

GTNA Board Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2025

6:30pm – 7:56pm via Zoom

Attendees: Jay Russell, Dana Russell, Helen Sheahan, Alex Kocher, Trevor Olson, Gary Kobs, Kathe Powers, Raymond Neal, Terrah Clark

Absent: Mayo Ewanowski, David Ewanowski, Kathy Batha, Ruth Paulson

Guests: Justin Rundle, Megan Jarrett

Mr. Russell introduced and welcomed the guests, Mr. Rundle and Ms. Jarrett. Both individuals are interested in joining the GTNA Board.

Meeting Minutes: The June 2025 meeting minutes were approved.

Park Play Dates Recap: Mr. Olson reported that there have been two Park Play Date events:

The June 29 event in Norman Clayton Park was attended by approximately 50 people, 15 to 20 families.

The August 13 event was held in Sunridge Park and was combined with the Food Truck Event. There was a large turnout for the combined event, approximately 150 to 200 people. There was no way to determine a count for the Park Play Date portion of the gathering.

The feedback from participants was very positive. We should schedule an event, perhaps at Sherwood Forest Park sometime before mid-October. It should be a Park Play Date only event. Sherwood Forest Park is too small to accommodate a large Food Truck gathering.

Greentree Day at Vintage June 22, 2025: Ms. Powers reported that there was a good turnout for GTNA at Vintage Brewing Company. The 10% donation from Vintage totaled \$230. Ms. Powers suggested that we should make this an annual summer event, if Vintage is willing. Ms. Powers also noted that she and several others distributed flyers around the neighborhood. It is a good method to distribute information around the neighborhood.

Gallop T-Shirts: Ms. Sheehan reported the spreadsheet has been updated and is on the shared Google drive. Ms. Powers reported that we ordered 72 2025 T-shirts, have sold 70 of them and the remainder of the 2024 shirts.

The cost for the shirts was \$741.79, we had donations (business and personal) of \$966 and sales of \$650. There is a net profit of \$874.21.

Mr. Russell thanked Ms. Powers and Ms. Sheehan for setting up a booth at the Food Truck Event and the Friends of Sunridge Park gathering. They sold T-shirts and several people joined GTNA.

Lastly, several comments were reported: We should have just a “Greentree” t-shirt versus a Greentree Gallop shirt. Another idea discussed is to have a display of a history of Greentree T-shirts at the Annual Meeting. Further discussion will be tabled until the February 2026 meeting.

4th of July: Mr. Russell reported the following:

- Gallop – due to the rain and risk of lightening, we tried to cancel the run. We were not able to mark the route with chalk because it would wash away in the rain. Ms. Powers declared it to be an “Unofficial Gallop” with about 25 participants.
- Parade – in Ms. Paulson’s absence, Mr. Russell reported that we had great participation for the parade. One of the firemen was very complimentary about the turnout for the Greentree event.
- Picnic – approximately 250 to 300 people attended the picnic. Melissa Bennett assisted Katie Place in the food tent. Rick Welsh and Steve Hennigfield did food pickup. We ran out of brats and had someone run to Woodman’s to purchase more.
- Picnic Ticket Sales – Mr. Ewanowski’s method of measuring the length of tickets truly sped up ticket sales. It was greatly appreciated by everyone standing in line.
- Kids Activities – Ms. Russell reported they had great participation with the tattoos, sidewalk chalk, and face painting. Face Painting by Malerie Lenz was very popular with long lines. Thank you Malerie for contributing your amazing talents.
- Membership Table – Mr. Ewanowski, Ms. Ewanowski, Mr. Kocher worked the table and stated they enrolled several more members. Next year we should have access to a roster because many people were not sure if they had already renewed their membership.

Mr. Russell thanked everyone for volunteering their time at this event.

Food Truck and Kids Play Date Event: Mr. Kocher and Mr. Neal reported there was a great turnout for the event, 150 to 200 people. There were long lines for the two food trucks. Ms. Paulson reported that Facebook comments provided positive feedback. Now that we know how many people to expect, we may get more food trucks to participate. Mr. Neal and Mr. Kocher both stated that many of the food truck owners were hesitant to participate because we could not provide a confident estimate of how many people we expected to attend. One truck ran out of food. El Gato Taco was a big hit. People liked the weeknight option. Combining the Food Truck event with the Kids Play Date was an added bonus. A dessert truck would be nice to have. It was also suggested that GTNA purchase tubs of ice cream, cones and dishes. Extra thanks to Ms. Sheehan and Ms. Powers for setting up a membership sign-up table.

Adopt a Tree Fund Final Disbursement: Ms. Sheehan reported that 5 trees will be planted in either September or October 2025 at Norman Clayton Park. According to Chad Hughes, City of Madison, Parks Operations Manager the trees will be Midwest native species. The City was not in favor of planting fruit trees. The engraved picnic table purchased with the Adopt-a-Tree funds is already at Sunridge Park.

Lawn Mowing Service Advertising: Mr. Russell reported that he met a teen on a bicycle going door to door offering to mow lawns, using the homeowner’s mower. It was emailed to members via MailChimp. A resident objected that this was a commercial operation and thus,

not permitted. This is not a commercial operation. Board discussion noted that the GTNA membership application offers to advertise kids willing to work or provide services — babysitting, yard work, etc., shoveling. That information will be in the GTNA Membership Directory.

2025 End of Year Plan:

- **Documenting Procedures.** Mr. Russell requested that everyone create a step-by-step procedure for the events they lead. The goal is to create clear procedures & instructions in the event a board member steps down or no longer wants to lead an event. This will make it easier for someone to take their place to lead an event.
- **Master Calendar.** Ms. Russell is working on a master calendar for all GTNA activities. This will include meetings, agendas, events, tasks, deadlines, etc. It will be in an excel format which can be sorted by event, by month, etc. It will also drive meeting agendas. The goal is to have this completed by the end of the year. Upon completion, it will be placed in Google docs for everyone to share.

Halloween Bonfire: Mr. Kobs reported that this event will be held in Norman Clayton Park for 2025. The City burn permit has been submitted and awaiting approval (due by Oct. 1). All volunteers are set (sign posting, social media, fence set up, firewood delivery, water access, hot cocoa, flashlights/lanterns). It was recommended and agreed to change the start time from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm, ending at 8pm.

Membership: Ms. Ewanowski was unable to attend the meeting, but Mr. Kocher reported that as of June, 80 households have joined or renewed their membership. 37 of those members requested an electronic version of the Directory. As of this meeting, membership is in the low 200s which is 40 to 60 members below the 2023/2025 enrollment. We hope to have updated membership numbers at the October meeting.

Treasurer Report: Mr. Ewanowski was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Russell reported that the GTNA account balance as of 9-9-25 was \$5,461.88. We had expenses since June of \$4,102.49 (4th of July, Gallop T-shirt order), and income of \$5,411.89 (\$966 for Gallop Sponsorships/donations, \$650 T-shirt sales, and \$3,795.89 for new/renewal memberships.

Other items:

- **New Board Member Evaluation Procedure** is in process. Ms. Paulson and Mr. Kobs volunteered to be on a committee to create a procedure for the future. It will be distributed prior to the October meeting. We should discuss, finalize, and vote on this procedure in the October meeting.
- There is a GTNA Board member position open to replace Ms. Arena. Mr. Russell is contacting people who have expressed an interest in becoming a GTNA Board member. It would be good to have someone with skills such as communications, organizing and tracking volunteers.
- **President Position** – Mr. Russell advised the board that he is committed to staying in his position, however, if someone wants to become President, please contact him.
- **Facebook Communications** – Ms. Paulson state that she is getting more Facebook comments requiring more frequent monitoring.

- Backyard Shakespeare Night – Mr. Russell reported that Ann & Robert Nelson are hosting a backyard event to practice and perform a Shakespeare play in their backyard on October 12 at 3:00pm. A rehearsal will be held on a date to be determined by Ann Nelson. Let Ann know if there is an interest in performing. All are welcome to watch the performance.
- Anana School Bus Issue – The question was raised if there was any response from the School Board regarding the June 23 School Board meeting request that the Toki Middle School bus also collect the Anana School children living on Schroeder Road. The children could be dropped off at Piping Rock Road and Hathaway Dr/Woodington Way. Mr. Russell has reached out to Anana Principal Chelsea Elliott but has not heard back. Mr. Olson noted that there has been no observed change. Ms. Linda Koss and Alder Harrington McKinney continue to work on this issue with the school.
- Tool Library – Ms. Clark stated that Mr. Aiden Gardill suggested that we create a Tool Library for members. He would like to coordinate this among the neighbors. His philosophy is that everyone has some collection of tools which could be checked out by other neighbors instead of buying a particular item. The Board agreed it is an interesting idea and will discuss this as a 2026 initiative.

The next meeting will be Monday, October 6, 2025 at 6:30pm via Zoom

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dana Russell