

AIA EC Meeting Oct 7 2025

Present: Bonnie Bessor, Andrew Limbong, Sarah Kanchuger, James Rubarth-Lay, Mary Washington, Julia Embry, Sindbad Fennimore, Sophie Aron, Ian Mahoney, Susanne Riveles, Teresa Pfaff, Ruth Baker

1. Approval of Sept meeting minutes

- a. Bonnie moves to approve. Julia seconds. Approved.

2. KyngzLounge

- a. Jim reports that the KyngzLounge letter has been sent to the zoning board, and our disapproval has been noted.
- b. Jim reiterates the KyngzLounge story.
- c. Mary Washington says variances aren't in the interest in most communities – if it's a need, you should change zoning to allow it.
- d. Bonnie asks when the hearing is – Julia says it's mid-October.

3. Parking Permits

- a. Ian will send reminder to neighbors about parking permits being renewed.

4. Dumpster

- a. Sindbad reports that overall it went great. Another coming in November 29th.

5. Street Fair

- a. Bonnie reports rough numbers from Street Fair. Overall, good year. Generally it looks like we grossed a lil over \$15,000 (might be a record), which includes all sponsorships, vendor fees, and everything that came in that day. It looks like expenses were a lil over \$6,000 (though waiting on some things). In the end, we might net between \$8 - 9k, compared to last year our net was \$3k. It was a beautiful day, record number of sponsorships. The t-shirts were donated, we decided not to print posters, etc. Outstanding items include the stage from the city, a few kegs from Peabody, etc.
- b. Bonnie shouts out ppl who stepped in for bake sale at the last minute.
- c. Ian says full debrief in the coming weeks.
- d. Bonnie says we'd budgeted a loss this year for the annual budget. Which means we probably won't have a loss in general.

6. Officer nominations for 2026

- a. Bonnie says we're in the final quarter for the year. So we should start thinking about nominating future officers, start forming a committee, thinking about outreach events, etc.
- b. Ian asks – aren't we all on two year terms? Bonnie says we had the new by-laws in January, and will double check on the details.
- c. Ian and Julia volunteer to do some outreach at Peabody.
- d. Teresa floats the idea of doing outreach at the Open Space on Saturday.

7. Committee reports

- a. **Communications** - Ian reports one more newsletter this year, prob do it before the holidays. Will continue to promote events. The new signboards look great.
 - i. Jim says the director of the wellness center has volunteered the basement to store the sandwich boards for the winter.

- ii. Teresa asks if we could ask Alex to cut the legs so they sit better. Jim says the point is to minimize contact to the ground to decrease wood rot.
- b. CVCBD** - Ruth reports that the last meeting was about planning for the upcoming fall meeting which is on the 25th, from 1-3 at Study Hall at JHU.
- c. Housing and Land Use** - No updates! But Susanne says there are so many hearings on zoning and how to deal with vacant housing. A written summary forthcoming.
- d. Membership and Welcoming** - Bonnie says new members joined at the street fair this year. And a lot more ppl who are renewing or joining for the first time online.
- e. Open Space** - Andrew says the city was at the OS today and said that they will weed whack high grass on the boarder, install wood chips next week, replace janky picnic table, and fill the holes. They also gave info to call if someone is found sleeping in the OpenSpace again.
 - i. Jim says to publicize that info. Teresa says it falls under public health and has the number for the city. We should also let Odette know that this is something we're experiencing. Teresa will let folks on Charles Village Parents facebook page know.
- f. Safety** - Jim reports that he's not aware of any crimes of violence in the area (apart from some assaults that have gone on).
 - i. Bonnie says a few things on her block – including someone burglarizing a house, and someone removed the security grates from another house. Sindbad also reports that someone also stole a truck and crashed it into parked cars on 3100 block of Guilford. A week before that, someone threw a brick through their car window. Jim says reporting these things to police is helpful.
 - ii. Ian asks if there is any more info to the dumpsters that got lit on fire. Jim says there's a suspect – someone who appears to be homeless in the area who has been seen starting fires or in the vicinity of fires, and is someone the police are aware of. The witness who didn't see the fire getting started, but saw the person, who is known in the St. Paul businesses district for similar issues, in the area.
- g. Trees** - Sarah says things are moving along. The city is gonna do planting, listed in various sites – mid Oct to mid Dec. They did take a few sites off of the list, particularly the one around the 32nd street Farmer's Market, they took off 323 E 30th, and 330 33rd Street median, because it'd be too close to an existing tree. Otherwise all the trees put out in the newsletter will be put in this fall. Chris from GRIA wants the list for the Spring planting. Most of the fall plantings are pit-ready, but Chris has money to do that. If ppl have areas they want expanded or created wells, let Sarah know. That's gonna be part of the Urban Tree Grant. Sarah says they've been trying to make ppl aware of trees, and has reached out 346 East 33rd street – but has yet to hear back yet.

8. Misc.

- a. Ian says we should start thinking of the November General meeting (supposed to be Mon Nov. 3rd, a potluck w/ Harwood). We could do it at Peabody, but the Rec

Center is open again. Jim will reach out to Rec Center ppl to see if hosting the meeting there is possible.

- b. Julia asks about the business on Calvert and 30th. Nobody really knows.