.

7. Spaghetti Dinner Update

- Sally Flory-O'Neil handed out a spreadsheet showing the tasks to be accomplished prior to this year's Annual Spaghetti Dinner, to be held September 12 at the Bramson home. The Board discussed several items relevant at this point in time.
- Magician Robert Kowaleski will be providing the entertainment for the children at the dinner. The Board members agreed that it would be best if he did an approximately 45-minute magic show at the site where performers from previous years have performed. The remainder of his time will be best spent roaming throughout the dinner area doing additional magic tricks.
- Councilman Cohn's office will be providing tables and chairs for the event. Sally Flory-O'Neil will send a spreadsheet to Board members and Pete Bramson, indicating the types of volunteer jobs needing to be filled for the evening, as well as the time-slots for the jobs.
- It was agreed that admission to the event should remain the same as last year; \$10/adult and \$5/child under 10. Those volunteers providing the sauces, pasta, and salad dressing for the event are not expected to pay the admission.
- Postcards reminding residents of the September event will not be mailed as in years past as the participation is such that the additional expense does not seem necessary or appropriate.
- Pete Bramson will check to make sure no additional light strings need to be purchased.
- SOCA will be invited to have information and tickets available at the Spaghetti Dinner regarding the annual SOCA tour.
- The discussion of the event will continue at next month's meeting.

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8. 26th Annual National Night Out Event, August 4

The event begins at 6 p.m. with *hors d'oeuvres* served on the 22nd Street median between F and G Street, then will proceed to 2431 H Street for the entrée. Thereafter, participants will walk to the Tot Lot at Marshall Park for dessert. Hal Edmonds will secure the permit from the City in regard to the use of the median. Rob Sperling will make sure tables and chairs are set up at 2431 H Street.

9. BPNA Boundaries, By-Laws, Etc.

Margaret Buss led a discussion regarding the historic BPNA boundaries, the boundaries as stated in the Articles of Incorporation, and the boundaries as delineated by the City which include the combining of New Era and Marshall into one neighborhood association and the overlapping of the former New Era and BPNA boundaries. It was agreed that prior to the August meeting, members of the Executive Board would reread the by-laws so that they would be prepared to discuss this matter more thoroughly. At the August meeting, they also could formulate questions to present to the counsel who prepared the by-laws, in regard to such topics as the Boulevard Park boundaries, voting rights of members, etc. Sally Flory-O'Neil will send each board member a copy of the by-laws.

10. Preservation

Margaret Buss reported that the Naked Lounge, located at 11th and H Streets, has applied for a license to sell alcoholic beverages. It was agreed that the business is too far from Boulevard Park's sphere of interest for BPNA to become involved.

11. Board President Position 2010

Marc de la Vergne announced that contrary to his previously expressed plan to serve as chairperson of the Board if re-elected in January 2010, he will be unable to take on this office due to personal and professional time constraints.

12. Next Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be held at the home of Rob Sperling, on August 13, 2009.

Adjournment: The July Board Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.