

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting of the West End Citizens Association
November 10, 2022

Attendance

- WECA Officers: Brian Shipley, President; Noreen Bryan, Vice President; Ellen Childs, Vice President – Outreach; Jane Pontius, Corresponding Secretary; Margaret Magner, Recording Secretary
- WECA Block Captains: Nadia Azumi, Maggie Hadley, Chau Nguyen, Andrew Sellman, Carol Starr, Lynn Wagman
- Other Attendees: Jack Kelly, Peter Fosselman, Duane Rollins, Ray Whalen

Call to Order

Brian Shipley called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Announcements

Brian spoke to announcements:

- WECA's FallFest outdoor neighborhood gathering happened on Oct. 15 at Monument Park. More than 60 people attended; the event was a success.

Business Items

• **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Ajay Khetarpal is on travel and could not attend tonight. Brian Shipley gave the report. We had \$437.75 of deposits this month, primarily from donations. WECA's checking balance currently stands at \$1,391.22.

• **Approval of Minutes from the September and October, 2022 meetings**

The draft minutes were distributed to the Executive Board in advance of this meeting. A motion to approve them was made, seconded and carried.

• **Report from the City of Rockville**

Hjarman Cordero from the City could not attend this evening.

• **Report from the Rockville Police Department**

Lt. Berry could not attend but provided an update, read by Brian, covering calls to the police for service.

Items of Interest in the Neighborhood

• **Villages Initiative**

Jack Kelly gave an update about the history and current status of the Villages initiative in the West End neighborhood. Trish Evans (tevans@rockvillemd.gov) is the City coordinator for Villages efforts.

Residents can let her know if they'd like to get involved, volunteer, or have ideas for the West End area and she will connect them further.

- **Design Guidelines**

Margaret Magner gave an update about the current project status and steps taken by the City and WECA since the October 13th meeting to make it easier for residents to get information and provide feedback during this first public feedback period. There was discussion and feedback about additional ways to build out the draft and add to the City's Design Guidelines process.

- **Community Engagement**

Ellen Childs gave an update on efforts to provide ways for neighbors to meet each other, in addition to the FallFest and SpringFest bar-b-que gatherings. Ideas discussed by meeting participants included working with Town Center merchants to hold a happy hour or pub crawl, or Food Truck night. Popular ideas involved supporting Town Center while getting to know neighbors.

- **Neighborhood Plan Update**

Noreen Bryan gave an update on the prioritizations requested by the City on actions recently approved in the Neighborhood Plan for the West End. Priorities identified include actions related to traffic, pedestrians and walkability, lighting, publicly identifying historic areas and properties.

Open Forum

There was discussion and feedback about the October 13th WECA meeting and complaints by some audience members who were not able to engage or ask questions that night. WECA and the City are reviewing their plans for orderly meetings.

Next Meeting

A proposal was made and agreed, to skip the December meeting in lieu of a community social event.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.