

Millwood Neighborhood Association

Meeting Minutes

Date: 09/24/2024

Location: Kalamazoo Airport Board Room

Attendees: Ethan Seguin, Michele Momotiuk, Dave Buskirk, Scott Stokes

1. Financials and Funding

- **Bank Account**
Dave discussed the potential need to open a bank account with Consumers.
 - **Funding from the Jim Gilmore Jr. Foundation**
Dave reported gaining interest from the Jim Gilmore Jr. Foundation for possible funding, with Chris Shook, the foundation's President, also involved through Imagine Kzoo 2035.
 - **Kzoo Community Foundation**
Michelle has made progress in setting up a non-profit account with the Kzoo Community Foundation and plans to work with Dave to explore potential funding opportunities.
 - **Cover Letter Requirement**
It was noted that the cover letter for funding applications must explain how the funding will benefit the city of Kalamazoo.
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2. Outreach and Community Engagement

- **One Well Event**
Ethan reported a successful event at One Well, noting increased interest in meetings and donations. Jax added that both children and the community positively received the event. Plans were made to return next year, with the idea to collaborate with a local face-painting shop for supplies and artist support.
 - **Social Media Outreach**
Michelle met with Janet Jones, a local figure with non-profit experience, who offered to share MNA meeting information on her social media channels to broaden outreach.
 - **Food Donation Drive at Millwood Middle School**
Scott proposed that MNA support the ongoing food donation drive at Millwood Middle School. The board approved Scott's suggestion to approach the principal, Mr. Leisure, for possible involvement.
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3. October Meeting Plans

- **Agenda:**
 1. Introduce board members.
 2. Invite general members interested in joining the board.
 3. Present the mission statements.
 4. Sarah, the CPO, will attend and address the audience.
 5. Announce that the by-laws are online and open for feedback.
 - **Invitees**

Michele will coordinate invitations for City and County commissioners, including John Taylor, Don Cooney, Chris Patel, and Monteeze Morales.
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4. Board and Administration

- **Roles and Officers**

Scott agreed to serve as the Corresponding Secretary to satisfy the requirement of three officers, ensuring compliance with non-profit status per Laura from the State.
 - **Communications**

Scott suggested preparing public messages to explain recent board changes, emphasizing that former board members left voluntarily and affirming the board's commitment to serving the community. Positive milestones, such as the National Night Out and the One Well Block Party, will be highlighted.
 - **Meeting Venues**

Dave noted that the airport will serve as the designated board room for smaller meetings, with Union Hall reserved for larger gatherings.
 - **Administrative Support**

Michelle plans to follow up with Nicki, who offered to assist with note-taking at meetings.
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5. Logistics and Resources

- **Equipment**

Michelle and Dave identified available easels at both the library and Union Hall to support mission statement displays and other presentations.
- **By-Laws and Public Feedback**

The by-laws will be posted on the MNA website for public input and suggestions.