**Glennwood Estates Neighborhood Association (GENA) Meeting**

**Thursday, August 24, 2017 @ 7:30 PM**

**Call to order** - 7:39 PM

**Introductions**

**Members in Attendance:**

Erin Braden

Betsy Skelton

Allen Skelton

Mary Leslie

Kyla Ross

Catherine Fox

Renita Trotti

Lee Pritchard

Marissa Loomis

**Sink Hole**

* Renita Trotti has been investigating sink hole.
* The issue requires more investigation. The suggestion was made to contact David Younger (public works).
* Catherine Fox recommended that we copy Peggy (city manager) to expedite the investigation.

**Welcome Committee**

* Betsy Skelton, former committee chair, is requesting a new committee chair due to her appointment as president. .
* Welcome committee brings a welcome packet to new neighbors.
* We need to ensure that we are capturing our new neighbors.
* September 12th is the upcoming committee meeting.
* Betsy will be reaching out to those neighbors

**Financial Report**

* **Spring Drive:**
  + Dues from new neighbors – $1,210.00
  + Money collected for signs - $1,315.00
* **Account Balance:**
  + The account balance as of 08/24/17 was $2,711.03
* **Previous Expenses:**
  + Spring Block Party - $743.95 (food) + $331.00 (drinks)
  + Street Sign Toppers - $761.66
  + Web Design - $492.20
  + Newsletter - $80.25
* **Upcoming Expenses:**
  + Halloween Party - ~$400.00 (double cost from last year)

**Better Together**

* Erin Braden and Kyla Ross recently attended a round-table discussion for Decatur’s Better Together Advisory Board.
* The Better Together Advisory Board (Erin is a member) is launching a few initiatives to improve awareness and engage the community. The 6 main goals (shortened) are:
  + Support community participation and engagement
  + Prioritize racially-just policing
  + Ensure diverse and affordable housing
  + Cultivate inclusive retail
  + Maximize public spaces
  + Facilitate low-cost transportation
* There will be a website launched to serve as a central repository of information. We appear on a community asset map, so that others can connect.
* Welcoming week is coming up: September 15 – 24.
* Kick-off party will be held on Decatur Square on the 15th
* Community conversations will be held at Ebster gym on the 24th
* Photos and stories are encouraged. We should post to social media with #weareDecatur.
* Neighborhood day is Sunday, September 17th. Neighborhood associations are encouraged to host events and spread the word that we should be friendly with our neighbors. Ideas include: Sunday picnic; croquet; happy hour at triangle; publicize the day and encourage connections.

**Fall Newsletter**

* The fall newsletter will be published in the middle of September
* We will put out a request for articles
* We plan to advertise better together initiatives, our upcoming Halloween party, and the season of giving.

**Halloween Party**

* The Halloween party will be hosted October 31, 5-7 PM
* We will order pizza and water (double last year’s order to include 25 pepporoni/25 cheese)
* Marissa will arrive early to set up, and Catherine Fox and Lee Pritchard have agreed to help pick up.
* Allen Skelton has agreed to pick up pizza (Little Caesar’s)

**Service:**

**Season of Giving**

* Erin Braden provided an update that we commit the number of wish lists we as a neighborhood will support.
* 25-30 covered by Marissa and team
* We will advertise lists in the newsletter and on the listserv
* Erin requested that we need a new chair who would be willing to support the effort.

**MLK**

* Previous years we had a work (house/yard) crew
* Commit to ½ day to Sat/Sun/or Mon
* Kids can assist making sandwiches (150)
* Catherine Fox offered to help organize a neighborhood group.
* There might be an opportunity for families and younger kids to participate if we form a service group.

**MODA**

* We discussed inclusion of MODA residents in our neighborhood association.
* Current boundaries are inclusive in this neighborhood.
* We discussed the parking restrictions on both sides of Forkner between Glendale and Church, however there was no update. .

**Development**

* We discussed work force housing (key workers) and aging in place (cottage courts) housing.
* Catherine Fox provided an update that the apartment complex on Forkner was just purchased and will be developed into townhomes.
* Lee Pritchard raised concerns regarding two large lots for sale on Glendale. The concern is that these two large lots may be developed beyond single-family units.
* Lee Pritchard encouraged neighbors to pay close attention to development in the neighborhood and attend commission meetings hearing variances.

Meeting adjourned 8:42 PM