

GTNA Board Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2025

6:30pm – 7:54pm via Zoom

Attendees: Jay Russell, Dana Russell, Helen Sheahan, Gary Kobs, Kathy Batha, Kathe Powers, Mayo Ewanowski, David Ewanowski, Alex Kocher, Trevor Olson, Jane Sarafiny, Ruth Paulson

Regrets: Terrah Clark, Serene Arena

Meeting Minutes: The December 2024 meeting minutes were approved.

Board News: Jane Sarafiny has resigned from the Board. The Board would like to thank Ms. Sarafiny for her many years of service in many capacities (2009 to 2025), most recently as Board President from 2013 to 2022. Mr. Russell will follow up with people who have expressed interest in joining the Board and present candidates in an upcoming meeting.

It was suggested that we amend the Bylaws to define term dates for all board members. Currently Article VI, Section 1 of the Bylaws sets a two-year term for officers. There are no defined board member term lengths, nor any reference to a board member renewal date. Ms. Russell will put together a proposed amendment to the Bylaws making the term dates coincide with the Association membership dates and provide it for Board review.

Holiday Lights Update: Mr. Olson reported that we had a lot of participation in voting – 224 votes. The various tasks were completed in a timely manner. One house winner has lost a piece of rebar that we will need to replace for 2025. Thank you to Ms. Clark and Mr. Olson for their hard work.

Ash Tree Fund: Ms. Sheahan reported that the Parks Department will accept additional donations to our ash tree fund. The funds must be spent by December 2026. Total funds between the two parks equals \$1,049.58 (Norman Clayton Park - \$893.74. Sunridge Park - \$155.84)

- a. Each picnic table is \$770.63 (\$750 plus 2.75% processing fee)
- b. If we buy a picnic table for Norman Clayton Park, that leaves \$278.95. This is \$491.68 short for buying a picnic table for Sunridge Park. We can apply for funding the balance with a City Grant – deadline of February 18, 2025.
- c. Suggestions? Ms. Sheahan wants someone to volunteer to write the grant application. Use bullet points whenever possible.
- d. Mr. Kobs stated that there are five picnic tables at Norman Clayton Park, two picnic tables at Sunridge Park, and two picnic tables at Sherwood Forest Park. Mr. Russell suggested that we use the funds to purchase a picnic table for both Norman Clayton Park and Sunridge Park.

GTNA 2025 and Beyond Plan:

1. Revised Membership Form

- a. Ms. Clark, Mr. Olson, Mr. Kocher, and Ms. Ewanowski will be meeting on February 4 to revise the membership form. It would be helpful to have an online

application form that could automatically populate the membership database. Mr. Russell had distribute a revised version for review.

- b. Can we complete the updated form by Feb. 15?
- c. We should replace the old membership form from Website and from new neighbor packets by March 1.
- d. We should post the new form on the GTNA Facebook page, social media, GTNA website, and email members starting March 1.

2. Park Play Dates

- a. Locations: Norman Clayton Park, Sunridge Park, Sherwood Forest Park, Anana School.
- b. Who can work on this to get feedback from families with young kids e.g. weekdays vs. weekends? Time of day?
 - 1. Mr. Olson will draft a survey to get family preferences for weekends vs weekdays as well as a timeframe. We hope to get responses for the March Board meeting. Information could be announced at the Annual Meeting in April.

- 3. Food Truck Gatherings – Mr. Kocher's has a contact with the City of Madison who coordinates food trucks. Currently his contact is busy but Mr. Kocher will follow up. We would like two or three sponsored events in the summer. There are very few restrictions on food trucks. We should reach out to the owner of the truck that lives on Laurie Drive.
- 4. Gallop T-Shirt Design. The T-shirt Committee (Ms. Powers, Ms. Russell, Mr. Russell, Ms. Sheehan) will be meeting on Thursday, February 6 to discuss how to roll out the competition, i.e. rules, deadlines, sponsors, etc. We should reach out to the art teacher at Anana School to see if Anana students would be interested in the design contest.

Annual Meeting: Mr. Russell suggested Tuesday April 22. He will reserve the Community Room. Topic suggestions: Membership, Volunteer Organizations in neighborhood, Anana School, SW Area Plan, food truck events, 4th of July, play-date announcement. It was suggested that we could hold the meeting at Vitense Golfland. Mr. Kobs suggested inviting the Memorial High School principal to speak.

Garage Sale: Suggested dates – May 2-3 (Meadowood's weekend) or May 16-17. Feedback from last year was that there were too many neighborhoods having garage sales at the same time – Orchard Ridge and Meadowood. The group voted to have the sale May 16-17.

Response to the Recent Editions of The Stump: Mr. Russell has received positive comments on the articles in the Stump. We have volunteers for 4th of July Food Committee. Mr. Russell and Ms. Katie Place will follow up. We will encourage more articles from neighborhood contributors. April Stump deadline is February 14. Articles needed: Garage Sale, membership renewal, fee increase, Annual meeting, Gallop T-shirt contest although the Gallop T-Shirt contest may be over by the time of Stump distribution.

Membership Update. Ms. Ewanowski reported that we added one new member this month. We now have 248 households.

Treasurer Report. Mr. Ewanowski reported that our bank balance as of December 2 was \$2,486.27. As of January 31, we had no expenses or income. However, we just received a \$15 membership for a new balance of \$2,501.27 and an invoice of \$450 from the printer. These will be reflected in the March 1 report.

Attached are the 2024 year end report, and the January 2025 Year to Date report.

Next meeting - Monday, March 3, 2025 at 6:30 pm via Zoom.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dana Russell