

Greendale Originals Neighborhood Association (GONA)

Full Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 4, 2004, 7:30 PM

Greendale Library Community Room

Board Members Present: Jeff Birmingham, Margo Kuehn, Terri Knudson, Jack Anderson, Kathy Arciszewski, Al Emmons, Virginia Emmons, Pat Geary, Kathleen Hart

Board Members Absent: Cathy Loomis

Jeff Birmingham called the meeting to order and introduced the board members and members of the by-laws committee.

Jeff thanked Joe Russ for his work on the GONA website, which can be accessed at:

<http://my.execpc.com/~jruss/gona.html>

The Good Experiences List was passed out to GONA members. This is a list of services recommended by the members of GONA (although the quality of these services are not endorsed by GONA). Joe Russ put the list on the website. He asked that those who gave recommendations at the last meeting but did not include their name with the recommendations give him their name.

We discussed the inclusion of babysitters and other services such as snow shoveling (in addition to plumbers, contractors, etc.). There is a concern that the list could become too long or extend beyond the local area, but it would be helpful to include these recommendations.

People new to GONA introduced themselves. Jeff Birmingham reviewed the GONA mission statement:

An organization of residents of Greendale original homes for the purpose of education, representation, service, promotion, and preservation of our historic neighborhood.

Old Business:

The minutes of the January full meeting were passed around and approved.

The financial report was presented. The current balance of our account is \$224.59.

Jeff Birmingham contacted CNI Newspaper about getting subscriptions to the Village Life for new members of GONA, as an opportunity to offer "perks" of membership. The Village Life offered two options: 1) part of the dues would pay for a subscription to the Village Life at \$20.95. The normal price is \$27.95. 2) all new members would get 6 free weeks of the Village Life.

Last month, it was suggested that we offer a monthly raffle to raise money for the organization. Jeff Birmingham also contacted the Gaming Board. They said you could not have a raffle unless the group has existed for one year.

Motion: To approve that \$35.00 be used to go to funds that would incorporate us as a group with the state.

This motion was seconded and approved.

Kathy Arciszewski asked to clarify the board structure. Jack Anderson stated that when the by-laws committee has completed the by-laws, they will report to the executive board, which will review and vote on the by-laws. Then, the by-laws will be presented to the full membership.

New Business:

Margo Kuehn is going to pursue having the name of our organization added to the Village of Greendale website where organizations are listed.

Margo would also like to establish a welcome committee to welcome new residents of Greendale originals.

A motion was made to establish this committee.

This motion was seconded and approved.

Al Emmons requested that we contact the Greendale High School in order to have students help out elderly and disabled residents with tasks around the home. Jeff Birmingham will contact the school.

Kathy Arciszewski made a motion that a service committee be established and that Al Emmons and Karen Birmingham be co-chairs.

This motion was seconded and approved.

Al Emmons requested the organization look into issues of mold in the original homes, e.g., what is the best way to run central air conditioning.

A motion was suggested to table this issue until after the building inspector, Scott Satula comes to speak to GONA at our next meeting.

This motion was seconded and approved.

Tips on Greendale original homes:

- Once a month, use vinegar (about 8 cups hot water to one cup vinegar) and baking soda to run through your pipes to clean them out.
- Get screens/baskets to put in all your drains to capture debris so it doesn't go down your drain.
- Pipes are getting old. Check pipes in the crawl space, because if the pipes break, they could be draining down into the crawl space. A lot of the return air pipes that run into the crawl space are rusted out.
- Make sure insulation does not cover the vents in the attic. The houses have a good ventilation system, but they are being blocked.
- Hang a blanket over the stairway entrance to keep heat downstairs.
- Use a heater in the crawl space to dry it out (check with an expert on this first due to safety concerns).

Please bring tips in writing so they can easily be added to our website!

Gary Warren Neibuhr, director of the Greendale Public Library gave a presentation on the Greendale Public Library.

At the next meeting, the Village of Greendale building inspector, Scott Satula, will speak.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Loomis
Secretary

Next GONA meeting: Wednesday, March 3rd, 7:30 PM, Greendale Community Room