

## **ECA Board of Directors Meeting**

### **Edgebrook Library**

**Monday, September 9, 2019 6:30 PM**

#### **Minutes**

Meeting called to order 6:30pm. June minutes were approved with no changes

**In attendance:** Mary Biesty, Dennis Henley, Jeff Manuel, Christine Rosenberg ,Nora Shea, , Nancy Williams, Susan Zelner, Jerome Witte, Craig Caimi, Kevin Haran, Jennifer Herren, Jan Kupiec, Tom Misiewicz, Justin Ochonicki, Caryn Meyers and Jeff Singer

**Absent:** Ewa Ryan, Jennifer Carlson, Michelle Christensen, Tom Kraft, Beverly Padratzik, and Lidia Pomaville,

#### **Officer's Reports**

**President's Report:** Jeff recapped some of the activity that happened over the past several months including the very successful Fourth of July Parade and Picnic. Jeff worked with CTA and the city on the dilapidated condition of the bus turnaround at the corner of Central and Caldwell. The Welcome to Edgebrook sign has been repainted. There was a hearing for the proposed Hookah bar on Lehigh. Compromises were made between the neighbors, business owners, and ECA feedback from residents and the Zoning Board of Appeals granted their zoning request. Nancy, Jeff, and Mary moved ECA property to a larger unit to accommodate the grills. Jeff asked the committee that was to meet over the summer, to create a resident survey on how ECA dues should be allocated. The committee is chaired by Michelle Christensen and include the following directors: Mary B. Tom M, Nora S., Nancy W., and Justin.

**Vice President's Report:** The Spookiest House judging will be on Monday October 28<sup>th</sup>. Nancy will coordinate and host.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jeff Singer shared the updated 2019 ECA budget. He went through the July Fourth recap that reflected a \$3287.08 profit.

**Secretary's Report:** Nothing to report

#### **Director's Reports**

**Nominating Committee:** No prospective directors as of now but Justin will be running a piece on Nextdoor. Directors are encouraged to reach out to prospective candidates.

**Programs:** The next General meeting will be held in September and both Alderman will be invited. Jeff Singer will moderate. Several ideas we given to Jan for topics for the November 4<sup>th</sup> General Meeting to be held at the Edgebrook Lutheran Church at 6:30pm.

**Special Events:** The Holiday Stroll is once again scheduled for the Sunday after Thanksgiving December 1<sup>st</sup>. Santa is booked from 2pm until 5pm. Justin informed the board that the holiday lights for the triangle will be installed on October 25<sup>th</sup>. He suggested a lighting event separate from the holiday stroll. Nora also mentioned that the Radish Monkey puppeteers we sponsor at the library during the holidays are retiring. Suggested replacement entertainment is welcome.

**Community Development:** Christine has been emailing board members about upcoming zoning proposals for the 41<sup>st</sup> ward. None of the projects are in Edgebrook. It was also noted that Top Driver and the Currency Exchange closed. Kevin took a photo of the inside of the closed Cut Rate store. Vacant property designation is being explored.

**Membership:** Sent out via email on Monday, September 9th, the membership statistics are as follows: Statistics as of September 8, are as follows:

\$22,165 Funds Collected

531 Members

77 Members needed to match year-end 2018 membership

2018 1Q, 2Q, and 3Q Members received two direct mail pieces requesting a 2019 pledge renewal.

All 2019 members received a thank you postcard which promoted an ECA event. Current thank you cards promote the September aldermanic Q&A.

Payment methods

73% Direct Mail

18% Paypal

8 % Square

The direct mail list receives regular attention. Home sale records are examined to identify new Edgebrook residents. The addresses of nonrenewing households are examined to learn of home ownership changes. Welcome letters are sent as appropriate.

Membership is working with Beautification on a postcard to encourage local gardeners to become members or make a Beautification donation. Caryn Myers will work her network of horticulturists, personally delivering the message of the ECA's commitment to making Edgebrook look good and leaving behind the postcard with ECA contact information.

Thank you to the Directors who worked the July 4th crowd and encouraged picnickers to join the ECA or renew their memberships.

Plants from the ECA's spring Seed and Plant Swap were planted in two of the seven raised beds at Edgebrook Lutheran Church. ECA members tend the beds and collect the harvest weekly with the proceeds going to the New Hope food bank. Nearly 200 pounds of tomatoes, cucumbers, beans, green and banana peppers and kale have been donated on behalf of ECA member.

Plans are underway for the Fall Bulb, Plant, and Seed Swap held in conjunction with the Edgebrook Library. This is a low-cost program that reaches many people through co-operative promotion with the Library.

**Media and Publicity:** Justin promoted the upcoming Everyday Edgebrook beer stroll. Justin was complemented for his diplomatic handling of concerns /reactions on Nextdoor.

**Forests and Parks/ Finance:** Nora sent out an email regarding the adoption of a bench or tree by the Cook County Forest Preserve District. A motion was made to approve nonbudgeted funds from reserve

of \$1000 to sponsor a bench at the entrance to Caldwell Woods. Vote taken and approved unanimously.

**Safety and Transportation:** Caldwell will be closed for 9 days beginning later this month. Jerome brought up concerns from residents about the safety of the crossing guard at Devon and Minnihaha. Drivers routinely ignore her and can cause injury to her or children crossing.

**Beautification:** Caryn gave a report about the work that has been completed both at the triangle and the Metra corridor. She will be asking the board for consideration to increase her budget next year to complete the needed work to install plantings that required less maintenance. She is also asking both of our alderman for funds through their participatory budgeting process.

**Snowplowing and Police/Fire:** Kevin announced that he will be resigning effective immediately for personal reasons. He recommended that the ECA contact Dunbar to secure the snowplowing contract.

**Newsletter:** Dennis did an outstanding job on the July 4<sup>th</sup> newsletter published in the Reporter.

**Old Business:** Taft has opened their satellite campus for 7-9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**New Business:**

Meeting adjourned 7:50 pm

**NEXT MEETING:** Next meeting will be held on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the community room of the Edgebrook Library. Please remember to contact Jeff if you are unable to attend.

### **Future Board Meetings**

Monday	Sep 9, 2019
Monday	Oct 7, 2019 (first Monday)
Monday	Nov 6, 2019 (first Wednesday)
Monday	Dec 11, 2019 (first Wednesday)

### **Special Events 2019**

Sunday, December 1st Holiday Stroll

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