

West Central Neighborhood Association
Association Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2018, 7:00pm

Call To Order – 7:04pm, 29 attendees

Guest Speaker – David Long, Wellspring

- Wellspring is located at Broadway and Wilt
- Background
 - Started in 1968 as a collaboration of 5 downtown congregations
 - Originally called the West Central Neighborhood Summer Program
 - Changed to Wellspring in 2004 because it now serves a larger area
 - Most people live within a 2.5 mile radius of downtown
- Impact
 - In 2017, they directly impacted over 9,000 individuals through their programs
 - Food bank, clothing bank, and programs are all free
- Food Bank
 - Food bank provides food, hygiene items, and pet food to people who live within the West Central neighborhood boundaries
 - In 2017, they provided items to 340 families within the West Central boundaries
 - In addition, they served over 300 additional individuals on an emergency basis
- Clothing Bank
 - Clothing, shoes, linen items, and household goods
 - They want to serve their customers with dignity and respect
 - Try to provide a shopping-like experience
 - In 2017, they serviced a total of over 1200 families and gave away over 12,000 items
- Programs
 - In 2017, they served 469 kids aged kindergarten through 18
 - Adult programs?
 - Kid programs?
- 50th Anniversary Gala
 - November 9, 6:30 at Parkview Mirro Center
 - Meals, drinks, silent auction, live auction
 - \$1,000 donation to sponsor a table – seats for 8 people
 - \$125 for individual tickets
- A motion was made to use association funds to purchase a table at the Gala
 - It was discussed that we might “raffle” off the 8 tickets – 4 sets of 2 tickets, and only paying association members could win
 - Create a list of people who want to be entered

- Someone suggested we purchase the table and let 8 Wellspring customers attend for free
 - There was a concern that Wellspring may want people to attend who will plan to bid on items
- Someone suggested hosting a “silent auction” where association members can bid on the seats and the highest wins
 - The concern about this is it’s showing favoritism towards the richest residents in the neighborhood
- The motion was approved by the association
 - Tyler Bowers is going to handle the sign up list

Guest Speaker – Donnevin Wolfe, Big Brothers Big Sisters

- They’re always looking for new people to be big brothers or big sisters
 - They have a never-ending waitlist
 - It can often take 2-5 years to find matches for boys in the program

Old Business

- 2019 Slate of Officers
 - The slate of officers is presented every October during the association meeting
 - Brandon Steffen headed the committee and presented the following:
 - Ben Wahli, President
 - Tyler Bowers, Vice President
 - Joel Sauer, Treasurer
 - Kelly Benton, Secretary
 - Cindy Brandt, Membership
 - At the November meeting, members may nominate additional people for the board and a vote will be held
 - Only members may vote
- Electric Works Update
 - City Council will hold a vote, October 16 at 5:30 at Citizens Square
 - The next step after this is a vote from the Capital Improvement Board
 - Residents are encouraged to come and show their support
- Upcoming Events
 - November meeting – vote for next year’s board
 - First week in December (date TBD) – Christmas cookie party
 - December meeting – Christmas Party

New Business

- 2018 Recap
 - Completed branding workshop – new logo and tagline
 - Supported Electric Works through signage, presentations, and showing support at key meetings
 - Built a bike corral – the first one in Fort Wayne

- Started the petition to expand our local historic district
- Revised the sidewalk program – corner properties can now apply twice, once for each side
- 2019 Goals
 - Create and install WCN signage throughout the neighborhood
 - Put together a meaningful brick alley repair program
 - City money
 - Homeowner money
 - WCNA money
 - Propose an intersection beautification plan
 - Implement a beautification program for exterior of homes using grand money and WCNA money
 - Investigate the possibility of hiring an employee who would write grants and serve the association

Officer Reports

- Membership: 74 memberships
- \$184,200 in bank account

Concluded – 8:01pm