

DRAFT

East Campus Community Organization  
Minutes for Board Meeting on 11/10/11  
At Warren United Methodist Church  
7:00 to 9:00 pm

Call to order by President Elizabeth Katt at 7:07 pm

Board Members present: E.Katt, M. Fuller, W. Trout, M. Eisenhart, R. Maurer, R. Carr, P. Pierson, L. Jacobs, R. Leiter (on phone), R. Voltz, C. Stuefer-Powell, B. Striman, A. Bleed.

Neighbors at large present: Allen Donsig

Reports –

- A) Treasurer – Richard Leiter, (Cindy Stuefer-Powell substituting). Monies from annual meeting were not added into the accounts yet, due to problems of old checks from Pinnacle bank. Elizabeth Katt resolved this situation in contacting the bank and ordering new checks. The previous checks had been used before and the bank had not informed the treasurer that the routing number on the checks had been retired. Amounts as reported at the Annual meetings were: Savings – \$2,145.93  
Checking - \$3,289.08
- B) Yard of the Month – Rebecca Carr – There will be no yard of the month during the winter months unless there is an exceptional Christmas display. If such a display is seen, please send the nomination to R. Carr. A brief discussion followed concerning the nomination process; essentially as yards become nominated they will be put in queue for the award, which consists of a Yard of the Month sign being posted in their yard.
- C) Website – Matt Fuller  
M. Fuller reported that he had resolved a security issue and had corresponded with people who sent comments to the website).
- D) The board discussed the idea of having a Big Event, Litter Clean-up.
- E) Membership - R. Leiter suggested that we promote a term for membership extending from Oct. to Oct. with a cut-off date for dues payments. A new membership form would only be published in the fall newsletter. We also discussed the need for a comprehensive email list. W. Trout also suggested that ECCO should think about welcoming people when they moved into the neighborhood with a gift membership for one year.

## Election of Officers

Ann Bleed and Matt Fuller were nominated to be President of the Board. Ann Bleed was elected by secret ballot.

Nominations for President Elect included Mary Eisenhart, Richard Leiter, and Matt Fuller. Matt Fuller declined and Richard Leiter was elected as President Elect by secret ballot.

Cindy Stuefer-Powell was nominated for Secretary and elected by a unanimous consent.

Roy Maurer and Mary Eisenhart were nominated for Treasurer. Mary Eisenhart withdrew her name and Roy was elected by a unanimous consent.

## Appointment of Communications and Membership Chairpersons

The President, with unanimous consent of the board appointed Brian Striman as Communications Committee Chairperson. B Striman said that he does free-lance communication. He stated he will work up a Communications Committee work plan for discussion by the Board at the next meeting.

The President with unanimous consent appointed M. Eisenhart as Membership Chairperson. She will also develop a proposal for the work of the Membership Committee for the next meeting.

## Other business

- A) Ne Lincoln Partnership - E Katt stated that the President of the Havelock Neighborhood Association, Nick Hernandez asked ECCO to join the NE Lincoln Partnership which includes the Havelock, Uni Place, Bethany and Meadowlane Neighborhood Associations. They will have a meeting on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Havelock Neighborhood meeting. More information is available on Facebook.
- B) Wyuka Land Sale – E. Katt also reported that she had talked with her brother, Peter Katt, who is on the Wyuka Cemetery Board, about the land that Wyuka Cemetery would like to sell. The land is now zoned as R-4 and they are asking \$1,017,600.
- C) At approximately 8 p.m. E. Katt announced that she was resigning from the Board for health reasons and left the meeting.
- D) Shawn Ryba, who spoke with us in June of 2011 concerning Neighborworks and who is a UNL liaison with neighborhoods said she would like to meet with ECCO about relationships between the neighborhood and fraternities.

## General Discussion

- A) The need to develop a whistleblower policy and legal defense insurance were briefly discussed. Legal insurance was estimated to cost around \$800. Board members suggested we look into homeowner insurance and umbrella policies.
- B) W. Trout suggested we establish a permanent seat on the board for a liaison from UNL. C Stuefer-Powell asked if this would be a voting seat – discussion ensued that it would be ex-officiate only.
- C) R.Carr said that she talked to R. Schroeder about doing the Neighborhood Clean-up and he seemed positive.
- D) C.Stuefer-Powell brought up possible fund raiser to be held at the Cleanup – The National Child Resistant Cap Testing, Inc.
- E) R. Maurer suggested we should appoint a Special Projects and Events Committee. W. Trout said that he would serve as the Chair of the Committee. C.Stuefer-Powell said she would be his backup.

M Eisenhart suggested that ECCO should consider sponsoring rain gardening or other types of a gardening workshop and offer for a fee. Members of ECCO would get a discount on the fee. She indicated that Finke Garden Center offered a series of workshops for rain gardens, shrub and tree planting, etc. It was suggested that a walk/workshop could be held on Fathers' day.

- F) W. Trout discussed the possibility of vacating the street between 40<sup>th</sup> to 41<sup>st</sup> and turning it into a neighborhood garden. He stated he has signatures from the neighbors and will be checking with the city on costs. He has also contacted Lincoln's Community Crops director Ingrid Kirst. B.Striman suggested we could possibly find someone in the neighborhood to donate money to buy the property and name it after them.
- G) W. Trout suggested we should appoint a person to work with Neighborhood Watch.
- H) A. Bleed suggested we might look into creating a forward looking vision of what we would like the neighborhood to look like in the future and develop a plan to work toward achieving that vision.
- I) P. Pierson suggested we should have contacts in various areas of ECCO for neighbors to report concerns to the board. C. Stuefer-Powell suggested that the newsletter map delivery sections could be the areas to ensure that there was a contact person. R. Carr suggested that the newsletter map sections may need to be redrawn.

- J) It was suggested by several that the ECCO Board needs to be more visible and that we are a big and diverse neighborhood and ECCO should be a resource for the neighbors.
- K) A. Bleed also suggested we should establish a policy that no one should speak on behalf of ECCO unless authorized to do so by the Board. Of course anyone, including Board members can speak out on issues on their own behalf.
- L) Allen Donsig who lives at 1110 Idylwild Street asked if he could address the Board. He said there have been a number of problems related to the Farmhouse Fraternity on Apple Street near Idylwild Street and said there will be a meeting about the problems with members of the Farmhouse Fraternity and Linda Scharwtzkopf. He asked for attendance at the meeting by a member of the ECCO Board. Mary E. and A. Bleed agreed to attend. A Donsig will work with L Scharwtzkopr to schedule the meeting.
- M) At the suggestion of several Board members, A. Bleed scheduled a meeting for December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9pm.