

York Neighborhood Association Board of Directors Meeting

Nelson's Market, 514 Potter Street

November 16 2023 Minutes

Approved: Motion 2024-01-25.2 ✓

Present: Colin Beazley (President), Chris Donaldson (Vice President), Opie Knechtel (Treasurer), Mark Ellis Walker (Secretary), Mars Lindgren, Tom Scott, Kevin Cussen, Megan Doyle, Élan Engel, John DeOrio. **Quorum amply satisfied.**

Excused: Jeremy Ferrera (arrived at the end).

Action Items for specific Board members are listed at the end of the Minutes.

The meeting got started at 6:51pm after much visiting.

1. Annual Holiday Party Planning Status

Tom reported on the progress of the December 9 event's various components. There is still some development regarding what choirs will be participating, but at least one is confirmed.

He also noted that the event's costs will be covered if we can get one or two more \$200-level sponsors behind it. Current ones are Nelson's Market (hosts), On-Site Computer Services, and Edward Jones. Megan offered to approach Erin Crosby of Crosby Glass Studios to see if he'd team with her (as Harriet House) as a joint sponsor, and Colin said he could check with Aslan Brewing Company too. Colin said that we have some unused City funds that could be used to reimburse supplies costs.

In addition to agreeing to bring her Lionel train set again, Opie also suggested setting up an ornament swap/donation opportunity for neighbors to hand off excess ornaments and/or obtain new ones, possibly for a small donation and possibly in one-for-one exchange. This idea went over very well, so she'll bring an artificial tree to facilitate the ornament exchanges.

The plan at this point is for setup to begin at 4:15, with a general gathering envisioned for 4:45 and the first ride leaving at 5:00, with an 8:30-ish ending. Tom would also like to have someone take on the management of tickets for wagon rides (free but necessary to regulate the number of riders throughout the evening).

Chris will work with Andrew Molitor to hopefully promote the event via the YNA-meeting yard signs.

2. Newsletter Status

Mark has been slow in compiling content for the upcoming issue, but he confirmed that it is in the works and hopes to have it ready for review and printing shortly after Thanksgiving (November 23). He reviewed the current roster of contents, and the Board discussed additional material that could be contributed by individual members. Élan provided a kids' word-jumble feature right there and then on his smartphone. Chris will provide something from the Historic Preservation Committee, probably announcing the creation of the interactive walking tour in the works, and Megan will supply a sidebar

item on the committee's hope to get an intern involved to scan more of the YNA archives. Colin will write something on the Rock Hill Park renovation status and outlook/timeline.

3. Rock Hill Park Committee Formation

Colin gave a recap of his recent email to the Board about where things currently stand on the renovation of the park. The Parks Department anticipates starting the process of soliciting public input after the start of 2024, but Rock Hill is first in line with them.

He asked Kevin to colead the committee with him, and Kevin accepted. Megan nominated Kevin's daughter as a play-equipment tester. Mark noted that there is ample space on the YNA website for this committee and indeed any others to post on their projects and progress. Élan and Colin agreed that "bolting in" neighbors who have particular interest in the planning and development of the park would be good to do at this stage by approaching them in advance.

4. Feedback from General Meeting

Colin reiterated what he told Mayor Seth Fleetwood and others who had questioned the selective presence of candidates running in the recent election: that none of those who spoke were *invited*; rather, they had approached him as YNA President, expressing interest in attending and speaking.

5. Closing Business

Regarding the Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission (MNAC), Colin reported that the last MNAC meeting of Mayor Fleetwood's administration was held the previous evening and was basically a round-table reporting by the various neighborhood associations on their activities and status. Some of them are quite active, while others barely function; YNA is on the active end of the middle of the spectrum. Élan agreed to become our YNA Alternate with Colin continuing on as the primary one.

Regarding the York Yard Crawl, Megan announced that she'll form a committee on YNA's involvement in January and that June Hathaway is looking to have the YNA take on more of its organization. Tom suggested that it might be done in conjunction with the Wine and Roses Garden Club which his wife Dondena largely leads.

Mark, his hand a little sore from writing all this down, moved that the meeting adjourn and was seconded by Tom.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:38.

Individual Action Items:

Chris:

- Coordinate with Andrew Molitor to publicize the holiday party via the YNA-meeting yard signs
- Supply Mark with a Historic Preservation Committee feature for the newsletter, probably on the interactive walking tour in the works

Colin:

- Write the President's Corner feature for newsletter as well as something on the outlook for the Rock Hill Park renovation process
- Help Élan navigate the process of applying to be the YNA's MNAC Alternate
- See if Aslan Brewing Company would be interested in sponsoring the holiday party
- Give Mark the go/no-go on sending the draft Minutes of the October General Meeting to the full Board

Élan:

- Work with Colin through the process of applying to be the YNA's MNAC Alternate

Mark:

- Continue compiling and writing content for the newsletter
- Update YNA website to feature holiday party (after updating its page's content) and to change our address to the new PO Box
- Transcribe and distribute minutes for this meeting for Board review

Megan:

- Approach Erin Crosby about being cosponsors of the holiday party
- Write up a little sidebar for the newsletter about the Historic Preservation Committee's wish for an intern to help scan YNA archives

Respectfully submitted, Mark Ellis Walker, Secretary.