

Boulevard Appreciation Neighborhood Association (BANA)
Board meeting: March 18, 2019
Calgary Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Rugby Road, Schenectady

Board Members Present: Eileen LaCourse, Chris Marney, Jason Reyes, Crystal Santos, Chris White, Howard Becker

Call to order

C. Marney called to order at 7:09pm

Minutes

Motion to approve the January 2019 minutes. C. White motion to approve. C. Santos seconded. Vote unanimous. Motion passed.

Presentation

C. White presented history on the neighborhood. Available on the BANA website: www.banaschenectady.org/boulevards-neighborhood-history. 1901 map shows the more current neighborhood structure. Amsterdam newspaper discussed sale of plots in the BANA neighborhood. 1906 Waverly and Ardsley developments were added. Robert Wendell worked in Troy; he decided to become a farmer in his retirement. He owned a blue stone quarry in the area. He sold part of the land in 1835 to become the Union Triangle district. He is buried in Vale Cemetery. The quarry was used for ice skating and a carnival. The land where Schenectady High School is located was a fair grounds. More to come on this.

Financial Report – C. White

Awarded \$3,300 project by Schenectady Foundation. BANA sold furniture donated by former board member, Stephan. We currently have ~\$4,200 in the bank account. We have 2 business members, First Church of Scientist and Korkosz Endodontics P.C.

Thriving Neighbor Challenge Rollout – C. White

BANA awarded \$3,300 project by City of Schenectady to provide trash cans in the alleys. BANA to complete an assessment identifying problem properties within the neighborhood. BANA to work with the City to notify the City of a problem, notify tenants and landlords of requirements and offer trash receptacles. Label with BANA. Ensure there are house numbers on trash cans. BANA to communicate with problem properties about laws and provide BANA trash cans. Identify problem trash areas where kids are dropping trash, which is blown throughout the neighborhood. BANA to work with the City to manage collection of additional BANA trash cans. We may be able to double our money by getting sponsors for BANA trash cans by placing company logos on the garbage cans. March 24, March 30 and March 31 (weather dependent) to complete an initial alley cleanup and identify problem areas. He would like to construct a garbage cart for garbage cans ~\$50. Howard motioned to approve construction

of garbage cart. C. Santos seconded. Tires can be brought to Mavis Tire in Rotterdam.

SUN Report

City Council passed the sidewalk program by a 4-3 vote. Joe Polimeni submitted answers to most of the SUN questions. The next SUN meeting 6:30-8pm on March 19, 2019 at Emmanuel Friedens Church to discuss street repaving and sidewalk repairs with Chris Wallin, city engineer, the public and council members.

The repaving schedule is set every year by the City Engineer. The city is broken into paving districts. There is \$1M in the capital budget this year and petitions will be considered. Each property owner pays according to sidewalk square footage plus interest. Petitioners may ask for a period up to 15 years. Period to pay off assessments is either 10 or 15 years. 75% of the property owners in the special assessment district must agree. The only exception would be property owners who have sidewalks that are up to code.

Unfinished Business

C. White: Membership/marketing 2019 – what do you love about the neighborhood? Close to downtown, BANA, nice location with landscaped islands, safe neighborhood, easy to walk

C. White: Sidewalk sale – Proposed for June 8-9 at 9-3pm to line up with St. Anthony's Festa. Permit is for the entire weekend. BANA to get signs to promote the event along Union. Event promotes membership. Looking to hand out membership forms in late April and May 2019.

C. Marney – Annual meeting to be held May 20, 2019 with elections. Potential potluck, which may then be moved to Saturday.

New Business

League of Women Voters hosts meet the candidates at the library.

Public Discussion

Eileen motion to adjourn at 8:00pm. C. White seconded. Motion passed.