

December 2019 TPNA Board Meeting
Agenda
Wednesday, December 4th at 7:00 pm
George Watts Montessori Media Center

Present: Diane Amanto, Adam McClellan, Waugh Wright, Katy Dillard, Beth Shepherd, Beth Emerson, Marc Phillips, Steve Falzarano, Phillip Azar, Stacy Murphy, Mimi Kessler, Ron Gallagher, Bunmi Matory, Kevin Kearns, Don Ball

Absent: Michael Forenz

Called to order: 7:05

Review of November Meeting Minutes

- Approved

Treasurer's Report ~ Adam McClellan

- \$250 in black on membership dues
- Will pay final newsletter bill soon.
- We will then be ~\$3,200 surplus for the year
 - ~\$1500 is from late ad revenue from 2018
 - Will we give that to the foundation or a different organization?
- In 2019 we had strong membership dues come in. Adam compared to 2018
- Beth: Next year \$965 is due for renewals, if they all renew at same levels
 - Adam will reduce our prediction to \$1,000
 - Should we more actively recruit renewals and new members?
- The group recognizes that members printing up papers for board business can get reimbursed (and similar activities)
- We budget \$100 for legal? Should that really come from our reserves if so necessary?
- We are predicting a \$1100 shortfall for 2020, should we carry forward that much from our surplus of 2019?
 - Adam put forward a motion do rollover \$1,100 forward to next year's budget
 - It was moved with no one opposing
 - There was discussion on how TPNA should spend its money in general (should we be giving to other organizations within TP and within Durham)
 - For instance, assigning x amount of dollars or 10% of revenues to worthwhile organizations that would work to helping low-income TP residents
 - Should we discuss this in terms of the 2020 (and future) Home Tour?
 - In the past the board has taken applications for needy individuals/organizations in TP, but it is difficult to do so in a way that we are sure is equitable.

- Watts-Hillendale has done events for Urban Ministry
 - It was decided to discuss this further at the board retreat in February
- What are our level of reserves? (probably around \$10-11k) Are we concerned that, for instance, people renew for life and we have extra money which goes to the foundation (or elsewhere) and then we don't have it later?
 - Should the reserves be larger? Currently it is more or less a year's worth, but if there is legal action or other issues in the future will we suddenly need much more? Our insurance should defend us if there is legal action against us.
 - The reserves are designed to cover 2 years
 - Should we have reserves and a *contingency fund*?
 - Or should we change the amount we have and better define how we are willing to use it?
 - We will table this discussion to the retreat.
- The newsletter brings in ~\$8500 and uses \$3500
 - Should we hire someone to "do" the newsletter?
 - Much of the work is getting the content from the writers and Ted Snyderman laying it out.
- Who will take it over with Katy leaving? Is Kevin Kearns a possibility?

Communications ~ Katy Dillard

- The newsletter is drafted and should go to press on Thursday or Friday
- It includes promotion of the Luminaire, but it may not get out in time for that
- Katy will make notes on how to be such a great communication director

Community Building ~ Steve Falzarano

- Do we have a greater turnout when the symphony is in the park? But we often need to move it inside anyway and the symphony prefers it? But does that mean that we should donate less to the symphony?
- Should we host other adult events? E.g., blue grass band? As opposed to all kids events?

Traffic ~ Beth Emerson

- No new traffic issues for us

INC ~ Philip Azar

- No new business

TP Foundation ~ Don Ball

- The insect sidewalk is finished except for a final coat of sealant
- The new TP park sign will be up next wednesday and there will be an unveiling on January 26th.

- Don will bring a report to the annual meeting
- We are seeking a bid from Cricket Forge for a friendly paint scheme for the Main St/Buchanan site.

Membership ~ Beth Sheppard

- See above
- Should we have membership forms at all the events?
 - Yes, we are supposed to have them at all events.
- In the past there has been Welcome Packets for new residents, but that was found to be difficult

Safety ~ Ron Gallagher

- We hope to have someone come and speak at the annual meeting, perhaps including a discussion of reviving the TP neighborhood watch program.
- If anyone thinks of other issues to discuss, they should pass them along to Ron (e.g., how to address neglected properties, when to call 911, installing security cameras, what can neighbors do to help, what is happening with all the shootings in Durham)
- The safety group is
 - working to make sure officer Brown is at the meeting
 - Should we revive the neighborhood watch? A watch captain can also be the welcoming contact to new residents (see above)
 - The group needs to be trained/prepared
 - Should crime stats be posted? They are posted in other places that we could copy and paste, but that might be flashing it too much, so Ron will remind the neighborhood list serv

South Ellerbe Creek Wetlands - Paul Cardile

- n/a

Old Business ~

- The bylaws do talk about helping the greater good in Durham.

New Business ~

- Home Tour 2020
 - The committee (Stacy, Phillip, Marc, and Dan Jewell) met and discussed various themes (based on what houses agree), including showing diversity of housing, possibly the Norton Cluster or around Alley 17, maybe some ADUs (“Placemaking: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow”)
 - Do we need to discuss where the funds go first, before asking home/apartment owners? The committee will meet and then talk to the board in February.

- Marc and others were worried about combining TP giving and Home Tour giving, but instead should conquer one first.
- Mimi Kessler is the new moderator of the list serv
 - Mimi passed out the original guidelines (last revised March 31, 2013)
 - We will discuss them further at the retreat
 - There was discussion of what to do if the moderator needs to limit a poster in some way and then they appeal to the board. It would be good to have a document available to share.
- Diane talked with Watts principal Patti Crum about putting a light outside the media center
- There are two open positions for the board and a committee needs to be set up
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- The annual meeting will be January 22nd
 - Should there be a board meeting first at 6:30 to discuss the nominating
 - In years past the new slate was in the newsletter, but has not happened in the last couple of years
 - On January 8th at 7:00 we will have a conference call to endorse or not endorse the candidates put forth by the nominating committee

Adjourned at 9:04