

Boulevard Appreciation Neighborhood Association (BANA)
Board meeting: July 15, 2019
Calgary Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Rugby Road, Schenectady

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

Call to order

C. White called to order at 7:05pm

Thriving Neighborhoods Update. A number of garbage cans were purchased through a Thriving Neighborhoods Grant and have been distributed to neighbors who requested them. Additionally 4 commercial garbage cans were purchased and are awaiting city approval to be placed.

Speaker

Kristi Miller, from The Schenectady Foundation, spoke about Round 2 of the Thriving Neighborhoods Challenge grant process, to empower neighborhoods and community. This year, they're giving more time to formulate ideas. Last year they had 50 applications from across the city. Key points are community involvement and sustainability. Bonus points will be given for leveraging other funding and for being an influence/catalyst of change.

Potential Project: West Alley Project

C. White and Reuben Hull, from the GE Plot Neighborhood and who is a Civil Engineer, discussed a potential joint venture of a green alley infrastructure project. It would remove pavement and provide a more porous surface and part of an engineered storm water system. It would be a beautification project as a pilot for the city. We'd have to find funding, but West Alley is common alley. Alleys are seen as back entrance, this would help make it attractive and an asset to the neighborhood.

A discussion came after of the city not doing what it used to do, including island maintenance, curb management, street sweeping, etc.

Updates

Since our last meeting, C. White created and helped distribute (along with other BANA members) a neighborhood newsletter. We had a successful sidewalk sale in June and made \$800 at the Upper Union Street Strawberry Festival.

Submitted by Treasurer Chris White.