

## Minutes of the February 8, 2012 WENA meeting

Board Members present: Jennifer Defilipp, Chip Martin, Jenny Anastasoff, Christine McHale, Tom Mac Millan, Deb McCoy, Jodie Lapchik, Penny Stevens, Rosanne Graef

Others present: Sarah Colton, Officer Dan Townsend, Ed King, Rodents Biacho, Tim McNamara, Dick Stevens, Holly Seeliger, Dave Marshall, Becca Jones.

### Reports and Announcements

#### Treasurer's Report given by Rosanne Graef

Checks written- \$31.49 to Express Copy

Withdrawals- none

Deposits- \$10 from dues payment

Balance as of 1/30/12-, \$10,312.08

Motion to accept report- Tom MacMillan moved and Christine McHale seconded.

#### Secretary's Report

Motion to accept – Tom MacMillan moved and Jen Defillip seconded.

#### VP Report

Jodie explained Next Door West End, a private website set up for our neighborhood residents only. It can be used e.g. for lending, borrowing or giving away items. She passed around applications to enroll.

#### Neighborhood Watch

Officer Townsend discussed the recent robberies at Cumberland Farms. Patrols have been increased in the neighborhood. He relayed the information that the police dispatchers have increased responsibilities after a recent merger with South Portland and Cape Elizabeth. New procedures are being implemented and new staff hired and trained.

### Old Business

The Pediatric First Aid Class has been postponed until February 24 with a snow date of March 5<sup>th</sup>. There's a new time of 4:30 to 7:30 at the Community Center.

The Rec Dept is registering participants for Lemonade Day from March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 7<sup>th</sup>. Karen Seymour is the contact person at [kseymour@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:kseymour@portlandmaine.gov)

The AARP Safe Driving class will be held at Reiche Community Center on March 28<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday from 10-3 pm. AARP members will be charged \$12 all others \$14.

Participants ages 55 and over will receive a rate discount from their auto insurance companies. Café Ohno will be contacted about providing a light lunch for a small charge.

The last session of Art At Work's Meeting Place will convene in the Community Center on March 7<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday. At 5:30. Attendees should bring three photos for the group project. One picture of a person, one of a place in the West End and one in your home.

## New Business

Tim McNamara of Saint John Valley Neighborhood Association introduced a Shopping Cart Initiative that would make store owners responsible for containing or retrieving shopping carts that have been removed from their property. He presented a letter to the Public Safety Committee of the City Council requesting such a law and asked us to sign it too. Discussion followed and it was decided that we would vote on this at the March meeting.

Holly Selliger, Penny Stevens and Rosanne Graef are organizing a Craft Circle that will meet at the Community Center, Monday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. People will be invited to come, sit and work on their favorite craft project.

Penny told us that Maine Medical Center will donate furniture from a waiting room there that is being redecorated. A settee, 6 chairs and a table will be placed in the Community Center for use by groups meeting there. It is scheduled to be delivered next Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Subcommittees

Communication- Jody discussed signing on to Constant Contact, an email subscription service to send out emails to our membership. It cost \$144 to set it up for this year. Further discussion led to ideas to increase our membership. Some of them were to change our domain name, send out a mailing to West End residents, gather more email addresses at Westfest, using tweets for meeting reminders and redesigning our website. Tom MacMillan moved to authorize spending \$350 for a new web design. Jen Defillip seconded.

Environmental- Earth Day weekend is April 21-22. April 22 will be April Stools Day. A cigarette butt clean up event is being planned for that date too. Dave Marshall reminded us the butts are now considered litter and there is a \$100 fine for throwing them on public property.

Tom MacMillan will be the Westfest coordinator.

Respectfully submitted by Penny Stevens