

Minutes  
ECCO Board Meeting  
November 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Mary Eisenhart at 7:00 pm

Attendees: Sally Ruggia Haden, Danielle Shea, Rebecca Carr, Roy Maurer, Mary Eisenhart, Vicki Wood, and Ann Bleed. The attendance was one short of quorum.

Minutes: The minutes of the annual meeting and the October 10 Board Meeting were tentatively approved as presented, pending confirmation when a quorum is present..

Treasurers Report: Roy Maurer presented the treasures report. ECCO spent more money than the took in for the last fiscal year, but once we have been reimbursed for the garden projects by NeighborWorks and for the tree planting project by ReTree Nebraska we will show a positive balance for the year.

Presidents Report: There was no President's report.

Communications: Rebecca Carr presented two prototypes for letterhead for ECCO. Letterhead. The board chose to adopt the letterhead attached to the minutes, pending confirmation when a quorum is present.

Danielle Shea has agreed to take over the ECCO web site from Brian Striman. The board agreed that if there is anything a member wants to post on the web, they should send it to the President who will forward it to the web master if it is appropriate to post.

Membership: We received four business memberships and and 70 household memberships in the last month before the by laws were changed to eliminate business memberships. In the future Mary Eisenhart will be contacting businesses in the area to support ECCO with a tax deductible donation, not a membership. She will also ask the businesses if they would like to put a gift card in new household welcoming baskets.

Election of Officers for 2014: The election was postponed until the next board meeting when hopefully there will be a quorum.

General Discussion: The board had a general discussion regarding activities for next yer year

- Rental property - The number of rentals in the neighborhood continues to be a concern. Several have suggested doing a survey of homes to determine which ones are rented, but once this information is obtained, the question remains, what should be done with the information. Also, the rental property itself may not be the problem; rather the issue is really the quality of the upkeep of the housing. The board discussed talking to the restate association about how they market the neighborhood. NeighborWorks has also talked about mounting a campaign to

advertise the benefits of Lincoln's older neighborhoods. NeighborWorks is also working on how to deal with derelect houses in Lincoln. Mary will contact Shawn Ryba from NeighborWorks to find out the status of these efforts. Liberty First Credit Union also has an office near target. It was suggested that someone from ECCO should also talk with them.

- Re-tree Project – The Board will need to decide if and how we are going to raise funds if we want to apply for another matching grant to plant trees in the neighborhood. We have three trees left over from this year's re-tree project.
- Discover ECCO: The board also must decide whether we want to host another Discover ECCO event, and if so, what type of event it should be.
  - Rebecca Carr suggested we could sponsor an improve your-yard-competition. The winner would get a relatively substantial prize so we would need to have an entry fee. We could perhaps use this event to earn money for the re-tree project. We could also have master gardeners provide assistance with planning.
  - Another possibility is to do a house tour or a house and garden tour
- Mary is revisiting the parking issue. She is in the process of contacting Vice-Chancellor Christine Jackson about parking at the University. We would also want to talk with Clinton and Malone about their concerns and to enlist their help.
- We need to establish a budget for 2014.
- The newsletter at the very least must be delivered before the Easter Egg Hunt, the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and the Annual Meeting.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted:

Ann Bleed, Acting Secretary