

WESTWOOD PARK HOMES ASSOCIATION

Annual Meeting Minutes - Thursday, April 4, 2014

Board Members Present

The 92nd Annual Board Meeting took place at Pembroke Hill's cafeteria. Present at the meeting were Aryn Roth, Kirby Upjohn, Dick Nelson, Martha Negley, Ann Nixon and Ann Schleihs. Minutes: Ann Schleihs.

Neighbors gathered at 6:00pm for sign in, refreshments and socialization. The meeting started at 6:30pm. About 25 people attended. Aryn welcomed everyone and introduced our first guest speaker.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Scott Burnett - 1st District Jackson County Legislator

- Mr. Burnett has spent 35 years in politics and government. He lives in the Valentine neighborhood. In the last election no one ran against him. More about his credentials and bio can be found on Jackson County's website: www.jacksongov.org/burnett
- He touched on the recent assessment issues. Assessments were done in 2013, however homeowners can still appeal this year. A quarter million properties are in his district so mistakes can happen.
- A considerable amount of tax dollars are spent on fighting drugs through prevention, law enforcement and treatment. D.A.R.E. programs are also supported in grade schools.
- He encouraged neighbors to contact him with questions. "How to find a way" was his saying, being resourceful with his experience and connections. There are about 50 neighborhoods in the 1st District. Scott mentioned he was happy to be invited as a speaker.

Paul Helmer - Touch of Distinction

- Paul Helmer, Principal – Touch of Distinction, is a decorative artist and architectural designer with his Kansas City, Missouri, based company. With over 35 years of experience in the study of historical preservation and restoration he has been involved in virtually every era of design and color. For more info and examples of his work, visit his website: www.todkc.com
- In a Powerpoint presentation, Paul showed several examples of his exterior and interior work explaining the design process and changes. For homeowners who are looking to make changes to their house or landscape, Paul has reasonable fees. His services include color consultation, landscape design as well as architectural plans. Professional advice can help prevent costly mistakes.

APPROVAL OF 2013 MINUTES

- Last year's meeting minutes were approved. The annual and monthly board meeting minutes are available online at www.ha-kc.org along with the Westwood Park board roster, newsletter, bylaws and treasurer's report. Information for all the Homes Associations of Kansas City (HAKC) can be found on the website as well.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Kirby Upjohn

- Kirby presented the treasurer's report detailing expenditures for the 2013.
- Overall, WPHA is financially healthy. The association likes to have a least two years of operating expenses in reserve.
- Kirby provided a handout charting the financial breakdown of the association's expenditures highlighting the typical big expenses. Island upkeep accounts for almost half of the overall expenses, followed by administration and activities.
- There are 320 homes in Westwood Park Homes Association.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Ann Nixon and Ann Schleihs were re-elected to the board. New term dates are 2017. Terms are three years.

SOCIAL MEDIA - NEXTDOR.COM and FACEBOOK

- Nextdoor is a safe, secure and fast way to relay information exclusively to Westwood Park neighbors. Neighbors are encouraged to join this free network.
- Also, neighbors can request to join the West Plaza Watch group on Facebook, a very active group that oversees suspicious activity in the surrounding neighborhoods and lost/found pets.

EVENT DATES

- June 7 - Garage Sale
- June 14 - Dumpster Day & Electronic Recycling. (A reminder will be sent for the fall dumpster day.)
- September 6 - Pizza in the Park

NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION - Ann Nixon

- Ann N. gave an overview and update for the three islands, bridge, stone markers and park maintenance. Much of the WPHA's budget goes towards mowing, plantings, mulching, painting, repairing, etc.
- Thanks to Ann N. and Martha for keeping the neighborhood beautiful.

NEWSLETTER & NEW DIRECTORY

- The next newsletter will be delivered in May to announce the garage sale and dumpster dates as well as other timely topics.
- A new neighborhood directory will be printed this year.

MEETING CLOSE

- A special thanks to Pembroke Hill for providing the meeting space.
- Neighbors commended Aryn on a fine job as president. A big thanks to Aryn for all her diligent hard work and another successful meeting.
- Aryn concluded the meeting and thanked everyone in attendance. Watch future newsletters for more neighborhood information. The board looks forward to seeing everyone at neighborhood events throughout the year.
