**Stratfield Historic District Association**

**Date:** Monday, July 18, 2016

**Place:** Michael & Kathleen Smith residence, 65 Brooklawn Place

Meeting called to order 7:45 PM by SHDA President Margee Judge

In attendance: Bette Huckabee, Chris Russo, Howard Raabe, Dave Judge, Frank Borres, Diego Chachques, Milan Bevon, Michael Smith, Raquel Stanko-Williams, Peter Wilk, Susan Tabachnick, Judy Shanner, Steve Farrell, Margee Judge, Evie Reyes, Kathleen Smith, CT State Representative Steve Stafstrom, State Senator Marilyn Moore, Ashli Giles-Perkins

**INTRODUCTIONS OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT**

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Margee Judge motions to accept minutes from last meeting in June. Frank Borres would like to amend minutes – he did not suggest Judy volunteer to make the home plaques, he “thought it was a good idea.” Frank motions to accept amended minutes, Dave Judge seconds.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Evie Reyes reviews current financial status: $260 in bank account from membership payments (7 families, 6 individuals, 2 businesses). No monies spent yet. Judy Shanner announces she received check from Wells Fargo with balance from previous SHDA account, presents check to Evie. Susan Tabachnick –iron fence in park needs repairs, should we call Cargin to get fence repaired ourselves as contacting the city probably wouldn’t get the repair done. Steve Stafstrom - city should fix the fence, contact the Parks Department stating issues and ask to please address and fix. Frank Borres – give finite number of days for city to respond. Judy Shanner – two lights also need replacing.

**SHD COMMISSION JOB DESCRIPTION**

Michael Smith – re-order job descriptions so that communication and collaboration skills/constructive feedback are at the top, then knowledge of architecture and background check. Susan Tabachnick – favors merging the two Bridgeport historic commissions. Steve Stafstrom – go into Mayor’s office with resumes, demand action, keep pressure up. Add him as cc on all emails to City regarding actions to be taken, which will give him an idea of what issues we’re working on and allow him to advocate for us. Raquel Stanko-Williams – difficulty finding information on City site regarding SHD Commission. How should we get the word out electronically to get applicants to bring to the city? Commission needs to be politically mixed.

**HOUSE PLAQUES**

Judy Shanner – order form will be made up for picnic with photograph example of plaque.

**CLEAN UP BRIDGEPORT TASK FORCE**

Frank Borres - review of meeting with West Side NRZ on June 28th.  Meeting with superintendant of schools Fran Rabinowitz who would like program to be rolled out citywide. Meeting with Director of Public Facilities John Ricci.

Model – not to be dependent upon government/city, citizens are responsible. Student contest, brand/logo, united image. Has been evolving from a neighborhood project to a citywide initiative. Judy Shanner – get stores behind initiative by reducing packaging. Frank – retailers should be on board to give customers bags to collect garbage in their cars. Other groups interested – Trash Busters.

**MONTHLY LITTER CLEAN UP**

Fourth Saturday clean up in July, less of a turn out than previous months (Margee, Michael, Susan, Judy). City Councilwoman Yvette Brantley donated water and ice. Frank Borres – south of North Avenue needs more attention and we need to recruit more members from that area.

**NEIGHBORHOOD POTLUCK PICNIC**

Two RSVPs so far. Email blast this week, share event on Facebook. Scheduled 2pm set-up.

**175 BROOKLAWN AVENUE**

Nexus Sober House. Chris Russo discloses that he is attorney for other properties, volunteers to leave meeting if we would like to discuss without him present. Explains that state regulation allows them to use the home. Strict rules about no drinking, no drugs, no visitors, halfway house, tax exempt. Susan Tabachnick – lack of transparency is upsetting, would like them to share what they will be doing at the home: will there be men & women, length of stay, 24/7 staff, dispense medication. Frank Borres asks Chris to let them know we’re interested in speaking with them.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Michael Smith distributes former proposal submitted to city for Stratfield Historic District Signs with photos and historic information for display in park. Chris Russo supplies photos of older photographs of his home with lamp posts that would be historically accurate. Steve Stafstrom – rework as a safety issue, an attempt to attract young professionals, bus line goes down North Avenue.

Meeting adjourned 9:15 pm