

**Minutes  
Wicker Park Committee  
Membership Meeting  
June 6, 2007  
Location: Bucktown/Wicker Park Library**

Meeting was called to order at 7:15pm.

**I. MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

- A. Minutes of the May 2, 2007 meeting were approved.
- B. E. Coorens, President WPC introduced the WPC board members.

**II. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. TREASURY REPORT**

J. Peterson reported that to this date the cash balance is \$18,834.60.

**B. CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

**1. Topic: Dance classes**

**Discussion:** A. Wozniak reported on the first dance class held, Sunday June 3. He discussed that the first event was free for all members. It was hoped that there would be a better turnout because this is an opportunity for dance lessons from professional dancers from Arthur Murray in a variety of different places at a minimal cost. It was discussed that WPC cannot foot the bill for each lesson, so next dance class will probably be \$10 members and \$15 for non members which is still a bargain for dance lessons but this is still up for discussion. A. Wozniak asked the membership if there was still interest, and if there is what would be the best days/time.

**Action:** By a handraise, the membership voted to continue the dance classes. It was agreed that Sunday afternoons in the fall would be the best time. A. Wozniak will followup on the event and costs.

**2. Topic: Antique @ Junque Sale**

**Discussion:** A. Wozniak and E. Tamminga reviewed initial plans for the sale. It is tentatively scheduled for the first week of September. It will include individual yard sales. A new aspect will be that WPC will have sales tables at the Pritzker School parking lot. Anyone interested in

donating, or wanting to clean out their houses without having to actually hold a yard sale, can contact A. Wozniak. A truck will be rented to pick up items from your house and will be sold by WPC. Items can be declined. All proceeds will go to WPC. A tax deductible receipt will be given to the donor. Suggestions by the membership were that 1) let the donor determine the price of the item; 2) let the donor complete the tax deductible.

**Action:** A. Wozniak will followup on sale. Anyone interested in volunteering can contact A. Wozniak.

### **C. MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING**

#### **Topic: Recruitment**

**Discussion:** L. Clary reported that we now have 120 members in WPC. L. Clary wanted to recognize and thank A. Wozniak for his efforts to recruit new members at the Children's Carnival. Through his idea of selling/flying silk kites, 18 new members joined WPC that day. E. Coorens also wanted to thank both Andrew and his wife, Rebecca Wright, in their efforts that day to get new members.

**Action:** L. Clary will followup on membership and marketing.

### **D. PRESERVATION & DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Topic: Project: 1448-50 North Leavitt Covenant**

**Discussion:** C. Norris brought to WPC membership the zoning request of this building in order to fix the porch for city compliance. The reason for this is that the building currently has 7 units-one being illegal. With 7 units, to get a permit, the zoning has to be upzone from B1-2 to B2-3. WP Preservation & Development Subcommittee recommend approving this zoning request with the restriction that with the completion of the porch repair the building will be downzoned back to B1-2. The repairs will be given a 4 month legal window for completion. If the building would require another permit in the future, a new application would have to be done. The issues discussed by membership included the uncertainty Of going along with an illegal unit; the porch is now a safety issue; timeframe of conversion is unknown; preserves work/live space with the extra unit; and importance of abiding by covenant.

**Action:** Membership voted by written ballot to **approve** the 1448-50 North Leavitt Covenant. Vote stands:

**YES: 19 NO: 2 ABSTAIN: 1**

## **III. OLD BUSINESS and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A.** June 9, 2007 is the second WP Bucktown Gallery Walk

- B. Renegade Craft Fair will not be held in Wicker Park this year- it will now be held on Division Street as part of the Westtown Fair.
- C. St. Paul's Church on North Avenue received a letter of commitment to give property to the Northwest Arts Council. A feasibility study is to be started. The plan is for a venue that will be an Arts Center that can hold 400 people.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Topic: I want I need**

**Discussion:** T. Varndell asked that if any workers on construction sites are loading bricks, brick pallets without wearing masks, please contact him.

**Action:** T. Varndell to be contacted with above concerns.

**B. Topic: Donation to Wicker Park's Fountain Court Project**

**Discussion:** E. Coorens brought up the issue of WPC donating a bench or urn for Wicker Park as part of the Fountain Court project. D. Wood, WP Advisory Council Fountain Court Committee, Chairman, distributed handouts on the project. E. Coorrens discussed that the bench cost of \$2000 is high, but it is the only bench approved by the Chicago Park District. Issues brought up by membership included: 1) price is too high; it is 10% of our current treasury; 2) the city should provide it to the park; 3) take a collection from members; 4) have more fundraisers; 5) WPC should make a positive contribution to the community and the park is positive; 6) money could best be used elsewhere, such as using it for covenant defenses; 7) WPC board is looking at other fundraisers

**Action: Membership made the motion:**

**WPC PURCHASE A BENCH FOR WICKER PARK AS  
PART OF THE FOUNTAIN COURT PROJECT**

**Members voted by written ballot. Voting  
results: YES: 16 NO: 6 ABSTAIN: 0**

**V. PROGRAM**

**A. Topic: MAUTENE COURT PRESENTATION**

**Discussion:** Claudia Skylar, SSA Commissioner gave a

brief overview of the mission of the SSA. J. Peterson is our liaison to the SSA. A Fact Sheet about Mautene Court was distributed for review. C. Sklyar then presented the topic of Mautene Court. It is a vacant area now that the city discussed

with the SSA to handle its maintenance costs. The SSA thought this would be an opportunity for the community to develop this location for their own purposes. She showed an example of a rendering of this location-landscaping, café, or a multipurpose area. She said the SSA is looking for a concept of the area to give to the city.

**Action:** If you are interested in working with SSA and brainstorming on design, diagrams, activities you were like to see in that area or any other input come to the SSA meeting on 6-9; attend any SSA monthly meeting; or contact [Jamie@WickerParkBucktownSSA.org](mailto:Jamie@WickerParkBucktownSSA.org).

**B. Topic: ALDERMAN SCOTT WAGUESPACK-32<sup>ND</sup> WARD**

**Discussion:** The alderman expressed his appreciation to WP for any help in his election. He gave an overview of the current state of his office:

- office space is located on Clybourn across from Costco-just moving in
- hired 3 staff members that have experience in education, transportation, environment, planning/development. They will be introduced at future meetings.
- currently working on zoning and development guidelines for 32<sup>nd</sup> ward-1) owner/developer checklist-to be used by developers for initial meeting; 2) List of what developers need to do to respect neighbors

Questions from the membership (summarized):

- developers come to alderman first; get guidelines; then go to community groups
- Tower Building-no decisions-request for better plans and then getting community input from both Bucktown and WP
- request for permit parking-currently 16 number zones in ward-his staffer will review current zones and decisions will be made from that-reluctant to add a new parking permit zone
- if projects were going on with previous alderman, they have not received any past documentation which is now a problem with follow through-staff is currently working on getting these records. Some city departments might have records.

**Action:** Website will be coming up shortly. Contact Alderman's office by phone or in person with concerns.

Adjournment time: 9:00pm

#### **IV. MEMBERSHIP CALENDAR**

**Next WPC membership meeting is July 11, 2007. Watch for location.**

Pat Linnerud  
Secretary