Westwood Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting

Thursday, November 11th, 2021 via Zoom

7:00–7:05:  Welcome & Veterans Recognition

-Meeting called to order at 7:05 by WNA Board President Diane Kuhn.

7:05-7:30:  Board Updates

* Board Introductions
* Block Captain recognition (Diane Kuhn)

-Thank you to all of the Block Captains who help out each year!

* Secretary’s report (Michelle Gartner)

The board meets monthly, with four neighborhood association meetings/gatherings.

At the last monthly meeting, the annual meeting was planned, newsletter

* Treasurer’s report (Sarah Gusse)

-Expenses up a bit from last year.

-Additional spending: Virtual, catering. Dueling Fiddles for Almost Spring meeting.

-Increased school donations. $300 to Hanawalt, Merrill and Roosevelt.

-Pay Pal amount increasing.

-Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report, Anthony. Seconded, Vicki H.

* 2021 recap (Diane Kuhn)
  + Halloween Hunt (McKenzie)

-Thank you to everyone who participated.

-Gusto certificates can be redeemed through January 2022.

-Five Monkeys through November 14th, 2021.

* + 2021 Food Bank Fundraiser (Kim)

-The board is shifting gears this year with the Holiday Contest.

-Virtual Food Drive through the Food Bank of Iowa.

-Most needed items in bulk quantities.

-Link on the website, foodbankofiowa.org

7:30-7:45:  Board Elections, opened at 7:35 for voting. Motion, Emily. Second, Ben.

President – Diane Kuhn, Re-elected third year

Vice President – McKenzie Glazebrook, Re-elected third year

Treasurer – Steve Camerona, Elected first year

Secretary – Michelle Gartner, Re-elected third year

7:45-7:55:  Merrill Principal Kate Panek

-Enrollment down this year. Various different ways of alternate education.

-This is Principal Panek’s 4th year as principal, 6th year at Merrill.

-Centered goal on helping kids figure out who they are.

-Merrill currently has over 700 kids.

-No cell phone policy at the school is in effect.

7:55-8:15:  City Council Member Ward 3 Josh Mandelbaum

-The city has tried to help as they can. However, small businesses are still feeling the impact.

-Progress is increasing on the Ingersoll streetscape project.

-Focus on small business support.

\*\*Update from Josh Mandelbaum: We will correct the sidewalk curb ramps to make them ADA compliant when we replace the old signal with a new signal in 2023.  This project will bid in the fall of 2022, allowing for lead time on the signal equipment manufacturing and deliver in order to provide for construction during the summer of 2023 when school is out for summer break.

\*\*Update from Josh Mandelbaum: The sidewalk shown in red below along North Valley Drive between the bike trail and 56th Street is scheduled for construction in 2023.  
This project is currently in design and we are working with the railroad to extend the crossing panels for the sidewalk and working through permitting for work in the floodplain.

8:15-8:30:  Police Liaison Officer Mike Moody

-Crime is on the uprise in the Westwood neighborhood.

-Recommendations for going out of town: let your neighbors know you will be gone, let the neighborhood officer know you will be gone.

-Ring Doorbell cameras are highly recommended.

City Council Member Carl Voss

-Speed Limit change

-Neighbor on 51st St voiced disapproval on the change.