

GTNA Board Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2024

6:34pm – 8:05pm via Zoom

Attendees: Jay Russell, Dana Russell, Mayo Ewanowski, David Ewanowski, Helen Sheahan, Gary Kobs, Ruth Paulson, Alex Kocher, Trevor Olson, Jane Sarafiny, Serene Arena

Regrets: Terrah Clark, Kathy Batha, Kathe Powers

Meeting Minutes: The June 2024 meeting minutes were approved.

Welcome Alex Kocher!: The Board had voted to approve the addition of Alex Kocher to the GTNA Board. Alex, who grew up in Greentree, has recently returned to the neighborhood. He was a great help at the 4th of July picnic.

4th of July Follow Up:

- **Gallop Recap/Feedback:** Ms. Ewanowski reported 60 Gallop participants this year. The T-shirts were a big hit. People seemed to enjoy the event.
- **Parade Recap/Feedback:** Ms. Paulson reported the Fire Department appeared. The police department did not make it. We had plenty of volunteers. The permit was never issued although it was applied for. It was noted that several kids did not accept a flag. Too difficult to hold while pedaling. We have flags left over for next year.
- **Ticket Sales Recap/Feedback:** Kudos to Mr. Ewanowski, Mr. Olson, and Mr. Kocher for implementing a more efficient ticket sales process. Although Zelle payments were not widely used, it was a success.
- Thank you to Ms. Sharay Wallace for sponsoring Pokey the Clown to create balloon figures.
- **Picnic Food Recap/Feedback:** Thank you to Ms. Place for coordinating the food order, permits, setup, sales, and final clean-up of the food area.
- **Assistance for Picnic Food Setup:** For future years, we need to enlist someone to help Ms. Place with the food ordering and coordinating.

Greentree Gallop T-Shirts: Prior to the meeting, Ms. Powers reported that we paid \$638.98 for printing 72 T-shirts and Gallop stickers, we received corporate sponsorship donations of \$875, we sold 63 shirts for \$630 (\$330 on July 4), for a “profit” of 866.02. The 3 remaining shirts will be offered for sale on Facebook. Thank you to Ms. Powers for her great work on the T-shirts.

We have added a thank you article for the sponsors in the next Stump.

- Discussion of T-Shirt design for 2025 Gallop: This discussion was tabled until the October or November meeting.

Halloween Bonfire: Mr. Kobs reported that the park event permit was applied for on June 2. He has not received any response from the City. The fire permit must be submitted no later than October 2. Firewood has been secured. Water has been arranged. Hot Chocolate has been secured. We will need to bring flashlights. Mr. Kobs will let the Fire Department know we are waiting for the Park Permit before we can submit the Burn Permit application.

We are spreading the word that the Bonfire will be at Sunridge Park this year. Notices should appear in the Stump, Facebook, Nextdoor Greentree, and the GTNA website.

In the week before Halloween, we should post a notice at Norman Clayton Park that the bonfire has been moved to Sunridge Park for 2024.

Holiday Lights: Ms. Clark and Mr. Olson have agreed to be the Holiday Lights Coordinator. Mr. Olson offered to coordinate a meeting of the volunteers for the judging committee. Ms. Paulson will assist with posting photos of this year's finalists. Winners from 2021, 2022 and 2023 are not eligible to win in 2024. This was made clear in the Stump Article.

GTNA Membership Financials 2024/2025: Mr. Russell provided discussion points prior to the meeting.

- The Board voted to increase Membership fees to \$25 for a two-year term.
- The Board decided to table the discussion of offering a membership incentive discount (\$20 membership fee) if fees are paid prior to May 1, 2025 (the discount window will be January 1 to May 1).
- Topic tabled to next meeting: We need to have a discussion regarding the suggestion that if a non-member household participates in the annual Garage Sale, they will be charged a \$25/\$20 fee to participate and be included in the list of participants. This cost will become their membership fee.
- Topic tabled to next meeting: There was a discussion of reducing the membership fee to \$20 if a household elects to receive their Stump electronically, saving some printing costs.

GTNA 2025 and Beyond: Mr. Russell suggested a number of future ideas for GTNA.

- Increase use of Google Drive for the GTNA Board information. Some training would be appreciated by Board members unfamiliar with Google Drive. Ms. Clark may be able to answer any questions on how to access and use the site. Mr. Russell will email links to the Google Drive folders to the Board.
- Continue to strive to provide quality activities for families. Many new neighbors have young children. We need to engage younger people in GTNA. Suggestions: Babysitting sharing, park play dates, food truck gatherings.
- Find ways to ease reliance on the Board as the primary volunteers & coordinators. We have a great group of volunteers. We need to nurture these relationships.
- Find residents to write articles for the Stump.
- Develop a list of potential future Board members.

Membership: Ms. Ewanowski reported our membership total is now **245** members. This figure is a substantial increase from 2023.

Treasurer Report: Mr. Ewanowski reported that as of September 9, 2024, the balance of the GTNA account was \$2,214.90, with income of \$465 for memberships, and \$330 from Gallop T-shirt sales. Expenses of \$2,200 from 4th of July. Upcoming expenses include prizes for the Holiday Lights winners.

For budgeting purposes, anyone donating items (porta-johns, flags, tattoos, necklaces for parade, etc.) should let the Treasurer know as those expenses need to be accounted for in the event it is not donated in the future.

Other items:

- Rick Thomas Email. Mr. Thomas' organization wants to make a presentation to the Board explaining the community services they offer to local families. Mr. Russell will invite him to attend the October board meeting.
- Someone suggested that we have a presentation at the Annual Meeting recognizing community activists that provide support in the area.
- Anana School Schroeder Road issue discussion. The issue of students safely crossing Schroeder Road is under discussion between the School Board and the City Traffic Department. Any volunteers to walk kids will have to go through an extensive background check.
- Water survey discussion – the survey needs to be added to the website.
- Topic tabled to next meeting: Ms. Sheahan discussion of ash tree treatments in the parks.

Next meeting - Monday, October 7, 2024 at 6:30 pm via Zoom

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dana Russell